

	Literature, Journalism, Writing, and Languages
Fall 2025	

Course Syllabus

Professor (Profesor): Dr. Scott Bennett

Telephone (Teléfono): (619) 849-2947 (on campus: x2947)

Email: scottbennett@pointloma.edu

Office (Oficina): Bond Academic Center, Room 115

Office Hours (Horas de consulta): Posted on office door, by appointment (Zoom or in person)

Class Meeting Days and Time (Días y horas de clase): MTWF, 11:00am-11:55am, MWF BAC 156, T LW 215, Language Lab

Course (Curso): SPA 1001 (Elementary Spanish I) (4 units) (Section 4)

Final Exam: Monday, December 15, 10:30am-1:00pm, location TBA. No exceptions!

Cultural Engagement and Extra Credit assignments: Due by Friday, December 12 at 11:59pm. Some of the cultural engagement assignments may have earlier due dates (professor will clarify this in class).

Course Description (Descripción del curso):

An introductory course emphasizing four basic skills: aural comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Also noted is the cultural and historical background of the areas where the language is spoken. Participation and active use of the language is emphasized in the classroom. Letter grade.

Required Texts (Textos requeridos): (online access is **required**, physical textbook is optional).

Portales 2.0 12M Code 978-1-54336-829-1 \$194.99 on VHL webstore

Portales 2.0 is also available through LomaBooks (please use this option if you have access)

Professor will clarify this in class. Vista Higher Learning provides a link to purchase codes directly from the VHL website. There is also an option to purchase a loose-leaf copy of the textbook (not required), but the online access is required for online homework assignments. Here is the website for

PLNU: <https://vistahigherlearning.com/school/pointloma/> (Links to an external site.)

Required (Requerido): *TalkAbroad* conversation (One 30 minute conversation is required) for \$15. Instructor will explain more about this assignment in class.

TalkAbroad website: <https://talkabroad.com> (Links to an external site.)

General Education Mission

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

General Education Learning Outcomes

- 1) Link to GE courses and corresponding GELO's: <https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/tug-catalog/general-education/>
- 2) GELO 2c: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues faced by diverse groups in global and/or cross-cultural contexts.
- 3) Students will respond to a writing prompt concerning GELO 2c upon the completion of SPA 1002. The **signature assignment** that assesses your learning for the complex issues faced by diverse groups in the Spanish-speaking world, inside and outside the United States, is the cultural component of this class (5 assignments throughout the semester). You will be attending events, completing assignments, reflecting on your own cultural background and how you may compare or contrast to the situations and cultures studied. Deeper reflection is encouraged by allowing the option of reflecting in English, although a few of the activities may be assigned in Spanish. In all these assignments, you will be delving deeper into the human experience, as opposed to studying cultural production devoid of its people (such as food, music, or sports without the human element). Throughout this semester, as well as in the next sequence (SPA1002), you will complete this work, worth 20% of your overall grade, and provide a culminating reflection at the end of SPA1002, as part of the final exam. Please consult your professor for approval of cultural activities.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):

By the end of the SPA 1001-1002 sequence, students will be able to:

1. Speak at the mid to high novice level using basic formulaic and memorized materials within the student's own experience.
2. Recognize basic connected discourse that uses vocabulary and grammar within the student's own experience.

3. Write discrete sentences as well as simple connected paragraphs using memorized vocabulary and grammar structures.
4. Read cultural texts that employ familiar vocabulary and cognates as well as learned grammatical structures.
5. Demonstrate comprehension of basic cultural mores and patterns of living of the target culture(s) studied.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

Students who complete the program will be able to:

1. Write essays without significant errors of grammar, spelling, or vocabulary usage that would impede comprehension by a native speaker.
2. Comprehend the main idea and most details of connected oral discourse by a native speaker on a variety of topics.
3. Converse in a participatory fashion with a native speaker using a variety of language strategies to convey meaning.
4. Interpret target language texts according to their cultural, literary, and/or linguistic content.
5. Display knowledge of the nature and structure of language.
6. Discuss the influence of their own perspective on cultural interconnections through engagement with local, national, or international communities.

