
INSTRUCTORA	Margarita Casas
CONTACTO	casasm@linnbenton.edu
HORAS DE OFICINA	I am available immediately after class, or via Zoom on Mondays 12:00 to 12:45, or by appointment.
LIBRO DE TEXTO	Exploraciones 3 ed. Cengage (MindTap). Your textbook will be available through Moodle . The price of the materials (\$55) is added when you register for this class. However, you may opt out and buy the book from Cengage , which offers better price if you plan to take three Spanish classes. For additional information about textbook purchasing options CLICK HERE . If you would like a hard copy of the book, you may want to buy it through a secondhand bookstore to get a better price, but remember that you can print pages as needed from the ebook .

What to expect

¡Bienvenidos! Welcome to SPN 101! This is a beginner's class. If you have had Spanish classes before, you may want to take the placement exam at the Assessment Center (Red Cedar Hall 111) or request it at by email to onlinecpt@linnbenton.edu. Include name and student ID number in all email correspondence. If you prefer to just take SPN 101 to refresh, that is okay too.

The pace of the class is fast. Class time is used to introduce concepts and practice, but language learning requires work and dedication. **Allow at least two hours for studying and doing homework for every contact hour that we have.** This is only a general guideline -some students might need more time.

Basic keys to success in the class

- 1) **Be disciplined!** Never skip class and complete all your homework daily!
- 2) Engage! Practice with friends! Talk to yourself in Spanish or watch Spanish series in Netflix/Hulu, etc.
- 3) Practice Spanish **every day**, even if only for a short period. Take advantage of all the resources offered by MindTap (the online platform of your textbook).
- 4) Motivation is key to your success. Think about all the positive outcomes of learning a new language!

The class is in Spanish. We use more English during the first few days of the term but, as we progress, you will hear less English and more Spanish. *This can be challenging and frustrating at times, but it is important.* Ask questions if things are not clear. Also, remember that guessing from context is an important strategy to learn a language. **You are expected to start speaking Spanish from the first class.**

General Objectives and Outcomes

In SPN 101 you will learn some basic Spanish language structures that will allow you to communicate and understand simple information. *At the end of this course, you will be able to...*

- ✓ Communicate and demonstrate an understanding of personal information in oral and written form.
- ✓ Demonstrate an awareness of the many ways in which learning a language contributes to one's education, future career opportunities, and the well-being of communities.

Additional learning objectives:

- ✓ Learn the basics of Spanish pronunciation and acquire a basic vocabulary to communicate basic information.
- ✓ Empathize with speakers of other languages, and explore the history & cultures from Hispanic countries.

Websites for SPN 101

Moodle is your portal to your textbook (*Exploraciones*) and all online assigned for homework (**MindTap**). Moodle also has all resources for the class. I also use **QUIA** to offer you interactive activities to practice the language (for fun).

Tutors

Free tutoring is available at the Learning Center. Sign up on the [tutoring website](#). Make an appointment at least 24 hours in advance. Use this very valuable resource frequently! Our tutors are available face to face and also via Zoom.

Grades and Evaluation

Grading for this class is optional (A-F, or Pass/Fail). Last day to modify your choice is the end of the 6th week. **A passing grade is 70 points and up. 70 points is also the minimum grade necessary to continue to SPN 102.**

This is how your grade is calculated:

Pruebas (quizzes) (3)	24%
Tareas en MindTap	26%
Participación en clase	20%
Composiciones (3)	12%
Entrevistas (2)	10%
Examen final	8%
Total	100%

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

There is a form available in Moodle to help you calculate your grade through the term (I don't use the gradebook in Moodle).

Exámenes y Pruebas (quizzes)

