

**Spanish 1411 WB: First Year Spanish I**  
**SUMMER I, 2011**  
**Online Course Syllabus**

**Instructor Information**

**Name:** Juan Soto

**E-Mail:** [jsoto@odessa.edu](mailto:jsoto@odessa.edu)

**Office:** Wilkerson Hall, Rm. 202  
 Odessa College  
 201 W. University  
 Odessa, TX 79764

**Phone:** 432.335.6547

**Office Hours:** Summer office hours only by appointment.

**Welcome!**

Hello class! My name is Juan Soto, and I will be your instructor for the next 5 weeks. I am looking forward to a fun and interactive 5 weeks of Spanish.

**Student Self-Assessment**

The nature of computer based courses is completely different from the traditional classroom environment, especially in the areas of delivery, course content and the number of assignments. Online courses offer two appealing benefits. They provide flexibility with scheduling and location. The course work can be completed anytime and any place that you have access to a computer. However, a computer based course requires self-discipline, good reading and writing skills, and a willingness to work independently while not having the traditional class discussion.

Please answer the following assessment to assist you in deciding if a computer based course learning is appropriate for you. Review the following questions and answer YES or NO.

**Learning and Communications Skills**

1. Are you a self-motivated learner?
2. Do you like to learn on your own?
3. Do you prefer learning on your own with no "live" interaction with the instructor and classmates?

**Time Management Skills**

1. Are you willing to spend more time on a computer based course than the traditional classroom course?
2. Do you have good time management skills?
3. Can you meet deadlines if it's up to you to set your own course work?
4. Do you often find yourself completing assignments ahead of schedule?

**Technical Skills**

1. Are you comfortable working on a computer?
2. Are you willing to log on once a day to check for messages and assignments?
3. Are you willing to spend long periods of time at a computer?

The more questions you answered with YES the more likely it is that you will successfully complete this Spanish I computer-based course and will be satisfied with the experience. If NO was your answer to some of the questions, you may want to seriously consider whether this kind of class will satisfy your goals and be a rewarding experience.

## **I. Course Information**

**Title:** First Year Spanish I

**Course Dates:** Please consult the online OC calendar each semester at:

<http://www.odessa.edu/calendar/>

**Course Credits:** 4 semester credit hours.

The lab hour required for this course will be credited base on the three to five activities that the student will have to work on and post on the Discussion Board, in Blackboard, throughout the semester.

**Location** – This course is a full Web course and is conducted in Blackboard with a link to the QUIA site. In the event that the student cannot log in to the Aventuras3e website through Blackboard, he or she can directly log in to his or her Aventuras 3e account through the Aventuras3e website. Just type in: *Aventuras3e third edition* in your browser or go to [www.vhlcentral.com](http://www.vhlcentral.com)

**Communication Plan:** The Instructor will respond to all e-mail inquiries within 48 hours. The Instructor will check the Discussion board at least twice a week. In addition to posting any important information on the announcements page, the Instructor will also e-mail the information to the students.

## **II. Student Portal and E-mail:**

Students enrolled in Odessa College must use Odessa College e-mail. Failure to use the Odessa College email account may lead to miss communication from the instructor.

For directions on how to log into your email go to: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>.

Students should utilize e-mail as the first method of communication and for student-Instructor interaction.

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>.

**I MAY NOT RESPOND TO PERSONAL E-MAIL ACCOUNTS AFTER THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES.**

**Computer Emergencies.** Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the summer course will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course assignments at a scheduled time. Identify a second computer before the course begins that you can use when if your personal computer crashes.

