

Correspondence

SPAN 1420

Beginning Spanish II

Self-Paced Online Courses



Start Here



Start Here

Overview



Introduction

Welcome to the Start Here module! This module is designed to provide you with essential information and resources to help you navigate successfully through this correspondence course. From accessing course materials to understanding the grading system, this module will equip you with the tools and knowledge you need to succeed. Read through this module carefully and let's dive in and get started on your path to learning and achievement!



Syllabus

The course syllabus provides essential information about our course. Review the [course syllabus](#) for a better understanding of course policies, assignments, and expectations.



Start Here

Meet Your Instructor

Welcome Message

Welcome to SPAN 1420 – Introduction to Spanish Language and Hispanic Cultures!

Dear Students,

¡Bienvenidos al curso! Welcome to our online, self-paced course! I am thrilled to have you join us in this exciting journey of learning Spanish and exploring the rich and diverse cultures of the Hispanic world.

El objetivo principal de este curso es introducirte al idioma español y profundizar tu comprensión de las culturas hispanas. This course aims to introduce you to the Spanish language and deepen your understanding of Hispanic cultures. We will work on building your skills in speaking, listening, writing, and reading, while also developing an appreciation for cultural diversity across ethnic, national, and ideological boundaries. This will enable you to communicate effectively in Spanish on everyday topics and engage with culture in meaningful ways.

Como este curso es a tu propio ritmo, tendrás la flexibilidad de organizar tu tiempo de estudio según tu horario personal. Since this is a self-paced course, you have the flexibility to structure your study time to fit your personal schedule. You have six months to complete the course, allowing you to set your own pace for assignments and exams.

Recuerda que este viaje se trata de más que solo aprender un idioma; se trata de conectarte con nuevas perspectivas, nuevas personas y nuevas ideas. Remember, this journey is about more than just learning a language—it's about connecting with new perspectives, new people, and new ideas. I encourage you to stay motivated and engaged throughout the course, making the most of the opportunity to learn at your own pace.

No dudes en contactarme si necesitas ayuda o tienes alguna pregunta a lo largo del camino. Don't hesitate to reach out if you need any support or have questions along the way. I'm here to guide you through this learning process, and I look forward to seeing you grow in your Spanish skills and cultural knowledge.

¡Buena suerte, y vamos a hacer que esta experiencia de aprendizaje sea divertida y gratificante! Best of luck, and let's make this learning experience both fun and rewarding!

About Me



Hello and welcome! I'm Carolina Wilson, and I am so excited to be your instructor for this Spanish course. I've been a part of the Department of Modern Languages at Texas State University since 2011, where I've had the privilege of teaching students from all over the world. My journey in education started many years ago in beautiful San José, Costa Rica, where I completed my Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Master's degree in Education Administration at Universidad Latina de Costa Rica. Later, I earned my Master's degree in Spanish from Texas State University, where I found a deep passion for teaching the Spanish language and sharing Hispanic cultures with students.

With more than 25 years of experience in the field, I've taught Spanish at various levels, both in Costa Rica and the United States. Over the years, I've had the pleasure of guiding countless students through their language-learning journeys, and I truly believe that every student brings their own unique perspective and energy into the classroom. It's what makes teaching so rewarding for me!

In addition to my work as a Spanish lecturer, I am especially passionate about Central American literature and culture. I enjoy exploring how language, history, and traditions intertwine to shape the diverse identities of Spanish-speaking countries. Outside of teaching, I love spending time in nature—whether it's hiking through scenic trails, gardening in my backyard, or enjoying a relaxing moment with a cup of coffee. I also enjoy traveling and experiencing new cultures firsthand, and there's nothing quite like sharing a warm cup of coffee with friends and family.

I am thrilled to have you in this course, and I can't wait to help you along the way as you grow your language skills and explore the beautiful Spanish-speaking world. Please don't hesitate

to reach out to me if you have any questions or need any help. Let's make this learning experience fun, rewarding, and enriching together!

Warmly,
Carolina Wilson

Contact Me

✉ Email: cw50@txstate.edu (<mailto:cw50@txstate.edu>)

- Please note that your instructor will not post your grades in Canvas until you send an email requesting to take an exam. (You can find more details about exams below.) After receiving your request, I will finalize your grades within 7 working days and send you a confirmation email. Once grades are posted in Canvas, they cannot be changed.
- Requesting an exam means that all grades for oral exams, quizzes, and assignments will be finalized in Canvas, whether or not they are complete. If any assignments are missing, you will receive a zero for those.
- If you have any questions or need clarification about the course content, please feel free to reach out to me via email. I will respond to your inquiry within 48 hours.