PLNU Mission (To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send):

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Assessment and Grading (Calificación): The final grade is based on the following point scale. (La nota final se basa en la siguiente escala de puntos):

Chapter Tests (Exámenes) (4).....	350 (100 points, tests 1-3, 50pts test 4)
Final Exam (Examen final).....	100
Homework (Portales) (7 chapters).....	140 (20 points per chapter)

<i>TalkAbroad</i> Conversation (One 30-minute conversation).....	50
Cultural Engagement Assignments (5) (TBA in class).....	200 (40 points each)
Attendance (Asistencia) and Participation (Participación).....	160 (Includes attendance, handouts, quizzes, other assignments, and active participation in the class).

Grading Scale:

930-1000	A	780-799	C+	600-629	D-
900-929	A-	730-779	C	0-599	F
880-899	B+	700-729	C-		
830-879	B	680-699	D+		
800-829	B-	630-679	D		

Extra Credit: Please see description #3 below, on the 3 “C”s. Students can do up to 2 extra credit activities during the semester, for 10 points each. Also, there will be an opportunity to do one hour of conversation for 10 points of extra credit. Please see #5 below, Conversation.

Course Policies:

Student Responsibilities (Responsabilidades del/ de la estudiante):

1. Class participation and attendance (La asistencia y la participación en clase): Regular and punctual attendance in all classes for which a student is registered is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation in each class are two of the course requirements to be met. There are no allowed or excused absences except when absences are necessitated by certain university sponsored activities and approved in writing by the provost of the university. You must be in class to participate, since we do conversation, review, and active practice with the material (you must be in class the entire class period, or you will be marked absent). **The first two absences do not count**, but after, 1% of grade will be deducted per absence (**10 points per absence**). **After 6 unexcused absences, the professor reserves the right to de-enroll the student from the class. After 12 absences (20% of the grade), a student cannot pass the class, and will receive an F for the course (per university policy).** Our classroom environment will be one of “mutual respect” and a “community of learning.” What this means is that you should not be embarrassed or discouraged to participate—and mistakes will be considered part of the learning process that everyone can benefit from. If you do not understand something, do not hesitate to ask for further explanation.

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will

issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

2. Tests (Exámenes): There will be a test given after every two chapters during the term. It will be imperative to do a thorough review before each test since the material is cumulative. **There are no make-up exams.** There will also be a departmental final exam. The final exam is comprehensive.

3. The 3 “C”s: Culture, Community, Church: Students will be offered to participate in some activities outside of class, all for **extra credit**. Students can choose an approved cultural event (film, concert, museum, Webinar or presentation, etc.) or a church service in Spanish. Students must do a brief response paper (one page, in Spanish) on what they do. Sometimes the professor will provide a worksheet to fill out with questions to answer instead of a write-up. **All activities must be pre-approved by the professor.** Students can receive up to **20 points extra credit**, depending on level of involvement. Normally, each activity will be worth 10 points, with a limit of 2 per semester. If you choose a museum, church, film etc. **it is necessary to take a photo of yourself watching or participating in the event. No photo = no credit!** Also, to clarify again, your event **MUST** be pre-approved by the professor. Please ask first to get your idea approved!

4. Cultural Engagement Assignments (Tareas culturales):

Cultural Engagement and Extra Credit assignments: Due by Friday, December 12 at 11:59pm.

Some of the cultural engagement assignments will have earlier due dates (professor will clarify this in class).

Students will be required to complete **five cultural engagement assignments** during the class. The professor will provide more information about cultural assignments, including dates and requirements. **Not just any assignment or idea can fulfill this requirement; the activities need to be approved by the professor.** It will be necessary to take a photo of yourself doing the activity, **no photo = no credit!** In other words, if you are watching a presentation, please snap a quick photo of yourself. The professor will provide more information in class.

