

Course Syllabus

Department of Literature, Journalism, Writing & Languages

SPA1001 Elementary Spanish I

4 Units

Summer 2026 | Session I

Fully Online

May 11 - June 12

Meeting Days: Online Asynchronous

Meeting Time: Online Asynchronous

Meeting Location: Online

Final Exam: Friday, June 12

Instructor: Dr. Scott Bennett

Email: scottbennett@pointloma.edu

Office Location and Hours: Email for appointment

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.

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 cultures.

Course Description

Welcome to the Elementary Spanish sequence. This course is one of the components of the General Education Program at Point Loma Nazarene University, under the category of Seeking Cultural Perspectives. By including this course in a common educational experience for undergraduates, the faculty supports the survey of human endeavors from a historical, cultural, linguistic, and philosophical perspective, including developing a critical appreciation of human expression--both artistic and literary. This course emphasizes 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 are emphasized in the classroom.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Speak (application) at the mid to high novice level using (application) basic formulaic and memorized materials within the student's own experience. **(PLO 3)**
 2. Recognize (comprehension, knowledge) basic connected discourse that uses (application) vocabulary and grammar within the student's own experience. **(PLO 2,5)**
 3. Write (application, knowledge) discrete sentences as well as simply connected paragraphs using memorized vocabulary and grammar structures. **(PLO 1,5)**
 4. Read (application) cultural texts that employ familiar vocabulary and cognates as well as learned grammatical structures. **(PLO 4)**
 5. Demonstrate (application, knowledge) comprehension of basic cultural mores and patterns of living of the target culture(s) studied. **(PLO 4,6) (GELO 2c)**
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Program Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the program in Spanish 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. Analyze and interpret target language texts and data sets 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.
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General Education Learning Outcomes

GELO 2c. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues faced by diverse groups in global and/or cross-cultural contexts.

Institutional Learning Outcomes

1. **Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ**
Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits of the mind that foster lifelong learning.
 2. **Growing, in a Christ-centered Faith Community**
Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of others as they negotiate complex professional, environmental, and social contexts.
 3. **Serving, in a Context of Christian Faith**
Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings.
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Required Texts and Recommended Study Resources

- [Portales](#) Links to an external site.**ebook plus Supersite**[Links to an external site.](#)- 12-month access for use in SPA1002 as well.
- *Talkabroad*, 1 conversation purchased through the bookstore or [TalkAbroad](#) [Links to an external site.](#)
- **Daily access to reliable internet, webcam, and microphone.** Please contact PLNU IT support at student-tech-request@pointloma.edu [Links to an external site.](#) if you need assistance.

Note: Students are responsible for having the required textbooks prior to the first day of class. Students are also encouraged to begin reading the books in preparation for the class as soon as possible.

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. All supplemental materials posted on this course site (including articles, book excerpts, or other documents) are provided for your personal academic use. These materials may be protected by copyright law and should not be duplicated or distributed without permission of the copyright owner.

Course Credit Hour Information

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 4-unit class delivered over 5 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 150 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules.

Time Estimates

Assignment Type	Time to Complete (Hours)
Required Resources	55
Cultural Assignments & TalkAbroad	20
Assignments from Portales	35

Exams	15
Quizzes	20
Final Exam	5
Total	150

Assessment and Grading

Weighted Grades

This course uses weighted grades. Each assignment category is worth a certain percentage of the total grade (100%) for the course, as specified in the table below:

Grading Distribution

Category	Weight
Discussion & Partner Interviews	20%
Cultural Assignments & TalkAbroad	10%
Assignment from Portales	20%
Exams	30%
Quizzes	10%
Final Exam	10%
Totals	100%

It is important to read the comments posted in the gradebook as these comments are intended to help students improve their work. Final grades will be posted by the due date as posted in the Academic Calendar.

Grading Scale

The following grading scale will be used for all exams and final course grades:

- 93-100% = A
- 90 - 92% = A-
- 87 - 89% = B+
- 83 - 86% = B
- 80 - 82% = B-
- 77 - 79% = C+
- 73 - 76% = C
- 70 - 72% = C-

- 67 – 69% = D+
- 63 – 66% = D
- 60 – 62% = D-
- Below 59% = F

Course Requirements

1. Active participation. Active participation is defined to include the following: group work, discussion posts and reactions to peers, oral participation, and completion of daily assignments.
2. Completion of required readings, written, oral, lab, video, and web assignments.
3. Successful completion of written examinations.

