SPA 101-41T (Telecourse)


Highly recommended: 1) Copy of audiocassette tapes for Destinos episodes available at Instructional Media (CBI Building; Ph. 431-8940). Bring thirteen 90-minute blank tapes and ask to copy cassettes from # 573.1 to # 573.13.

Recommended: English Grammar for Students of Spanish, Emily Spinelli. The Olivia & Hill Press, 1998

Please, read this syllabus and guidelines carefully and thoroughly and use them for future reference during the semester.

Goals

In this first semester you will develop your skills in four aspects of the Spanish language: understanding, reading, writing and some speaking. Although you may not be familiar with a telecourse and insecure about your success in this new adventure, you should be confident in your abilities. Most students who watch the series regularly, use the textbook and workbook, and listen to the audiocassettes can expect to develop basic Spanish communication skills. Your progress will depend upon the time and effort you invest in this course. By following my instructions along with those listed in your textbook and Workbook/Study Guide, you will have a structured, yet flexible learning experience. Please feel free to contact me if you have any problems with the course material.

You will not be in a traditional classroom situation where you can hear and respond in Spanish, nevertheless you will be able to learn to understand and pronounce Spanish correctly provided you watch the video episodes, listen to the audiocassettes, and complete the workbook. Destinos represents a wonderful way to learn the Spanish language as well as Spanish culture and customs. Although there will be grammar and vocabulary to study, the appealing story line should provide an enjoyable learning experience.

Homework (Self-Tests in Workbook/Study Guide)

Written homework will not be collected, but must be done regularly in preparation for exams. All homework activities (Self-Tests) have an answer section in the Workbook/Study Guide. You should not compare your answers with the ones in the appendix until you have completed each assignment.

Exams

There will be 4 exams during the semester on material covered during the episodes you have been watching. See the schedule that follows.

The fourth exam is the Final and shall focus mainly on the last few episodes of Destinos. A light grammar and vocabulary review will be necessary. Remember that the last two episodes (25 and 26) are a summary of all the events of this first part of Destinos.

You can take your tests during my office hours in the day or at night at the Registrar’s Office on dates that will be determined by that office. The Registrar’s Office offers monitored make-up exam sections BUT only on specific dates. Let me know far in advance if you need this service. Also, do not forget to always call the Registrar’s Office to double check dates and times.
check on the dates for make-up exams. It is YOUR responsibility to ensure you complete your exams in a timely fashion. Please remember to call or e-mail me letting me know when and where you will be taking the exams, so that I will have a copy ready for you.

**Schedule of exams**
1) **Exam # 1** covers lessons 1 - 8  
2) **Exam # 2** covers lessons 9 - 14  
3) **Exam # 3** covers 15 - 20  
4) **Exam # 4** covers lessons 21 - 26

**ATTENTION!**
Prior to each test I will send you a sample test to help you to prepare. Please complete it at least one week before the exam so that you have time for questions. You can also find the sample test by accessing my Web page and opening the syllabus for this course. The version is printer-friendly.

Please note: The format of the four tests will be very similar to the Self-Tests, which you will be doing in your Workbook/Study Guide. They will also focus on three areas: the content of the video series (plot), vocabulary, and grammar. Note that episodes 6, 11, 18, 25, and 26 are review programs. Feel free to contact me at the above telephone number or e-mail address if there are any questions. Leave a clear message with your full name, the class you are taking with me along with your current telephone number and times during which you can be reached. After each test you will receive a letter with your grade. Tests will not be returned to you. You shall, however, be able to look at them if you so desire, at a time that can be arranged with me.

**Grading**
All four tests will be counted equally towards your final grade.

Tests : 100%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100 to 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92 to 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89 to 87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86 to 83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>82 to 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79 to 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>76 to 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>69 to 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 to 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Guidelines**

A) In addition to the Destinos video tapes, which you will be viewing on TV or rent for your own convenience, there are audiocassette tapes which correspond to each chapter and that I strongly encourage you to listen to. You can have the audio tapes copied in the Instructional Media Dept., located in the CBI building on the Main Campus. The service is free of charge for audiotapes only. Make sure that you bring your own 90-minute tapes.