**III. Textbook:** Students will use *Aventuras, Primer Curso de Lengua Española*, by Donley and Blanco, Third Edition; and will have what they need to access information and multi-media resources when they purchase the text. (This text comes along with a “Key” to the VISTA Higher Learning, e-Course version: AVENTURAS, Third Edition SUPERSITE). It can be purchased at the OC bookstore or through the *Aventuras* website:  
ISBN 978-1-60007-921-4 AVENTURAS 3/e Student Edition + SUPERSITE

<http://aventuras3e.vhlcentral.com/> (AVENTURAS Supersite, Vista Higher Learning central)  
**Student Registration Help:** <http://aventuras3e.vhlcentral.com>

**Please DO NOT contact me about technical Problems.**

For problems in the *AVENTURAS3e, Primer Curso de Lengua Española*, Third Edition, contact:

1) Vista Higher Learning Tech Support at: [www.vhlcentral.com](http://www.vhlcentral.com) (Request Support/Request Help)  
Technical Support via phone at: 866.350.4978 or 800.248.2813.

Technical Support via Email: [technicalsupport@wimba.com](mailto:technicalsupport@wimba.com)

**IV. Prerequisites:** None

**V. Course Description**

Emphasizes in conversation: pronunciation, fluency, and vocabulary. Presents grammar and composition. The course is a full Web course with lab requirements. The one hour lab requirement will be fulfilled with 3-5 discussion Board activities in Blackboard.

**VI. Student Performance / Learning Outcomes:**

After successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Write from dictation sentences or short passages in basic Spanish
- Understand questions dealing with basic autobiographical data or routine activities and respond appropriately
- Understand isolated words and phrases from Spanish-language radio programs, tapes, films, or television programs or Spanish heard in conversations between native speakers of Spanish
- Produce (in oral or written form) uncomplicated sentences in different tenses
- Give simple oral or written responses in different tenses to questions dealing with personal information or daily activities
- Give in written or oral form a one-sentence summary of an action or a situation in the present or a one-sentence summary of a past action
- Introduce themselves and others in Spanish and respond appropriately
- Comprehend simple instructions dealing with familiar situations and vocabulary
- Demonstrate knowledge of courtesy expressions and actions in everyday situations;
- Demonstrate listening comprehension of conversation and vocabulary.  
Demonstrate ability to read sentences, conversations, paragraphs, and literary selections for comprehension.

- Pass examinations and display an understanding of the Spanish language and its culture.

### **VII. Computer Skills:**

You must be able to type, browse and research the internet; upload and download files; attach, save and retrieve files on your computer.

### **VIII. Technical Requirements:**

**IMPORTANT:** Please see the *Odessa College Blackboard* Technical Requirements page to make sure you meet certain system and software requirements in order to access Blackboard. Check these requirements periodically for updates and changes.

Technical Requirements are available at:

[http://www.odessa.edu/DE/online\\_courses/blackboard/requirements.htm](http://www.odessa.edu/DE/online_courses/blackboard/requirements.htm)

### **Technical Support**

For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at [https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk\\_form.htm](https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm).

### **IX. Course Overview**

#### **A.** Introductory Spanish covering topics of:

Basic greetings and farewells; courtesy expressions; people and places; courses of study; family relationships; professions; pastimes; places in the city; Nouns and articles; Numbers 0-30, Present tense of “*ser*”; Telling time; Present tense of “*ser*”; Present tense of regular “*-ar*” verbs; Forming questions; The present tense of “*estar*”; Numbers 31-100; Descriptive adjectives; Possessive adjectives; Present tense of regular “*-er*” and “*-ir*” verbs; Present tense of “*tener*” and “*venir*”; The present tense of “*ir*”; Stem-changing verbs: “*e→i*”; Verbs with irregular yo forms.

#### **B.** There will be:

- Assigned weekly readings, tutorials, exercises, and quizzes -- all with limited dates for completion.
- Four sections to the course. Each section will consist of five subsections.
- Required use of the internet to consult and use web sites such as OC Blackboard for official communication and grade recording, and *Aventuras / Quia.com* for course content and completion of activities.
- One final comprehensive exam.
- Work designed for the highly self-motivated, self-disciplined, independent learner.

