Section 6115: TTh 1-3pm / Emeritus 1523

## Profesora Susana Ackerman <br> Office Hours: Tu 10-11am / Th 3-4pm <br> Class homepage: https://canvas.santarosa.edu Email: sackerman@santarosa.edu

Office: Emeritus \# 1531

This course provides you with an introduction to Spanish language and culture emphasizing oral and written communication. By the end of the course you will be able to:

- Maintain simple conversations in Spanish on everyday topics using culturally appropriate greetings, courtesies and expressions.
- Communicate orally and in writing about self, family, work, studies, daily activities and future plans.
- Understand and respond to basic questions in spoken Spanish.
- Expand your cultural, historical and geographic awareness of the Spanish speaking world.


## Textbook: You must bring your textbook to every class session!

- VISTAS Introducción a la lengua española. Blanco \& Donley, 5th Edition (VOLUME \#1)
- Access code to Supersite PLUS (Websam)

Other required materials: 2-3 small Green Exam booklets / Index cards for flash cards.

## IMPORTANT!

Use the Passcode that came with your textbook (inside yellow envelope) to set up an account for the Vistas Supersite http:// vistas.vhlcentral.com. You must do this by the end of the first week of classes.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS \& GRADING POLICY

Grading system: This course works on a point system. All the points you earn throughout the semester are added up and divided by the maximum total you could have earned. Example: If you've earned 1250 pts out of maximum total of 1400 , your final grade would be $89 \%(B+)(1250 / 1400)$.

GRADING SCALE: $\mathrm{A}=100-90 \quad \mathrm{~B}=89-80 \quad \mathrm{C}=79-70 \quad \mathrm{D}=69-60 \quad \mathrm{~F}=$ below 60

## * ATTENDANCE 100 pts

Regular attendance is a vital component of your success in this class.
One absence will be excused! Every class missed subsequently will incur a 10 pt . deduction from your attendance grade. If you miss 3 classes during the semester, your attendance grade will be 80/100, 4 absences 70, 5 absences 60 . Any student with more than 5 absences, shall be automatically withdrawn from the course (if you are in this situation, please talk with me first).
Tardiness: Arrivals after 5 min of start time are considered late ( 2 late arrivals $=1$ absence). When absent, you are still responsible for submitting any due assignments via e-mail. You may also leave them in my box at the Language Lab.

## * CLASS PARTICIPATION \& LESSON PREPARATION 100 pts

This is a very interactive, communication driven class! You will be engaged in pair activities at all times. In order to participate effectively:

- Complete all online assignments before each class so you have a basic grasp of the vocabulary and grammar we will be using. The Course Calendar shows you what we will cover in each class.
- Be actively involved in group/pair activities. You will learn best in interaction with others!
- Raise your hand often! Volunteer to answer questions or ask questions when you are confused.
- Use Spanish in the classroom as much as possible....don't worry about making mistakes.


# <Keep in mind that poor attendance might affect your participation grade> 

## * HOMEWORK

Most of your homework will be completed in the Vistas Supersite (SST). Expect to do 1 hr . of homework before each class (a bit more during the weekends).


Supersite Activities (SST)

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200 \text { pts }
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These online exercises are to help you prepare for each lesson and preview the material. You have unlimited attempts in every exercise. The system will help you spot your errors > Click on Re-try and apply the correct answers > Click on Submit when you have gotten a score that meets your expectations. Due: Before class. ( $10 \%$ deduction for late submissions).

100 pts
This is your in class writing journal. Bring a small Green booklet to class (available at the bookstore). I will collect it twice during the semester for feedback. Your grade will be based on effort and expressive ability.

Compositions
150 pts
You will write 3 compositions throughout the semester. It is very important that you write in your rudimentary Spanish and work at your own language level. Any writing generated by online translators or tweaked by native speakers will receive NO CREDIT. Check CANVAS page for instructions an topics.

## Therles Conjuguemos.com

10 pts x assignment
You will do regular verb conjugation practice in this free website. Find instructions in our Canvas page. To receive credit you must reach $90 \%$ accuracy on a minimum of 50 verbs.

In general, I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE HOMEWORK - exceptions may apply under extraordinary circumstances, but you must talk to me first.

Quizzes - We will have short quizzes in every chapter. I will drop your lowest grade quiz at the end of the semester. If you miss a quiz, that will be your lowest grade.

Chapter tests- You will take them online via the Supersite. You can do them at home or in the Language Lab. They must be submitted by the due date. There are no extensions for tests. To see your score and corrections go to: GRADES on SST toolbar $\rightarrow$ Details

Midterm exam - This written/ listening exam will be taken in class. It will cover Lessons 1-3
Final Exam - (written and oral) Thursday, May 24, 10:00-12:30
Exam make-up policy: If you miss a quiz due to illness or a foreseeable absence, you may take a make up in the Lab before the following class session. It is your responsibility to make arrangements with me via email or in person to take a make-up quiz. Once quizzes have been returned, you will not be able to make it up. You can make up only $\underline{1}$ quiz per semester!

## * ORALS 100 pts

Periodically, you will do short oral presentations individually or with a classmate. If the presentation entails a dialogue with a partner, both you and your partner need to prepare and practice it outside of class or via Skype.


100 pts
Using your acquired skills in Spanish, you will conduct an interview with a native speaker as we end the semester. You will share the person's story in Spanish with the class. Due: Last day of the semester.

## Ex Extra help and practice

Tutoring - Should you need individual help, a free tutorial service is available on campus at the Tutorial Center in Doyle Library. You will receive 10 pts extra credit for every hour of tutoring (up to 30 pts). Pls. submit to me a log of your hrs with your tutor's signature.

Conversation groups with native speakers - Midway through the semester you may sign up for conversation groups in the Language Lab hosted by native speakers. These are voluntary, but you will earn 15 pts extra credit for every session you attend (up to 30 pts ). These casual conversations will provide you with great practice!

## \% Kind reminders...

- If you are working with DRD, you may have extended time for tests or any other accommodation you may need. Please, provide me with a DRD form.
- As per college regulations, academic dishonesty, disrespectful speech or behavior toward others, or any violations of the standards of conduct stipulated by the College, will result in suspension or dismissal from this course (Policy 3.11)
- In order to avoid distractions, eating in class is not allowed! Bottled water, hot drinks in sealed cups are OK. Please, dispose of your gum before class since it interferes with your phonetics.
- No texting is allowed during class! Please, turn off your cell phones and keep all electronic devices off your desk.



## E-mailing your instructor

I am more than happy to help you with any class related questions via email, but please be selective.
-Search for answers you may be able to answer yourself by consulting the Syllabus or CANVAS. -For Supersite or Tech-related questions contact Vistas Tech Support before you contact me. -Exchange emails with a classmate in case I can't respond to your email fast enough.
() Make sure your messages always include a greeting and closure in Spanish. I greatly appreciate it!

If you need my help - I'm here to give you every support you need in your learning! Feel free to come by my office during office hours for any extra help you might need or to share any concerns you may have. Making an appointment is always advisable.
¡Bienvenidos!

"La tortuga avanza cuando saca la cabeza"