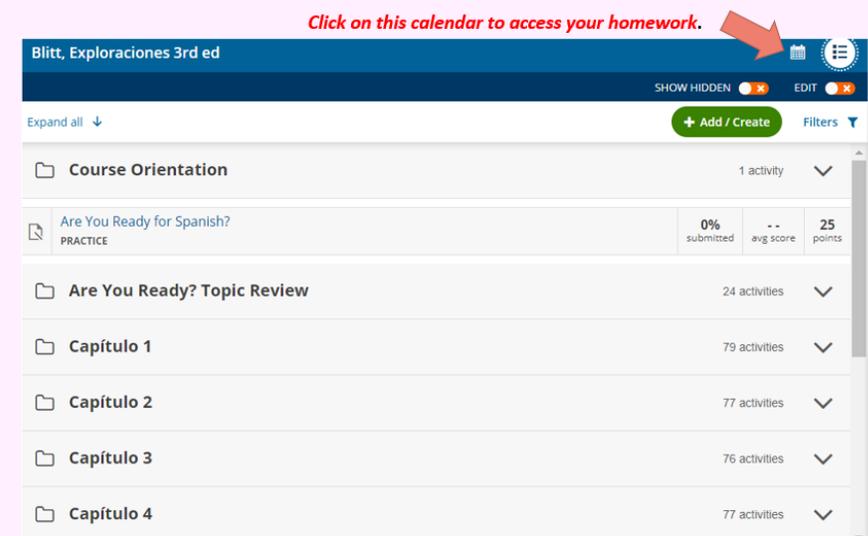
We will have a test at the end of each chapter and a final exam. The dates are in the calendar at the end of this document. If you cannot attend class on the day of an exam/quiz because of a **MAJOR** reason, notify me **in advance**, so arrangements can be made to take it within 2 days. Otherwise, you will lose the points for the missed exam/quiz.

Tareas (homework)

We learn a language through practice, and homework gives you that practice. Completing it on time is key to your success. Additionally, you will have several attempts to submit activities, which allows you to have more control over your grade and practice until you fully understand the topic. There is homework for almost every day of the week (in order to distribute your practice evenly through the week), but you can always work ahead if you want a day off.

All homework is assigned online through **MindTap**. Once you log in, click on *Assignment Calendar* (top of menu). Assigned activities have a DUE DATE next to them. Homework turned in up to two days late receives half credit (no credit after that).

Click on this calendar to access your homework.



The screenshot shows a Moodle course interface. At the top, there's a header for 'Blitt, Exploraciones 3rd ed' with a calendar icon and a red arrow pointing to it. Below the header, there's a navigation bar with 'Expand all', '+ Add / Create', and 'Filters'. The main content area lists several activities:

- Course Orientation (1 activity)
- Are You Ready for Spanish? PRACTICE (0% submitted, -- avg score, 25 points)
- Are You Ready? Topic Review (24 activities)
- Capítulo 1 (79 activities)
- Capítulo 2 (77 activities)
- Capítulo 3 (76 activities)
- Capítulo 4 (77 activities)

Composiciones

Writing is an important part of the learning experience. **The objective of writing is that you use what we have learned and practice the language.**

Each one of our compositions consists of a first draft and a correction. You will write the first draft in class (treat it as a test: you have to be in class that day!). If you write only the first draft, the maximum possible grade is 50 points (assuming it is an excellent draft and on time). If you are not in class the day we write, you will have one day to write at the Learning Center, like if it was an exam.

When I return your first draft with comments and corrections, you will revise it based on the following guidelines. Always attach the first draft to your corrections.

- ✓ ***Use ONLY the vocabulary and grammar we have learned in class. Using grammar we have not learned will hurt your grade.***
- ✓ *Underline any word you have to look up. The maximum number you can use is **8** new words.*
- ✓ ***Do not ask for help from friends -it has to be YOUR work.****
- ✓ *If you use an online dictionary, look up **ONE** word at a time, and **never look up a full sentence.** ***The use of electronic translators is considered cheating and may result on an automatic zero in the assignment.****

Participación

Being in class is not equal to participating. However, it is not possible to participate unless you are in class. Participating in class is a combination of the following:

- ✓ Come to class prepared, pay attention and ask questions. Turn off your mobile and fully engage in class!
- ✓ Volunteer answers and work **actively** in groups/pairs. Help your partners!
- ✓ Be respectful, friendly and helpful to everyone. Keep a positive attitude.
- ✓ Arrive punctually and remain in the classroom until the class has finished. Do not start packing early!

Entrevistas

We will have a 1-1 interview in Spanish twice this term. You will receive a list of questions to help you prepare (but I will ask you additional follow-up questions during the interview). I will provide more information later in the term. The dates are in the calendar at the end of this document.

Additional tips for success in this class

- *Connect with other students taking the class! Meet with them “for coffee” and chat in Spanish.*
- *Be realistic about your expectations: No one learns to speak a language in one school term. Acquiring proficiency in a foreign language requires a lot of hard work, so motivation is very important!*
- *Not everyone learns the same way, so it is important that you discover your own learning style.*
- *Spend 2 hours of study for every credit hour of class. (4 contact hours + 8 hours to study PER week).*

Make Spanish part of your life and learn faster!