Tests & Quizzes

Since language learning is a skill, it will be imperative to ensure the necessary proficiency is attained. To this end, there will be four short tests given during the course. It will be necessary for students to do a thorough review before each test since the material is cumulative. Vocabulary knowledge is extremely important. The more vocabulary you know, the more you will be able to say. Quizzes require students to memorize the vocabulary list from each lesson. This most complete list can be found on the last page of the lesson. Be sure to look up any **pages referred to** in the last box of the vocabulary, such as *Expresiones útiles*. The standard for knowledge in a foreign language is correct spelling; therefore, words must be spelled perfectly for credit. All vocabulary and structures used on assessments must be from your lessons. Structures and vocabulary from outside your lessons **will not** receive credit. **Please refrain from using Spanish dictionaries, Google Translate, or any other assistance on assessments as this is considered academic dishonesty. It is imperative you take these at the scheduled times.** All exams and quizzes are scheduled on the calendar and will be administered using Honorlock. Please ensure to secure a private location in which you can take your exam alone and without interruptions. Please maintain clear and timely communication with your professor regarding any unforeseen emergencies you may have.

Homework

In order to provide consistent input and practice, regular daily homework will be assigned online and can be found at your Portales website [VHLCentralLinks to an external site.](http://vhlcentral.com) (<http://vhlcentral.com>). You will need to follow the instructions and enroll in the appropriate course. Assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. PST on the date due, so please give yourself enough time to complete these before your clock runs out. This is especially important if you need to use the feature on vhlcentral.com “Ask your Instructor” for any questions on the homework. All assigned homework throughout will be **due on the day noted per assignment**. This work **will not be accepted for late credit**.

Further assignments and Discussions will be assigned through Canvas. Please read all instructions carefully and be aware of due dates.

Cultural Assignments

This grouping of assignments is designed to help you better understand the diversity and complexity of the cultures of those who speak Spanish. By examining the cultural production of Hispanic voices, you will gain insight into their customs, experiences, and worldviews. These assignments will give you an opportunity to think more deeply about the global world and your role in it as you strive to learn another language, in order to better communicate and understand your “neighbor.”

TalkAbroad

In addition, each student will be required to conduct one 30-minute conversation through Talkabroad.com. There is a \$15 charge for a 30-minute conversation. This is part of your course materials. This conversation must be scheduled 36 hours in advance. Please schedule your conversation for the due date.

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.

Incompletes and Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

PLNU Spiritual Care

Please be aware that PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If you have questions, prayer requests, or a desire to meet with the chaplain, you can contact your professor or the [Office of Spiritual Life and Formation](#).

State Authorization

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

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.

During the first week of class, you will be asked to submit an Academic Honesty Verification Statement. Submitting the statement is a requirement of this course. By submitting the Academic Honesty Verification Statement, you will be verifying that all assignments completed in this course were completed by you. Carefully review the Academic Honesty Statement below.

Statement: "In submitting this form, I am verifying that all the assignments in this course will be completed by me and will be my own work."

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

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 619-849-2486). 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. The EAC makes accommodations available to professors at the student's request.

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 ensure 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 special accommodations.

Language and Belonging

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars, we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice-free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced a bias incident regarding language, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/bias.

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students. If you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available through the [Title IX Office](#). Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, it is required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors via our [Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy](#).

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources via our [Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy](#).

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation in each course are minimal requirements.

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.

Students who anticipate being absent for an entire week of a course should contact the instructor in advance for approval and make arrangements to complete the required coursework and/or alternative assignments assigned at the discretion of the instructor. Acceptance of late work is at the discretion of the instructor and does not waive attendance requirements.

Refer to [Academic Policies](#)[Links to an external site.](#) for additional details.

Synchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

For synchronous courses that have specific scheduled meeting times (including in-person, hybrid, and synchronous online courses), absences are counted from the first official meeting of the class, regardless of the date of the student's enrollment. For courses with specific attendance requirements, those requirements are outlined in the course syllabus.

Note: For synchronous courses with an online asynchronous week, refer to the Online Asynchronous Class Attendance policy listed below.

Online Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

Students taking online courses with no specific scheduled meeting times are expected to actively engage throughout each week of the course. Attendance is defined as participating in an academic activity within the online classroom which includes, but is not limited to:

- Engaging in an online discussion
- Submitting an assignment
- Taking an exam
- Participating in online labs
- Initiating contact with faculty members within the learning management system to discuss course content

Note: Logging into the course does not qualify as participation and will not be counted as meeting the attendance requirement.

Course Modality Definitions

1. Online Courses: These are courses with class meetings where all instruction and interaction are fully online.
 1. Synchronous Courses: At least one class meeting takes place at a designated time.
 2. Asynchronous Courses: All class meetings are asynchronous.
 2. Hybrid Courses: These are courses with class meetings that take place both in the classroom and online synchronously and/or asynchronously.
 3. In-Person Courses: These are courses that meet in person with the instructor and students in a physical classroom setting. With approval by the area dean, this may include up to 25% of qualified class interactions through a Learning Management System (such as Canvas).
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Use of Technology

In order to be successful in the online or hybrid environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone

speakers, a microphone, or a webcam compatible with their computer available to use. Please note that any course with online proctored exams requires a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible or allowable) to complete exams online.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

Loma Writing Center

The Loma Writing Center exists to help all members of the PLNU community cultivate transferable writing skills to engage their academic, professional, personal, and spiritual communities. We work toward this goal by conducting one-on-one consultation sessions, supporting writing education across the PLNU community, and participating in ongoing writing center research.