I'm here to help and support you throughout this course, so don't hesitate to contact me if you need anything!



Start Here

Syllabus and Course Materials



Syllabus

To help ensure your success in this course, click [Syllabus](#) and read carefully to understand course expectations and requirements.



Course Materials

This course utilizes the following required materials:

1. Ventanas Abiertas II: Curso introductorio de español

Arroyo García, C., Fernandez Perez, M., Oechler, C. C., & Sommers, B. (n.d.). *Ventanas abiertas II: Curso introductorio de español*. EdTech Books. Retrieved from https://edtechbooks.org/ventanas_2/introduccion (https://edtechbooks.org/ventanas_2/introduccion).

2. Ventanas Abiertas I: Curso introductorio de español

Fernandez Perez, M., Oechler, C. C., & Sommers, B. (n.d.). *Ventanas abiertas I: Curso introductorio de español*. EdTech Books. Retrieved from <https://edtechbooks.org/ventanas> (<https://edtechbooks.org/ventanas>).

Both of these textbooks are Open Educational Resources (OER), meaning they are freely available online. No purchase is required for these materials. Please use the provided links to access the full texts.

These resources will provide the foundational content for your study in this course, helping you develop essential skills in Spanish language and culture. Be sure to check them regularly as you progress through your lessons!

Technology Requirements

In order to successfully complete this course, you will need access to the following:

- **Reliable Internet Connection:** As this is an online course, a stable and fast internet connection is required for accessing course materials, participating in activities, and submitting assignments.
- **Computer or Device:** You should have access to a computer, laptop, or tablet with adequate capabilities to browse the internet, access online course content, and complete assignments.
- **Audio Capabilities:** You will need headphones or speakers to listen to audio recordings, practice pronunciation, and complete listening activities in Spanish.
- **Video Recording Capabilities:** Some assignments and activities may require you to submit video recordings. Please ensure your device has a camera that allows you to record and upload videos for oral exams or speaking assignments.
- **Microphone:** A working microphone is essential for completing speaking-related assignments and participating in video calls (if required for the course).

Ensure your technology is set up and ready to go before starting the course, as these tools are critical for your success. If you have any issues with the required technology, please reach out for assistance as soon as possible!



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Correspondence Course Information

Important Reminders

- This is a **6-month**, online, correspondence self-paced course.
- **All submissions, including exams, must be completed by the course expiration date.** When you registered for the course, you were sent an email to your Texas State account indicating registration and expiration dates.
- **You may not complete more than 1 module every two weeks.**
- You may not take an exam before previously submitted assignments have been graded and returned.
- At the end of the course, you will be asked to **complete a brief course evaluation**. Your input will help improve the course.

Correspondence Policies

As a correspondence studies student, it is your responsibility to be familiar with correspondence-related policies and services. To this end, I encourage you to review the [Correspondence Course Information page](#).



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Technical Requirements and Support



Technical Requirements

This online course requires technical skills and access to certain technology and software that face-to-face courses may not require.

- Learn about [skills and technology](#) you need to be successful in this course. Also review the [tips](#) and [interaction guidelines](#)

Many users encounter fewer problems when they use **Chrome** to access Canvas courses.



Technical Support

Here's how to get help with Canvas:

- 24/7 [Live chat](#)
- 24/7 Phone support: 245.ITAC (4822)
- [Tool-specific help](#)



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Student Support

Links to academic resources can be found on the [Current Student](#) page in the Academics section. These resources include:

- **Academic Advising:** can help you register for classes, plan your pathway to graduation, and support you in meeting your credit requirements.
- **The Library:** offers research support through Online and in-person catalogs, collections, and supportive staff.
- **The Honor Code Council:** provides resources regarding academic integrity and avoiding plagiarism and other Honor Code violations.

The [Student Learning Assistance Center \(SLAC\)](#) also offers the academic support services, including:

- **Tutoring:** in a variety of subjects including math, science, business, writing, and more.
- **Online Writing Lab:** provides students with constructive feedback on their papers from a SLAC Writing Tutor.
- **The Veteran Academic Success Center:** provides connections, referrals, and academic support such as tutoring for student veterans and other members of the military-connected community.