B) Your Textbook and Workbook/Study Guide have:
1. Answers Appendix for you to check the answers to many text activities
2. A brief reference index of the major characters in the series
3. Charts featuring the Spanish verb system
4. A wide Spanish-English vocabulary
To complete any lesson you need only four things: a television set, the Textbook, the Workbook/Study guide (Part #1 for Spa 101-41.T and Part #2 for Spa 102-1.T), and audiocassette tapes.

A typical study sequence will be as follows:
1. Start with the Textbook by doing preparatory activities (Preparación) for the show you are about to watch
2. View the corresponding television episode
3. Return to Textbook, working through the lesson sequentially. (¿Tienes buena memoria? Vocabulario del tema, Conversaciones, Gramática)
4. Now go to the Workbook/Study Guide, continuing to work sequentially and doing all exercises
5. Take the Self-Test in the Workbook and, only after completing it, check your answers first on your own and then in the back of the book as a reference
6. Continue to the next lesson

How to prepare and what to study for your exams
Remember: this is only a general guideline to help you in your study. To succeed you cannot only concentrate on these issues, but should consider everything as a whole.

TEST # 1
Study everything thoroughly and in particular:
a) Plot, characters and the new vocabulary of each episode
b) Family members (tío/a, hermano/a, hijo/a, etc.)
c) Verbs ser and estar. You will be asked to conjugate them!
   (This means that given the subject pronoun, you will provide the correct form of the verb)
   For Example: Yo estoy cansado. ¿Tú eres de España?)
d) Regular and irregular verbs ending in -AR, -ER and -IR (i.e. hacer, sacar, creer, ver, vivir, querer etc.).
   You will be asked to conjugate them.
e) Adjectives: feminine, masculine, plural.
f) Possessive pronouns: (mi(s), tu(s), su(s)
g) Use of the verb ir (to go) (i.e.: Voy a estudiar francés)
h) Interrogative words (i.e.: ¿adónde?, ¿quién?, ¿cuál?, ¿por qué?, etc.)

TEST # 2
Study everything thoroughly and in particular:
a) Plot, characters and the new vocabulary of each episode
b) Vocabulary: months and seasons.
c) Adjectives: feminine, masculine, plural. Descriptive Adjectives.
d) Demonstrative Adjectives
e) Reflexive verbs
f) SER and ESTAR
g) Preterit Tense of regular and irregular verbs.(i.e.: yo volví, tú volviste, etc. // yo llegué, tú llegaste, etc).
h) Direct object pronouns
i) Vocabulary: food

**TEST # 3**

Study everything thoroughly and in particular:

a) Plot, characters and the new vocabulary of each episode
b) Vocabulary: Fruit and Vegetables in Spanish (Watch the spelling!)
c) Using two Object Pronouns (direct and indirect) together (i.e.: Nos los dijo Raquel / Teresa me la mandó)
d) Preterit Tense: Verbs with irregularities (i.e.: quise, quisiste, etc; hice, hiciste, etc.; pude, pudiste, etc;)
e) Preterit forms of stem-changing verbs (ending in -IR)
f) Imperfect Tense (i.e.: daba, dabas, daba; era, eras, era; pedía, pedías, pedías, etc.)

**TEST # 4**

Study everything thoroughly and in particular:

a) Plot, characters and new vocabulary of each episode
b) Vocabulary: weather expressions
c) Imperfect Tense to express habitual actions in the past (‘nosotros’ forms)
d) Vocabulary: the house and people

**Footnotes...**

This course requires a considerable amount of time in order to assimilate the load of material presented in each lesson. If you are thinking of saving time by taking this telecourse, you are misleading yourself. However, you can schedule to study and view the episodes of Destinos at your convenience, only keeping in mind the dates of the four scheduled exams.

The advantages you can expect are the amazing learning experience and a thoroughly knowledge of the Spanish speaking countries and their variety of culture and peoples.

I look forward to an enjoyable and productive semester with you.