**Instructor/Profesora :** *Claudia Forain Bolais Bleeker*

**Office/Oficina : Albany Campus – IA 214**

**Email/Correo electrónico :** [bleekec@linnbenton.edu](mailto:bleekec@linnbenton.edu)

**Office hours/Horas de oficina :** M/W (after class), or ***by appointment.***

**Books/Libros usados : Exploraciones, Second edition.** This is a bundle that includes the textbook and access to Quia books, where many resources are available, including audio, video, diagnostic exams, the e-book, etc.

*When you sign in for* ***Quia books****, use the course code****:*  TXJP664**

**Material adicional :** A good Spanish-English dictionary

A notebook for class notes and new vocabulary

A *Bluebook* (sold at LBCC bookstore) for writing your compositions

**Website :** <http://www.linnbenton.edu/>, click on the link “instructor websites” on the LBCC home page.

***¡Bienvenidos a la clase de español! And bring LOTS of Spanish to your life!!!***

This is a beginner class -**if you have had Spanish classes before, please take the placement examination and start at a more appropriate level**!

Congratulations on deciding to start your journey towards becoming a Spanish speaker!!!

To facilitate your Spanish language acquisition I will provide you with fun, practical, communication based group activities that will give you the opportunity to use the language as much as possible in class. This type of learning environment relies on creating a classroom community that is respectful, positive, and willing to work together to achieve our goal of learning a new language.

*We cover materials at a fast pace. Keep in mind that the class time is just enough to introduce new concepts and practice them, but learning a language requires a long time and a lot of effort and dedication.*

The class is in Spanish, but English is used when there is a need to explain or clarify something. As we progress, you will hear less English and more Spanish. *This could be challenging and frustrating at times.* **Ask questions** if things are not clear, but remember that it is also important that you guess from the context, a necessary strategy to learn a foreign language. You are expected to start speaking Spanish from the first class. Come prepared to participate every time! The resources to practice and use Spanish are unlimited. You can hear and read Spanish basically everywhere. These are some ideas to make Spanish part of your everyday life:

* Read books from the Corvallis/Albany Public Library collection in Spanish.
* Explore the internet sites in Spanish, radio stations, audio files, also grammar and vocabulary resources.
* Enjoy your TV to hear your favorite shows in Spanish and selected Spanish subtitles for your movies.
* Look for more Spanish language: try newspapers online and TV stations (***Univisión*** and ***Telemundo*** broadcast in Spanish), and keep your eyes open for all Spanish around you (product instructions, food, commercials, etc.)
* Meet friends who speak the language! Try meeting someone with interests similar to you and start a bilingual friendship. Find a language partner at the Multicultural Center in Corvallis, or volunteer to help teachers in some School that offers the *Dual Immersion Program* (English-Spanish) to different grades.

**General Objectives / Outcomes**

The Spanish classes at LBCC focus on communication and developing four main communicative skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening). In order to develop proficiency, it is necessary to acquire the basic rules of the language (grammar), syntax, and vocabulary.

In this class you will acquire some of the most basic Spanish structures that will help you to communicate and understand basic Spanish. You will also improve your understanding of the diversity of different Spanish speaking cultures known as “Hispanic” and learn how to think critically about issues, events, media, etc. that surround or pertain to these different cultures. In order to achieve these goals, it is important that you commit to use only Spanish in the classroom, and to use it as much as possible when not in class. Make it part of your everyday life!

**Learning Outcomes**

1) Communicate and demonstrate an understanding of basic personal information in oral form.

2) Communicate and demonstrate an understanding of basic personal information in written form.

3) Differentiate the meanings and history of the terms Latino and Hispanic.

**Learning Objectives**

1) Learn the basics of Spanish pronunciation and acquire a basic vocabulary to communicate personal information.

2) Learn basic vocabulary and sentence structure in order to be able to communicate basic ideas.

3) Empathize with speakers of other languages.

4) Explore the history and culture of a variety of Spanish-speaking countries such as Spain, Ecuador, Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

***Calificacion /*** *Evaluation*

The grading in this class is optional (A-F, or Pass/Fail). If you want to take the class P/NP you must notify the registrars’ office by the end of the 7th week of the term. *A passing grade is 70% (“C”) or higher*.

**Participación (8 points /week) 80 puntos**

**Homework online (50 points each chapter) 200 puntos**

**Quiz (10 points each) 30 puntos**

**Composiciones (3x50) 150 puntos**

**Conversaciones 100 puntos**

**Exámenes (4x100) 400 puntos**

**Tarea Cultural 40 puntos**

**Total: 1000 points**

**A = 90-100%; B = 89-80%; C = 79-70%; D = 69-60%; F = 59% or less**

## Participacion / *Participation*

If you want to learn Spanish and be successful in this class **attendance and participation are very important.** The teaching methodology I use to facilitate your Spanish acquisition relies on communication oriented group activities. Therefore, class attendance and participation are essential if you want to learn and/or improve your Spanish skills. To assess your participation I will have you turn-in classroom activities. Active participation is based on the following criteria:

* Students are expected to be respectful to their classmates and to their instructor to help maintain a friendly atmosphere in class.
* It is essential to come to class well prepared and participate willingly in all activities. Being well prepared means that you have read, studied, and completed all assignments by the day they were due.
* Participate in all classroom activities/ assignments with a positive attitude.
* Please arrive on time to class and stay until class is over. If you need to leave earlier, please let me know in advance.