The following links provide further information regarding student services:

[Financial Aid](#) can assist you with grants, scholarships, and paying for college.

[Virtual Mental Health Services](#) can support your wellbeing from afar.

[Career Services](#) can help you with all things career planning, including resume building, mock interviews, and internships.

The Office of Online and Extended Programs is committed to helping students with disabilities achieve their educational goals.

A disability is not a barrier to distance study, and we provide reasonable accommodations to individuals in coursework and test taking.

Students who require special accommodations need to provide verification of their disability to the [Office of Disability Services](#), Suite 5-5.1 LBJ Student Center, 512.245.3451 (voice/TTY).

Students should then notify the [Online and Extended Programs](#) of any disability-related accommodation needs as soon as possible to avoid a delay in accommodations.

Learn more about [Texas State University Statement on Accessibility](#).

[Tips for Success Online](#) Success in online courses requires self-discipline, active engagement, and effective time management. By implementing these tips, you can maximize your learning experience and thrive in your online course.



Start Here

Communication and Engagement



Communication

Canvas is the primary means of communicating with your instructor in this course.

Interacting Online- This webpage discusses various tools, techniques, and guidelines that support communicating with your instructor in an online environment.

Netiquette (Online Etiquette)

It is important to observe netiquette or online etiquette in the online classroom. This includes:

1. **Respectful and Professional Communication:** Use polite and professional language, avoiding all caps or offensive content.
2. **Timely Participation:** Respond promptly to emails and adhere to course deadlines.
3. **Focused and Constructive Contributions:** Contribute meaningfully, staying on-topic, and providing constructive feedback when asked.
4. **Academic Integrity:** Cite sources properly, uphold academic honesty, and submit your work independently.
5. **Inclusive Environment:** Respect diverse perspectives and foster an inclusive and supportive learning space.



Engagement Expectations

What You Can Expect From Me

I will...

- Grade assignments with feedback (if needed) within a week.
- Reply to your questions within 48 hours, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).
- Make myself available via my posted Office Hours.
- Provide timely updates about any potential changes to the course schedule, assignments, or policies.

What I Expect of You

You should...

- Log into Canvas daily to check for announcements, feedback, and other course communications.
- Comply with [Texas State Honor Code](#) by not plagiarizing, cheating, or otherwise submitting work that is not your own.
- Reach out to me with questions if you are confused or need support.
- Practice proactive problem-solving related to technical issues with basic trouble-shooting and contacting technical support when needed.



Module 1

Los Viajes



Introduction



Hello and welcome to Module 1, *Los Viajes* (Travels)! This module is focused on expanding your travel-related vocabulary and mastering the conjugation of verbs in the preterit tense, both regular and irregular. Throughout this module, you'll learn how to identify and match the correct conjugations of stem-changing and irregular verbs in the preterit tense, while also interpreting sentences with these verbs. Additionally, we will dive into various cultural aspects

of travel and explore different Spanish-speaking destinations. By the end of this module, you'll not only have strengthened your grammar skills but also gained useful language for discussing past travel experiences. Let's get started!



Objectives

Upon completion of this module, you will be able to:

1. Identify vocabulary related to travel. (CLO 1-3)
2. Conjugate verbs in the preterit tense. (CLO 1, 2)
3. Select the correct conjugations of irregular verbs in the preterit tense (CLO 1, 2)
4. Identify the correct conjugations of stem-changing verbs in the preterit tense. (CLO 1, 2)
5. Prepare sentences using irregular verbs in the preterit tense (CLO 1, 2)



Materials

The following Open Educational Resources (OER) materials are provided to you in this module and are necessary to successfully complete coursework:

- **Readings: Lumen Learning**

- Spanish II Chap 4 & 5 (MLO 1-5)
- Pretérito irregular con cambio de raíz (Lumen II cap 4) (MLO 1-5)
- Pretérito irregular III (Lumen II cap 5) (MLO 1-5)
- Vocab: Viajes (Lumen II cap 5) (MLO 1-5)

- **Handouts:**

- Pretérito Reg e Irregular (MLO 2-5)

- **Video Lesson:**

- Pretérito indefinido indicativo - verbos regulares e irregular en español - ¡Incluye MAPA visual! (MLO 2-5)

