Before We Begin, You Should Know:

Students who study a language at MTU satisfy general education requirements, as well as requirements for the Modern Language and Area Study Certificate and the Advanced Modern Language and Area Study Certificate. By the end of this year, we also hope to offer a Spanish minor [more information on this later].

Instead of taking the regular four-credit-hour World Cultures (UN1002) course, you may take two terms of a modern language with a passing grade during the first three semesters (i.e., your freshman year and/or the fall of your sophomore year). You only need to take the one-hour activity part of World Cultures (UN1003) in the spring. If you have previous knowledge of a modern language (such as two years of High School Spanish) you MUST take the placement test (prior to class work) to be eligible for the above option, and you will be assigned to the appropriate level of this language.

This course is intended for TRUE BEGINNERS of the Spanish Language. This means that if you have had two, three, four or more years of Spanish within the last five years you SHOULD NOT BE HERE. Students with previous knowledge of Spanish may earn up to 12 credits of Spanish!! by completing a placement exam and successfully completing (with C or higher) the appropriate validation course. Transitional courses (HU1235) are available for those who have had AT LEAST TWO YEARS OF SPANISH IN HIGH SCHOOL. It is an intensive review, and prepares students to enroll in HU2232 and/or HU2235 in Spring Semester. There is also significant review in HU2231.

**PLEASE BE SURE YOU ARE ENROLLED IN THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL. THIS WILL HELP YOU SAVE MONEY AND TIME TOWARD GRADUATION AS WELL AS A CERTIFICATE AND/OR A MINOR IN SPANISH.**

**Required Texts:**
- Terrell, Andrade, Egasse, Muñoz, Dos Mundos (5th ed.)
- Terrell, Andrade, Egasse, Muñoz, Cuaderno de Trabajo (5th ed.)
- CD-Roms available with your package or textbook and workbook OR in the Language Lab (Walker 114) [See Language Lab].

**Course Objectives:**
At the end of this semester you can reasonably expect to be able to understand and to communicate in the following areas:
- You and the other students in the classroom
- Settling, family and favorite activities
- Plans and preferences
- Daily routine activities
- Daily life and holidays
- Classes and careers
- Residence.

**Grading Distribution and Scale:**
Your grade in this class will be based on the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments and Homework</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes*</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams*</td>
<td>35%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Only Quizzes and Exams are revisable for extra credit! [Corrections must be made on a separate sheet of paper stapled to the quiz or exam. Revisions must be handed in no later than the first day following the quiz or exam. NO LATE REVISIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.]

The grading scale used in this class is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Corresponding Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88-82</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76-70</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64-60</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92-89</td>
<td>AB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81-77</td>
<td>BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69-65</td>
<td>CD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;60</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Class Procedure:**
The primary focus of this semester of Spanish is to develop your ability to understand native spoken and written Spanish and to increase your skill at expressing yourself in basic situations. **Listening comprehension and reading are the bases for the sound acquisition of a foreign language.** Remember that when you were learning your first language as a child, you had a lot of time to listen before you attempted to speak. Don't be impatient with yourself when you find that you can understand far more than you can produce. This is natural; your speaking and writing abilities will always lag behind your ability to understand. You cannot expect to acquire native-like competence in a foreign language in one or two years. You can expect to be able to communicate with native speakers of Spanish even though you make mistakes. The **goal in this course is communicative.**
competence, not grammatical perfection. This class will use reading and writing activities to enhance your grasp of vocabulary and to provide you with opportunities to express yourself in Spanish. Classroom time will be devoted almost exclusively to activities that allow you to practice your skills of understanding and interacting in Spanish. Classroom time will not be spent doing grammar drills, translating, or listening to lengthy explanations of grammar. If you feel that you need to be drilled in grammar, please arrange for grammar help with one of our language coaches in the Language Lab (Walker 114) and from your instructor outside of class. [More information on language coaches later].

**Attendance**

Attendance in this class is mandatory. IF YOU DO NOT NEED TO ATTEND THIS CLASS TO PASS THE QUizzes AND EXAMS, YOU BELONG IN A MORE ADVANCED SPANISH CLASS. Only students having excused absences are permitted to make up graded work. You should contact me PRIOR to the absence to arrange a mutually-acceptable make-up procedure. Please check your Student Handbook for conditions that qualify as EXCUSED. [I will request verification]. After three (3) excused absences, your final grade will be lowered by 2 percentage points for each hour of class missed. Late arrival to class will be counted as ½ hour. If you miss six hours of class, equivalent to six classes, I will consider you dropped from this class (with a grade of F).