5. Conversation (Conversación): Students will have the opportunity to attend conversation sessions for **extra credit**. Professor will provide times for a **Spanish Coffee Hour**, or conversation sessions that can be done by appointment. The idea is to not talk about grammar and class review, but to simply **practice conversational Spanish**. It is a good idea to arrange a small group ahead of time to have more interaction. **An hour of conversation is worth 10 extra credit points**, but students are encouraged to keep practicing and improving their Spanish even after receiving the 10 points. **More information will be provided in class.** At times, we will discuss films, documentaries or photos as part of the conversation.

PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Recording Notification

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, iA Writer, Marmot, Botowski, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc.) is prohibited in this course for any aspect of your work, including idea generation, drafting, editing, or final submissions. This course is designed to assess your independent critical thinking, writing, and research skills without the assistance of AI technologies. Violations of this policy will be treated as breaches of academic integrity.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not

retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

Final Examination Policy

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

LomaBooks Instructions for Students:

This course is part of our course material delivery program, LomaBooks. The bookstore will provide each student with a convenient package containing all required physical materials; all digitally delivered materials will be integrated into Canvas.

You should have received an email from the bookstore confirming the list of materials that will be provided for each of your courses and asking you to select how you would like to receive any printed components (in-store pick up or home delivery). If you have not done so already, please confirm your fulfillment preference so the bookstore can prepare your materials.

For more information about LomaBooks, please go: [HERE](#)

An Important Note:

I will let you know when we can use laptops/tablets in class. The main focus of the class is practicing and learning Spanish, so when we use laptops/tablets, please do not watch videos or do things outside of our classwork. If I do notice that you are not staying with the class, I will mark you off 10 points for participation for the day. **Likewise, cellphone use is not allowed in class, unless we are doing a specific activity that requires that.**

Calendario, horario de curso

septiembre 1-5

semana 1

M1 Labor Day (No hay clases hoy)

T2 Introducción al curso. Lección 1: 1.1 Nouns and Articles pp. 12-15 (Lab Day)

W3 Lección 1: 1.3 Present tense of ser pp. 19-23 (Practice with Subject pronouns)

F5 Lección 1: 1.2 Numbers 0-30 pp. 16-19

septiembre 8-12

semana 2

M8 Lección 1: 1.4 Telling Time pp. 24-27

T9 Lección 1: Preguntas de conversación (Lab Day)

W10 Lección 1: Recapitulación (Portales review for Lesson 1)

(Prueba de vocabulario: Lección 1) (All Lesson 1 homework due today)

F12 Lección 2: estudiar y practicar con el nuevo **vocabulario** p. 76 (especialmente los verbos -ar)

septiembre 15-19

semana 3

M15 Lección 2: 2.1 Los verbos **-ar** pp. 50-54

T16 Lección 2: 2.3 Present tense of **estar** pp. 59-62, Preguntas de conversación (Lab Day)

W17 Lección 2: 2.2 Forming questions in Spanish pp. 55-58 (especially the question words p. 56)

F19 2.4 Numbers 31 and higher pp. 63-65

septiembre 22-26

semana 4

M22 Lección 2: Recapitulación pp. 66-67, Repasar para Examen 1

(Prueba de vocabulario: Lección 2) (All Lesson 2 homework due today)

T23 Examen 1 (Lecciones 1 y 2) (Lab Day)

W24 Lección 3: 3.1 Descriptive adjectives pp. 88-92

F26 Lección 3: Family Tree Drawing / Activity

septiembre 29-octubre 3

semana 5

M29 Lección 3: 3.3 Present tense of **-er** and **-ir** verbs pp. 96-99

T30 Lección 3: Preguntas de conversación, 3.4 Present tense of **tener** and **venir** pp. 100-103 (Lab Day)

W1 Lección 3: Recapitulación pp. 104-105

F3 Lección 3: **(Prueba de vocabulario: Lección 3) (All Lesson 3 homework due today)**

octubre 6-10

semana 6

M6 Lección 4: 4.1 Present tense of **ir** pp. 126-128, 4.2 Stem-changing verbs: e-ie, o-ue

T7 Lección 4: estudiar y practicar con el nuevo **vocabulario** p. 150 (especialmente los verbos) (Lab Day)