Sources

- **Readings: Lumen Learning**

- *Introductory Spanish II | Simple Book Publishing.* (2025). Lumenlearning.com. <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/wm-spanish2/>
- *Pretérito con cambios de raíz | Introductory Spanish II.* (2025). Lumenlearning.com. <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/wm-spanish2/chapter/gramatica-preterito-con-cambios-de-raiz-2/>
- *Los verbos irregulares en el pretérito | Introductory Spanish II.* (2025). Lumenlearning.com. <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/wm-spanish2/chapter/gramatica-los-verbos-irregulares-en-el-preterito-2/>
- *Vocabulario: Viajar | Introductory Spanish II.* (2025). Lumenlearning.com. <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/wm-spanish2/chapter/vocabulario-viajar-2/>

- **Video Lesson:**

- El Blog para aprender español. (2013, December 2). *Pretérito indefinido indicativo - verbos regulares e irregular en español - ¡Incluye MAPA visual!* YouTube.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIMO7J2mD2k>



Assignments

When approaching module assignments, carefully read the instructions and ensure you understand the requirements. Break down the tasks into manageable steps, create a timeline, and allocate sufficient time for research, drafting, and revision if needed.

- Homework: Vocabulario Los Viajes (MLO 1)
- Homework: Prácticas del pretérito (MLO 2-5)
- Cultural Activity: Listening comprehension- Un viaje a España (MLO 1, 5)
- Quiz: Los viajes (MLO 1-5)



Module 1

Los Viajes



Readings

For this module, we will be utilizing content from Lumen Learning, an open educational resource (OER) platform that provides high-quality, accessible learning materials for students and educators. Lumen Learning offers a comprehensive approach to language learning.

Read the contents in Sections 4 & 5 (MLO 1-5)

First, you will be reading various pages from Sections 4 and 5 of the Lumen Learning materials. In Section 4, *Nosotros preferimos ir de compras*, we will explore vocabulary and expressions related to shopping preferences, helping you engage in conversations about buying clothes, discussing shopping habits, and understanding cultural differences in shopping experiences. In Section 5, *¿Adónde fuiste de vacaciones?*, you will practice past tense verbs as you learn to talk about vacation destinations, trips, and travel experiences. The goal of these pages is to build your ability to communicate about leisure activities and preferences in Spanish, expanding both your vocabulary and your understanding of important cultural contexts.

 Sections 4 & 5

Read- Pretérito irregular con cambio de raíz (MLO 1-5)

We will dive into the topic of Pretérito irregular con cambio de raíz, which focuses on irregular verbs in the preterite tense that undergo stem changes. Understanding this concept is crucial as many commonly used verbs in Spanish change their stems in the past tense, and mastering these patterns will significantly enhance your ability to speak and write about events that happened in the past. Key takeaways from this lesson include recognizing which verbs are affected by stem changes, how these changes occur, and how to conjugate them correctly.

In upcoming homework, you will apply these irregular conjugations by constructing sentences and describing past actions. This content will be essential for accurately expressing your experiences and storytelling in the past tense. Be sure to practice the conjugation patterns to ensure your success in using these verbs confidently.

Pretérito irregular con cambio de raíz

Read- Pretérito irregular III (MLO 1-5)

We will be focusing on Pretérito irregular III, which covers additional irregular verbs in the preterite tense. These verbs do not follow standard conjugation patterns and are essential for expressing past actions accurately in everyday Spanish. Understanding these irregular verbs is important because they are frequently used in both spoken and written language, and they allow you to describe a wide range of experiences and events. Key takeaways from this section include mastering the conjugation of irregular preterite verbs like *hacer*, *tener*, *estar*, and others, as well as recognizing their specific forms and how they differ from regular preterite conjugations. In upcoming homework, you will be tasked with using these irregular forms to describe events or personal experiences in the past, allowing you to practice and apply these conjugations in context. Make sure to review the conjugation rules thoroughly to gain confidence in using these verbs correctly.

Pretérito irregular III

Read- Vocab: Viajes (MLO 1-5)

In this reading, we will be exploring the vocabulary related to *Viajes* (Travel), which will expand your ability to discuss various aspects of traveling in Spanish. This vocabulary is essential for expressing ideas about transportation, destinations, accommodations, activities, and experiences that are commonly associated with trips. Key takeaways from this section include

learning specific terms for different types of travel, important travel-related verbs, and how to describe your travel experiences in detail. This content will be crucial for your upcoming homework, where you will be asked to apply this new vocabulary to describe a past trip or plan a hypothetical vacation. Mastering this travel vocabulary will not only improve your communication skills but also allow you to engage in meaningful conversations about one of the most exciting topics: travel!

