



Spanish 1, 2024 - 2025

Teacher Information

Teacher Name: Alexandra Valencia

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Hola! My name is Alexandra Valencia and this is my first year teaching at NU, although I have been teaching Spanish for a few years now.

I am originally from Seattle and moved to the area two years ago with my husband and two children (ages 8 and 10). My husband is from Peru, and we speak Spanish at home.

I have always been passionate about world languages and grew up learning Russian. I have lived in Spain and spent quite a bit of time visiting family in Peru.

In my free time, I love to hang out at the Yuba river, walk in the forest with my family and my dog, read books, watch movies, spend time with friends, and sing and dance to Latin music. One of my goals this year is to spend more time exercising and meditating.

Course Description:

This class builds novice skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking in Spanish. We will be using the **Senderos** curriculum, with textbooks available in class, workbooks for each individual student, as well as online access to the curriculum material on the VHL website.

All material covered and assessments are cumulative, meaning they build upon each other. Thus, it is very important to keep up with the pace of the course. **Class attendance, as well as home practice are crucial for success!**

Students will be required to:

- Memorize between 50 and 100 words per chapter unit (called “lecciones” in our book)
- Learn and apply new grammatical concepts each lección
- Follow classroom directions and conversations in Spanish
- Speak in Spanish whenever possible
- Write and read in Spanish, as adapted for Spanish 1

Content Covered and Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO's):

	Lesson & Theme	ELOs (Essential Learning Outcomes)	Grammatical and Lexical Structures Covered
Semester 1	Lección Preliminar: (Preliminary Lesson)	<p>Previews some topics covered throughout the year:</p> <p>I am becoming comfortable with the sounds of Spanish and can recognize and use some basic Spanish words and structures</p> <p>*not an official course ELO</p>	<p>Introduce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Greetings ● Alphabet ● Spanish-speaking countries ● Talking about where you're from ● Classroom vocab ● School subjects ● Numbers ● Days of the week
	Lección 1: Hola, ¿qué tal? (introductions)	<p><i>ELO 1 (Senderos 1, L1): I can greet others, introduce myself and say goodbye</i></p> <p><i>ELO 2 (Senderos 1, L1): I can identify and describe people and things, and tell where someone is from</i></p> <p><i>ELO 3 (Senderos 1, L1): I can use numbers</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alphabet ● greetings/farewells/courtesy ● adjectives to describe people/things ● gender and number of nouns and noun/adjective agreement ● definite and indefinite articles ● numbers 0-30 ● The verb "ser" ● telling time
	Lección 2: En la clase (In the classroom)	<p><i>ELO 4 (Senderos 1, L2): I can talk about school</i></p> <p><i>ELO 5 (Senderos 1, L2): I can talk about daily activities and preferences</i></p> <p><i>ELO 6 (Senderos 1, L2): I can tell where things are located</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● school vocabulary ● date and days of the week ● present tense regular -ar verbs ● forming questions ● The verb "estar" ● prepositions of location ● numbers 31 and higher
Semester 2	Lección 3: La familia (Family)	<i>ELO 7 I can talk about family</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● family vocabulary ● descriptive adjectives ● possessive adjectives ● The verb "tener" ● The verb "venir"

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● present tense regular -er and -ir verbs
	Lección 4: Los Pasatiempos (Pastimes)	<i>ELO 8 I can discuss pastimes, sports and places in the city</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● vocabulary to discuss pastimes ● present tense of the verb “ir” ● present tense stem-changing verbs ● verbs with irregular “yo” forms
	Lección 5: Las vacaciones (Vacation)	<i>ELO 9: I can discuss travel and vacation</i> <i>ELO 10: I can describe how people feel</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● vacation and travel vocabulary ● “estar” with conditions and emotions ● present progressive ● “ser” vs. “estar” ● direct object pronouns ● months of the year ● seasons and weather ● ordinal numbers
	Lección 6: ¡De compras! (Shopping)	<i>ELO 11: I can talk about clothing and shopping</i> <i>ELO 12: I can exchange information about activities that took place in the past</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● clothing and shopping vocabulary ● saber and conocer ● indirect object pronouns ● demonstrative adjectives and pronouns ● preterite tense of regular verbs

Grading

Tests- 25%: This category will include multiple choice exams, one for each lección (chapter), as well as a cumulative semester final. There are **no retakes** for these multiple choice exams. These assessments will focus on listening and reading comprehension, with some questions focused on vocabulary and grammar.

Performance Tasks- 25%: This category may include speaking and writing activities done in class, speaking and writing exams, presentations, and daily performance. Students can expect one large performance exam, project, or presentation per lección (chapter). **Retakes** of performance tasks are permitted, usually during FLEX time.

Quizzes- 25%: This category will include quizzes in various formats (matching, multiple choice, short responses, etc.). Students can expect frequent quizzes, as much as once per week. **One retake** will be allowed per quiz, usually during FLEX time.

Daily Practice- 25%: This category includes all daily classwork aside from assessments, as well as homework outside of class. Work may include completing our workbook, handouts, entry tasks, etc.

Homework could be to study vocabulary on Quizlet, complete assignments on our online website that goes with our curriculum (VHL), or completing work not finished in class.

Scale: **A** 100-90, **B** 89-80, **C** 79-70, **D** 69-60, **F** below 60. Cheating via any method is not tolerated and assignments that are not your own work will receive a zero. **The use of an online language translator is strictly forbidden and considered cheating (such as Google Translate).** Students may use an online dictionary.

Late Work Policy

- assignments are to be completed according to the due date
- the highest grade possible for late work is a B
- late work must be submitted prior to the end of a lección (chapter) and one week prior to the end of any grading period

Student Absences

Daily powerpoints and assignments will be posted on Schoology, and it is the student's responsibility to check Schoology for missed work. Missed assignments and exams must be made up within one week. Students should communicate with their teacher if they have any questions.

Suggested Class Materials

- headphones or earbuds for listening activities and assessments using your Chromebook
- folder or binder for loose papers
- spiral notebook or composition book for notes
- Writing utensils
- highlighter
- fully charged Chromebook

Provided Resources (all digital resources can be accessed through links on Schoology)

Textbook: Senderos

Ebook: Senderos (on VHL website) Listening comprehension activities and pronunciation practice

Workbook: Senderos (physical book that stays in class, although loose papers may be sent as homework)

Conjuguemos.com: Vocabulary and grammar practice

Quizlet.com: Vocabulary and grammar practice