**Participation**

Class participation is a vital part of your language-learning experience and, along with attendance, 25% of your grade in this course. You can improve your participation grade by (1) coming to class prepared and ready to participate on a regular basis, and (2) consistently interacting in Spanish with your instructor and classmates.

**Assignments/Homework/ Tareas**

This course is worth 3 credits. The homework is appropriate to a 3-credit course. Plan on studying approximately 9 hours a week outside of class. Homework will be assigned each class session. Each written exercise (TAREA ESCRITA=TE) collected is worth 1 point. Each reading assignment is worth 5 points (LECTURA=L). HOMEWORK IS NOT ACCEPTED LATE! A Homework Sheet (HOJA DE TAREAS) for each chapter, with all assignments and exams for that period, will be passed out. Always check your homework sheet for the assignment; it is your responsibility to make sure it is handed in on time and that you are able to complete future assignments even if you are absent.

Before you turn in your TAREA (homework) you should check the answer key in the back of the textbook and/or workbook and make any corrections in a different color pen. When your homework is returned, examine all corrections carefully since they will help you learn Spanish. You will receive full credit for all assignments completely and responsibly answered. All written assignments must be clearly written in ink or typed. Sloppy work (chacueria) will not be accepted. When writing out grammar exercises from Dos Mundos, be sure to write out all sentences in full. Worksheets handed out in class to be completed at home are also considered “homework.” These are to be completed in the same responsible and timely fashion, using information from your textbook and/or workbook.

Oral assignments (TAREA ORAL=TO) are also considered “homework” and require appropriate attention. A written task is often attached to oral work, whether from the textbook or workbook.

Your homework grade is calculated on a strict percentage of the homework assignments that you complete during the semester.

**Quizzes and Exams**

There will be approximately five exams in this course, one at the end of each chapter. The final class exam is cumulative. Each exam will have listening comprehension, vocabulary, spelling, and reading and writing components. Quizzes are shorter exams (lasting from 10-20 minutes). There will be an undetermined number of quizzes; these will be used to spot check for gaps in learning, and to help prepare for exams. THERE ARE NO MAKE UPS FOR EXAMS. THERE IS NO MID-TERM AND THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS CLASS.

**Academic Honesty**

Cheating is not tolerated on either exams or homework. Anyone caught copying from others or allowing others to copy their work is subject to receiving a “F” in this class.

**Language Lab (Walker 114)**

While I will not require specific time in the language lab, you should know that it will be necessary for most of you to complete homework exercises there. The lab houses the CD-ROMS that accompany Dos Mundos and Dos Mundos Cuaderno de Trabajo. Other materials, such as videos, movies, grammar and vocabulary computer software, as well as Spanish dictionaries are also located there. Monitors and “Coaches” are available to help you locate materials and work with the equipment, as well as to offer help with
grammar exercises if necessary. During the second week of classes we will visit the lab together. There are various procedures that need to be followed when using equipment or material in the lab. Lab hours are usually posted outside the door of Walker 114. Please note: You are automatically charged a lab fee upon registration for a language class! Put this money to good use by taking full advantage of the equipment and varied materials available there and purchased with your money!

Your Responsibilities in This Class
All humans under normal conditions acquire one or more languages, but it is not possible to acquire Spanish in 45 to 90 hours of in-class instruction. You must take responsibility for your out-of-class learning. In addition to completing all assignments on time, I recommend that you read Spanish-language magazines or stories, watch Spanish TV or movies, or converse with native Spanish speakers one to three times per week. Take every opportunity to use your new skills in Spanish: Read bilingual product labels and instructions, start a journal in Spanish, write notes and lists to yourself in Spanish, and spend time with other students of Spanish (speaking only in Spanish, of course!). Above all, make your extra activities fun and incorporate them into your daily life. As your instructor, I can open the door to Hispanic language and culture, but only you can enter.

Specific Tasks
- Read the syllabus carefully; you will be held accountable to the instructions, requirements, and guidelines.
- Read the introductory pages including "Tips for Success" in your text.
- Attend class regularly and participate.
- Turn in assignments on time. It is your responsibility to read ahead on the homework sheet and know when assignments are due.
- Do the grammar exercises at home. All grammar exercises are to be corrected using the answer key at the back of the textbook and/or workbook.
- Take vocabulary notes in class. This vocabulary may appear on chapter exams.
- Use the Language Lab as often as possible.
- Take chapter exams when they are given.
- Read as many Lecturas as possible, as well as other readings assigned.
- Don't be afraid to make mistakes, and relax!

IMPORTANT NOTES:
- If you face circumstances that could affect your performance in this class, please see me ASAP so that we can make appropriate arrangements.
- MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students at 487-2212. For all other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office at 487-3310.

- This syllabus may be revised during the semester to accommodate the needs either of students or the instructor.