The resources to practice and use Spanish are unlimited. You can hear and read Spanish basically everywhere. Here are some ideas to make Spanish part of your everyday life:

- ✓ Download a few free apps to your phone so you can practice Spanish whenever you have two minutes! Duolingo seems to be a favorite
- ✓ Download the MindTap app (it allows you to send homework from your phone).
- ✓ Explore *Netflix, Hulu, YouTube* or any other channel that broadcasts shows and movies in Spanish.
- ✓ Meet friends (online) who speak the language! A couple of pages where you can meet native speakers from around the world are **BUSUU** and **CONVERSIFY**. Both platforms connect you with native language speakers that can help you get better, but in exchange you will help someone who is learning English (or another language, if English is not your first language).

Study Abroad

Learn Spanish in Costa Rica this Summer!!! Travel with us, take classes in Costa Rica and enjoy the culture and nature of this amazing country. If you want to learn about the experiences of students who studied abroad last summer, visit the Commuter page.

Inclement weather closures

Occasionally we experience snow days or icy roads that result on college closures. If that happens, **CHECK YOUR LBCC EMAIL** for a link to Zoom (where we can have a remote class).

Accessibility resources

Students who may need accommodations due to documented disabilities, or who have medical information which the instructor should know, or who need special arrangements in an emergency, should speak with the instructor during the first week of class. Contact the department of Accessibility at accessibility@linnbenton.edu. If you believe you may need accommodations, please go to <https://www.linnbenton.edu/student-services/accessibility/index.php> for steps on how to apply for services, or call 541-917-4789.

Integrity Statement

Be advised that all assignments must have been written by you. It is not acceptable to use any type of electronic translators -- you will not learn anything if you use them, so their use actually interferes with your learning process... besides, they are not reliable. Assignments that are considered cheating will automatically receive a zero.

LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination

LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws. (for further information <http://po.linnbenton.edu/BPsandARs/>)

Statement of Inclusion

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

Other Resources

Moodle Support

If you have questions about Moodle or need technical support, contact the [Student Help Desk](#) (in the Library): Visit, call (541)917-4630, or email student.helpdesk@linnbenton.edu.

Basic Needs Statement

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Roadrunner Resource Center for support (resources@linnbenton.edu, or visit us on the web www.linnbenton.edu/RRC under Student Support for Current Students).

This calendar helps you to be aware of the topics we cover each week. Note that it also lets you know when a composition/correction is due, or when we have a test, an *entrevista* or a holiday.

Monday and Wednesday class

Lunes (Monday)		Miércoles (Wednesday)
Semana 1 25-29 de septiembre	Capítulo 1 Syllabus saludos (<i>greetings</i>), alfabeto/pronunciación números 1-20	números 1-100 el salón de clases/gender-number, articles definite/indefinite articles; Haber ; gender/number
Semana 2 2-6 de octubre	Descripciones; SER pronombres personales gender & number of adjectives	reciclar: gender/number pronouns, ser , ser de Repaso (review) Prueba # 1
Semana 3 9-13 de octubre	Capítulo 2 Vocabulario: la familia, adjetivos posesivos la familia, adjetivos posesivos, verbos -AR	Verbos -AR Adjetivos posesivos, España Escribir la composición # 1 (in class)
Semana 4 16-20 de octubre	España Vocabulario: la universidad/clases Tener y expresiones con tener	Tener /adjective placement DUE: Corrección # 1 (correct on your time)
Semana 5 23-27 de octubre	Repaso del capítulo 2 Prueba # 2	Capítulo 3 Vocabulario: la ropa/colores/el clima Gustar/el clima, Verbos -er/-ir
Semana 6 30 de oct. a 3 de noviembre	Verbos- er/-ir Las fechas/la hora, El verbo IR Entrevista # 1	El verbo IR El futuro (ir +a + inf.) Escribir la composición # 2 (in class)
Semana 7 6-9 de noviembre	El verbo IR , El futuro (ir +a + inf) Repaso del capítulo 3 Prueba # 3	Capítulo 4 Vocabulario: La ciudad, Stem-change o→ ue DUE: Corrección # 2 (correct on your own time)
Semana 8 13-17 de noviembre	México Stem-change o→ ue estar + prepositions Question words	Vocabulario: la casa Question words
Semana 9 20-22 de noviembre	Question words Stem change e→ i/ie [Outcome # 2 wrap up]	Stem change e→ i/ie Question words Composición # 3 (write it on your own time)
Semana 10 27-30 de noviembre	Review Prueba # 4	Entrevista # 2 Due: Corrección # 3 (write it on your own time)

Examen final: Semana 11 → Miércoles 6 de diciembre, de 10:00 a 11:50 am