W8 Lección 4: hoja de práctica (Stem-changing verbs)

F10 Lección 4: 4.3 Stem-changing verbs e-i, Finish hoja de práctica (Stem-changing verbs), Preguntas de conversación

octubre 13-17

semana 7

M13 Repasar para Examen 2 **(Prueba de vocabulario 4: Lección 4) (All Lesson 4 homework due today)**

T14 Lección 4: Recapitulación pp. 140-141, review for Examen 2 (Lab Day)

W15 Examen 2 (Lecciones 3 y 4)

F17 Lección 5: 5.1 **Estar** with conditions and emotions

octubre 20-24

semana 8

M20 Lección 5: 5.3 Ser and estar, 5.4 Direct object nouns and pronouns

T21 Lección 5: 5.2 The present progressive (Lab Day)

W22 Lección 5: hoja de práctica Direct object pronouns

F24 Fall Break Day (No hay clases hoy)

octubre 27-31

semana 9

M27 Lección 5: Preguntas de conversación (Review Direct Object pronoun worksheet)

T28 Lección 5: Repasar el vocabulario (Lab Day) (**Prueba de vocabulario: Lección 5) (All Lesson 5 homework due today)**

W29 Lección 5: Recapitulación pp. 178-179

F31 Lección 6 Lección 6: estudiar y practicar con el nuevo **vocabulario** p. 150 (especialmente los colores y la ropa)

noviembre 3-7

semana 10

M3 Lección 6: 6.1 **Saber** and **conocer** pp. 200-201, 6.2 Indirect object pronouns pp. 202-205

T4 Lección 6: 6.3 Preterit tense of regular verbs pp. 206-209, Lección 6: practicar más con Indirect object pronouns, Preguntas de conversación (Lab Day)

W5 Lección 6: Recapitulación pp. 214-215

F7 Repasar para Examen 3 (**Prueba de vocabulario: Lección 6) (All Lesson 6 homework due today)**

noviembre 10-14

semana 11

M10 Examen 3 (Lecciones 5 y 6)

T11 Lección 7: 7.1 Reflexive verbs pp. 236-239 (Lab Day)

W12 Lección 7: 7.2 Indefinite and negative words pp. 240-243 (study and review)

F14 Lección 7: 7.3 Preterit of **ser** and **ir** pp. 244-245

noviembre 17-21

semana 12

M17 Lección 7: Preguntas de conversación

T18 Lección 7: 7.4 Verbs like **gustar**

W19 Más práctica con verbos como **gustar**

F21 **TalkAbroad** para hoy (TalkAbroad conversation due by today)

Lección 7: más práctica con las preguntas de conversación y los verbos reflexivos

noviembre 24-28

semana 13

M24 Lección 7: Recapitulación pp. 250-251, más práctica con el vocabulario

(Prueba de vocabulario: Lección 7) (All Lesson 7 homework due today)

T25 (Lab Day) Actividad cultural

W26 **Día de acción de gracias (no hay clase hoy)**

F28 **Día de acción de gracias (no hay clase hoy)**

diciembre 1-5

semana 14

M1 Empezar a repasar Lección 7

T2 (Lab Day) Repasar para Examen 4

W3 Examen 4 (Lección 7)

F5 Actividad cultural / Review for Final Exam, Lecciones 1-7

diciembre 8-12

semana 15

M8 Actividad cultural / Review for Final Exam, Lecciones 1-7

T9 Actividad cultural / Review for Final Exam (Lab Day), Lecciones 1-7

W10 Actividad cultural / Review for Final Exam, Lecciones 1-7

F12 Review for Final Exam

Cultural Engagement and Extra Credit assignments: Due by Friday, December 12 at 11:59pm. Some of the cultural engagement assignments will have earlier due dates (professor will clarify this in class).

diciembre 15-19 (Final Exam Week, Semana de exámenes finales)

Final Exam / Examen final: Monday, December 15, 10:30am-1:00pm, location TBA. **No exceptions!**

¡Buena suerte en la clase y hablemos español! Good luck in class and let's speak Spanish!