Section: 701/Online*
Instructor: Jeremy L. Crowe, Assistant Professor of English

*This course is conducted entirely online. Reliable and frequent access to technology, including Canvas and Portales, is required. Moreover, students are expected to devote at least 10 hours per week to the course and log-in at least three times per week.

Required Materials
We will be using Portales 1e. Use of this text is required. You will need access to Portales by Wednesday, August 26. If this is an issue for you, please let me know immediately.

I know that many students prefer to have a text they can hold in their hands, while others prefer an eText. For this reason, I have given you several options.

First, you can choose from a 6 month code or a 24 month code. If you plan to take SPA 122 next semester and perhaps SPA 201 and SPA 202 next year (which would make me the happiest boy in the world), the 24 month code is the best value: it’s 4 semester’s worth of Spanish. If you plan to take only SPA 121, you should purchase the 6 month code.

Second, you can choose to have the eCompanion (eBook/Text), or you can purchase the physical text, which is loose-leaf (to keep down costs). If you need a book in front of you but cannot (or refuse to) afford the physical text, be advised there is a copy of the full text (hardcover) on reserve in the LRC on Chesapeake College’s main campus.

Here are your options (and the pricing is from the publisher, not from the campus bookstore):

1. Option 1: 6 months with access to eCompanion. ISBN: 978-1-68004-216-0 = $135/per semester

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1 Yes, that says “English.” In addition to my English credentials, I have an M.A. in Romance Languages with emphases in Spanish literature and Hispanic Linguistics.
2. **Option 2:** 24 months with access to eCompanion. ISBN: 978-1-68004-195-8 = $190 one time (good for four semesters of Spanish)

3. **Option 3:** 6 months with access to eCompanion and a copy of the physical text. ISBN: 978-1-68004-217-7 = $165/per semester

4. **Option 4:** 24 months with access to eCompanion and a copy of the physical text. ISBN 978-1-68004-196-5 = $220 (good for four semesters of Spanish)

**No matter what you decide,** the bulk of the cost is the Portales access code. I realize this is very expensive, but it’s much cheaper than previous semesters.

I don’t know what the bookstore markup will be, but you can go to [http://vistahigherlearning.com/students/store/spanish-programs/portales.html](http://vistahigherlearning.com/students/store/spanish-programs/portales.html) and order online if you wish. Make sure you double-check and choose your desired option. As soon as you get your Portales access code, please register using the attached instructions (which can also be found in Canvas once class starts). **In any case, you will need access to Portales, not just the text.**

**Technology Requirements**
Our class is online, which means you will need to make sure your computer or device is capable of recording sound and video, which means you need a mic and a webcam. If you have a fairly new computer, you likely have these, even if you’ve never used them. If you don’t have these, they are worth the very small investment.

**A Note About Translators**
Part of the experience of learning a foreign language is accepting that you will not be fluent overnight, or within a few weeks, or even after an entire semester. You will be surprised, however, by how much you already know and how much you can learn if you are open to the experience. Most students do exceptionally well in my Spanish classes; however, some do not do well because they tend to rely on the convenience of translation software. You learn nothing if you use a translator. Besides, use of a translator is forbidden because it is considered a form of academic dishonesty (cheating).

**Communication**
Communication is vital among us in an online course. Please contact me early and often if you need additional assistance. I have open office hours and designated times during
which I am available to meet online with students, either through video chat, e-mail, or phone. You do not have to speak Spanish to me to get help. 😊

Course Evaluation
To keep things interesting, and to allow you to take some risks without being penalized, some of your assignments are graded for accuracy and others are awarded credit for completion. Here’s how the percentages are broken down for SPA 121 online:

- Credit Assignments=20%
- Graded Assignments=40%
- Quizzes=10%
- Tests=30%

Group Work
Some of your assignments require you to have conversations with your fellow students and submit those conversations for assessment. These conversations are recorded—and are required. Participate early and often.

Grading Scale
I use a 10-point grading scale, which means 90% is an A, 80% is a B, and so on.

Course Description
SPA 121 is a course designed to develop skills for speaking, comprehending, reading, and writing Spanish at the beginning level. Special emphasis will be given to pronunciation, vocabulary, verbs, grammar, cultural awareness, and applications of the Spanish language. The student will develop the ability to understand spoken Spanish and to read, write, and speak Spanish within the context of the vocabulary and grammatical structures presented in class. The student will also gain an awareness of cultural diversity among different Spanish speakers and nationalities. SPA 121 will cover Chapters 1-5 of Vistas 4th ed.

Course Goals
The goals for the course are:

1. To provide Spanish language instruction in order to facilitate proficiency within the Intermediate level in accordance with the proficiency guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).
2. To promote global awareness by incorporating the 5 C’s of World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities.

Student Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, the students shall be able to correctly speak and demonstrate the ability to write grammatically and orthographically correct Spanish in the present indicative, including the progressive aspect, and the simple future in order to

1. Communicate in Spanish in every day situations such as
   1. greeting people
   2. telling time
   3. asking questions
   4. describing people, places, and things (at home, work, school)
   5. daily routines
   6. shopping
   7. simple likes/dislikes and preferences
2. Produce oral and written Spanish at a Novice High Level, as defined by the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages)
3. Interpret oral and written Spanish at a Novice High Level, as defined by the ACTFL
4. Describe and illustrate aspects of the cultures of Spanish speakers covered in the course.