Getting feedback from the Loma Writing Center while you're in the process of working on an assignment is a great way to improve the quality of your writing and develop as a writer. You are encouraged to talk with a trained writing consultant about getting started on an assignment, organizing your ideas, finding and citing sources, revising, editing for grammar, polishing final drafts, and more. For information about how to make in-person or online appointments, see the [Loma Writing Center webpage](#) or visit the Loma Writing Center on the first floor of the Ryan Library, room 221.

- [Appointment Calendar](#)[Links to an external site.](#)
 - [Website](#)
 - Email: writingcenter@pointloma.edu
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Lomabooks Instructions for Students

Note: *For courses using materials available through Lomabooks*

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 pickup 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 to [the LomaBooks site](#).

Assignments-at-a-Glance

The course summary below lists our assignments and their due dates. Click on any assignment to review it.

Course Summary:

Course Summary	
Date	Details
	Quiz Academic Honesty Verification Statement
Mon May 11, 2026	Page Course Introduction
	Page Week 1 Overview
	Quiz WK1 Prueba de Vocabulario - Capítulo 1
	Assignment WK1 Recorded Dialogue - "-ar Verbs" (Group Submission)
Wed May 13, 2026	Assignment WK1 Recorded Dialogue - 1.2 and 1.4 “Los números y La hora” (Group Submission)
	Assignment WK1 Recorded Dialogue - Conversación 1 PP (Group Submission)
	Assignment WK1 Recorded Dialogue - “Palabras interrogativas y las preguntas” (Group Submission)
Thu May 14, 2026	Calendar Event SPA1001-ON3 SU26 - Elementary Spanish I
	Quiz WK1 Prueba de Vocabulario - Capítulo 2
Sun May 17, 2026	Assignment WK1 Portales

Course Summary

Date	Details
	Quiz WK1 Exam 1 (1 student)
	Quiz WK1 Exam 1
Mon May 18, 2026	Discussion Topic WK2 Class Discussion - 3.1 “Los adjetivos y la familia” Page Week 2 Overview
	Quiz WK2 Prueba de Vocabulario - Capítulo 3
Tue May 19, 2026	Assignment WK2 Recorded Dialogue - 3.3 “-er and -ir verbs”(Group Submission) Assignment WK2 Recorded Dialogue - 3.4 “Tener y venir + exps. con tener” (Group Submission)
Wed May 20, 2026	Assignment WK2 Recorded Dialogue - "4.2/4.3 Verbos con cambios e-ie, o-ue, e-i" (Group Submission)
	Quiz WK2 Prueba de Vocabulario - Capítulo 4
Thu May 21, 2026	Assignment WK2 Recorded Dialogue - 4.4 "Irreg. verbs in yo" Entrevista (Group Submission)
Fri May 22, 2026	Assignment WK2 Cultural Assignment 1 - "Calle 13 - Latinoamérica”
Sat May 23, 2026	Quiz WK2 Exam II
Sun May 24, 2026	Assignment WK 2 Portales
Tue May 26, 2026	Assignment WK3 Recorded Dialogue - 5.4 "Direct Object Pronouns" (Group Submission)

Course Summary

Date	Details
	Quiz WK3 Prueba de Vocabulario - Capítulo 5
	Page Week 3 Overview
	Page WK 3 Planning Ahead: Schedule your TalkAbroad Conversation
Wed May 27, 2026	Assignment WK3 Recorded Dialogue - 6.2 "Indirect object pronouns" (Group Submission)
	Quiz WK3 Prueba de Vocabulario - Capítulo 6
Thu May 28, 2026	Assignment WK3 Recorded Dialogue - 6.2 & 3 "I. O. P. & Pret. Practice" (Group Submission)
	Assignment WK3 Recorded Dialogue - 6.3 "Preterite Tense" (Group Submission)
Fri May 29, 2026	Assignment WK3 Cultural Assignment 2 - "Loíza"
	Quiz Mid-Course Survey
Sat May 30, 2026	Quiz WK3 Exam III
Mon Jun 1, 2026	Page Week 4 Overview
Tue Jun 2, 2026	Discussion Topic WK4 Class Discussion - 7.1 "Reflexive Verbs"
Wed Jun 3, 2026	Assignment WK4 Recorded Dialogue - 7.2 "Indefinite and Negative Words" (Group Submission)
Thu Jun 4, 2026	Quiz WK4 Prueba de Vocabulario - Capítulo 7
Fri Jun 5, 2026	Assignment WK4 Cultural Assignment 3: Life Between Borders

Course Summary

Date	Details
Mon Jun 8, 2026	Discussion Topic WK5 Class Discussion - 7.4 "Verbs like Gustar"
	Page Week 5 Overview
Thu Jun 11, 2026	Quiz WK5 Exam IV
	Assignment WK5 TalkAbroad (External Assignment)
Fri Jun 12, 2026	Quiz WK5 Final Exam
	Assignment End-of-Course Evaluation