**Course calendar**

Week 1 June 6-12:	Lección 1: Hola Qué Tal? <b>Quiz 1:</b> Lección 1, Prueba A
Week 2: June 13-19:	Lección 2: Las Clases <b>Quiz 2:</b> Lección 2, Prueba A
Week 3 June 20-26:	Lección 3: La familia <b>Quiz 3:</b> Lección 3, Prueba A
Week 4 June 27-July 6:	Lección 4: El Fin de Semana <b>Quiz 4:</b> Lección 4, Prueba A
<b>Week 5 July 7</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

**X. Important Dates:** Check the OC online calendar each semester for dates by clicking:  
<http://www.odessa.edu/calendar/>

**XI. Class Policies.**

**Netiquette:** Anything you type in the discussion area is public, which means that every student in this class (including your instructor) will see what you write. Please pay attention to the language you use and adhere to the following:

**Netiquette Guidelines:**

- 1) Do not post anything too personal;
- 2) Do not use language that is inappropriate for a classroom setting (curse words, etc);
- 3) Do not use language that is inflammatory or prejudicial in regard to gender, race, or ethnicity;
- 4) Do not post in all caps; and
- 5) Remember your audience, which for the majority of time is your teacher. So, use language that is appropriate for your purpose. In other words, please do not use "text messaging" language/abbreviations; adhere to basic grammar and punctuation rules; and use complete sentences.

(If you do not adhere to the guidelines for any posting, you will lose the points that would have been granted, and I reserve the right to remove your posting and to deny you any further posting privileges.)

You will respond to 3-5 Discussion Topics during the summer course. On several of the Discussion Topics, you are required to make at least one response or a 'reply' to one of the other students in your class. You will have a week to respond to a question. After that period, the question will be locked (meaning you will not be able to respond).

**XII. Earned Points System and Letter Grades:**

Online exercises/ audio recordings and Quizzes: 85 %

Discussion Board (3-5 assignments):	5 %
Final Exam:	<u>10 %</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

#### **Letter Grade Explanation:**

90 - 100	= A
80 – 89.9	= B
70 – 79.9	= C
60 – 69.9	= D
0-59.9	= F

The Earned Points System in this course consists of working on ALL the assignments posted in the Aventuras3ed website every week with as much accuracy as possible so the student can earn the maximum points for each assignment.

\*Missing or not finishing some assignments or part of each of them may cause you to lose points needed to pass this course or cause you to get a low grade.

### **XIII. Preparation for Computer Emergencies**

#### Computer Crash

Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course activities at a scheduled time.

NOTE: Identify a second computer that you can use when/if your personal computer crashes.

#### Server problems

When the Blackboard server needs downtime for maintenance, the Blackboard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing the time and the date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems your course instructor will send an email.

#### Complete Loss of Contact

If you lose contact with me completely (i.e. you cannot contact me via Blackboard or email), you need to call me at my office 335-6547, or text me at my cell 432-880-8008 and explain the reason you cannot contact me and leave me a way to contact you.

#### Lost/Corrupt/Disappeared files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g., Blackboard server crash or virus infection, students own computer crashes, loss of files in cyberspace, etc) or any contradictions/problems, I may/will request you to resubmit the files. In other words, if you submit a document to me, and I either do not receive it (lost in cyberspace) or it is corrupted when I open it, it is incumbent upon you to resend it to me, corrected, with little or no “downtime” in regard to the timeline for submission.

To prevent lost work, I suggest you email all your work to yourself so that a copy of your material is always available.

### **XIV. ‘Incomplete’ Policy**

An ‘Incomplete’ grade may be given only if (1) the student has passed all work completed and (2) if he/she has completed a minimum of 75% of the required coursework. A grade of “I” will only be assigned when the conditions for completions have been discussed and agreed upon by the instructor and the student.

A contract for the “I” will be signed by both the student and the instructor before being presented to the Dean of the department. The student and the instructor should each keep a copy of the contract.

**XV. Summer-End Course Evaluation**

You may be required to participate in a summer-end course evaluation survey.

**XVI. Statement of Special Accommodations (Special Needs)**

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may, also, call the Office of Disability Services at 335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

**XVIII. School Policies**

For information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or student's and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).

**Plagiarism.**

Each student is responsible for doing his/her own work. Having another individual complete any portion of your work violates the principles of academic integrity and will not be tolerated. Any evidence of cheating may result in an “F” for the course and a referral to the Dean.