This is a Spanish communication class so please remember to use AS MUCH SPANISH AS POSSIBLE, as well as to listen respectfully to others. Remember communication is as much an act of listening as it is of speaking.

Please, **turn off your electronic devices and cell phones *before* you enter the class!!Thank you!**

## Tareas / *Homework*

There will be an online homework or extra assignment due for each class period to ensure that you come to class prepared to use the language (see online calendar for **due dates**). Please **do not** do your homework during class.

## Examenes / *Exams*

There will be 4 in-class exams that will test **both written and listening skills**. If you are unable to attend class for a **MAJOR REASON** the day of an exam you must notify me or email me **BEFORE THE EXAM,** and we can make arrangements for you to take it at a different time. **To take the exam in another day is not an option at all**! I can only reschedule it in case of **extreme necessity**!

## Composiciones / *Compositions*

You will write three short essays throughout this course, which will give you the chance to practice the language learned in class. We will start these in class. At the end of this in-class process, you will continue to write on your own at home. You will be asked to turn in a final draft (due dates on your calendar). The final draft will incorporate the corrections from class. **You must turn in your in-class work with your final draft to earn points for this assignment. These will not be accepted late, but *feel free to turn them in early as many times as you like in order to get feedback from me*.** Your *composition* must be **legible (**hand written or typed, and **please, always use double space!).**

***It is no way acceptable to use an electronic translator for any portion of this assignment. If you do so, you will automatically receive a zero.***

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* **Topics for your Composition** \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**Composición # 1**: ***Así soy yo y mi mejor amigo(a)***. (**100 words** minimum) Describe yourself and your best friend. Include information about names, ages, and description of their personalities and appearance. You can follow the step by step guide on page **29** of your textbook

**Composición # 2**: ***Mi familia y mi rutina***. (**130 words** minimum) Write a letter to a pen pal and tell him or her about your family and your classes. Write about your general routine. Use many different verbs. You may want to talk also about what other people in your family do. Give *a lot of information* and avoid just giving your school schedule –remember that you want to use a wide vocabulary and ***avoid repetition***. Follow the step by step guide on page **65** of your textbook

**Composición # 3**: ***Carta a un estudiante internacional* (150 words minimum)** An international student from a Spanish-speaking country is going to attend your university. Write a letter to the student explaining what the climate in your area is like, what people often do during holidays, and advise him/her as to what clothing he or she will need. Use pasos (steps) on **p. 101** of your text (pasos 1-3 in class and pasos 4-8 for homework).

## Prueba Oral y Proyectos Culturales / *Oral Assessment* *and Cultural Projects*

You will have a couple cultural assessments and one oral assessment:

1. A ***5 Minute Cultural*** Presentation (a PowerPoint presentation about any cultural aspect of a Hispanic Country)
2. A **Children’s Book**, a story written in Spanish or bilingual (your choice), using the material covered from chapter 1 to 4 of your book, and presented to the class during week 10.
3. A **conversation / dialog** with a partner (using the material covered from chapter 1 to 4 of your book).

The Children’s Book will take place the last week of class, and the *5 Minute Presentation* will be presented throughout the term. All projects will be discussing in class, and I will provide more information regarding as the term progresses.

## Tutors and other resources on campus

* The Learning Center offers a wonderful resource: Tutors (free of cost!) that can help you to study and understand difficult concepts. In order to use this service, you need to sign up at least 24 hours in advance. Go to the Learning Center (on main campus or at the Benton Center) to find out the times at which tutors are available this term.

## Tips for success in this class

* Have fun with the language! Expose yourself to Spanish as much as possible outside of class.
* Come to class well prepared and ready to participate with a positive attitude. The better prepared you are for each class the more you are going to learn during that time.
* Be realistic about your expectations: No one learns to speak a language in one or two school terms. Acquiring proficiency in a foreign language requires a lot of time and hard work.
* Because not everyone learns the same way it is important that you discover your own and personal learning style.
* Remember: it is better to study for short periods of time every day rather than a long time once a week!

## Integrity Statement

Please be advised that all work for this class should be your own. It is OK to get help from a friend or a tutor but it is not acceptable to have someone write a writing assignment or to use electronic translators – they simply do not work. If you turn in an assignment that is not your work then you will automatically receive a ZERO on it.

## Services for students with disabilities

Students who have emergency medical information the instructor should know of, or who might need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, or students with documented disabilities who have special needs, should make an appointment with the instructor no later than the first week of the term. If additional assistance is required, you should contact LBCC’s Office of Disability Services at 917-4789.

**Statement of Inclusion**

The LBCC community is enriched by diversity. Everyone has the right to think, learn, and work together in an environment of respect, tolerance, and goodwill. I actively support this right regardless of race, creed, color, personal opinion, gender, sexual orientation, or any of the countless other ways in which we are diverse. (Related to Board Policy #1015)

## Inclement weather policy

If there happens to be snow and/or ice this term, you can check the Linn-Benton website to see if the college is closed. If the college is not closed, you can check my website to see if I have cancelled class because of unsafe driving conditions, and I will provide an alternative assignment for the class that day. If the college is open but you feel unsafe to drive, please notify me of your absence and I can provide you with an alternative assignment. Thank you for your comprehension.

***¡Feliz Primavera!***

I hope you enjoy the spring term!

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*Profesora Claudia Bolais Bleeker*