 Vocab: Viajes

Pretérito

	COMENZAR	TOCAR
Yo	comencé	toqué
Tú	comenzaste	tocaste
Él Ella	comenzó	tocó
Usted Nosotros	comenzamos	tocamos
Ellos Ellas Ustedes	comenzaron	tocaron





Module 1

Cultural Activity- Listening Comprehension

Un viaje a España (MLO 1, 5)

In this *Práctica de aplicación: Viaje a España* activity, you will apply the travel-related vocabulary you've learned to a real-world context by watching a video about traveling by airplane. The goal of this practice is to strengthen your understanding of travel vocabulary, reinforce your knowledge of preterite and imperfect tenses, and develop your ability to discuss past experiences related to travel. This exercise is designed to help you better describe your own travel experiences and enhance your ability to use Spanish in real-life scenarios, specifically related to journeys.

Instructions

1. **Watch the Video:** Start by watching the video about traveling by airplane. As you watch, pay close attention to the vocabulary used to describe the travel experience, from checking in to boarding and traveling on the plane.
2. **Answer the Questions:** After watching the video, you will be asked to answer questions based on the content using the external link below. You have three attempts to answer these questions correctly, so take your time to think through your answers.
3. **Review Vocabulary:** There will be a "Choose Your Answer" recap that will help you review the travel-related vocabulary. This will be a good opportunity to solidify your understanding of key terms before moving forward.
4. **Hot Spot Vocabulary Activity:** In this section, you will need to answer five questions about vocabulary related to traveling. Make sure you read each question carefully and recall the words and phrases you've learned.
5. **Fill-in-the-Blank Exercise:** Finally, you'll complete a fill-in-the-blank paragraph using the correct conjugations of verbs in the preterite and imperfect tenses. This will test your understanding of both tenses and allow you to apply them in the context of describing travel events.

Remember, this activity is designed to reinforce your language skills in a fun and interactive way, so take your time to engage with the material and review any concepts that might be challenging. The more you practice, the more confident you will become in discussing your travel experiences in Spanish. Good luck, and feel free to reach out if you need any help!

Video

Un viaje en avión. Nivel A2 | 7:57 minutes



VideoEle. (2012, November 14). *Un viaje en avión. Nivel A2*. YouTube.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S19Gd3J4_cc

Grading

This assignment is worth 100 points and will be graded based on your accuracy in answering the video comprehension questions, the vocabulary review, the hot spot activity, and the fill-in-the-blank exercise. Each section will contribute to your overall score, so make sure to take your time and complete all parts carefully.

To complete the assignment, please access the link below, which will redirect you to an external tool in Canvas where you can complete the activities.

 M01 | Práctica de aplicación: Viaje a España

If you have any questions or issues with the tool, feel free to reach out for assistance!



Module 1

Homework

Un viaje a España (MLO 1, 5)

For your upcoming homework assignments, you will focus on two key areas that will help reinforce and expand your language skills.

These assignments are designed to build on the material we have covered in class and to provide you with essential skills for discussing past events and travel experiences. Be sure to review the related concepts before completing the homework, and take your time to ensure accuracy.

All homework assignments will be completed using the link to an external tool within Canvas, so please ensure you access the assignments through the buttons.

If you have any questions or issues with the tool, feel free to reach out for assistance!

Vocabulario Los Viajes (MLO 1)

In this assignment, you will review and practice vocabulary related to travel. This is important because it will allow you to effectively communicate about travel plans, destinations, and experiences, both in conversation and in writing. Mastering this vocabulary will help you engage more fluently in discussions about trips and vacations.

 M1: HW- Vocab_Los viajes

Grading

This homework will be graded based on your accuracy in answering all questions. Be sure to take your time, and you have **3** attempts to complete it.

Prácticas del pretérito (MLO 2-5)

This assignment will focus on practicing the preterite tense. You will reinforce your understanding of how to correctly conjugate regular and irregular verbs in the past tense. This is a crucial skill for describing completed actions or events that took place in the past. The practice will also help you apply these conjugations to various contexts, improving your ability to narrate past experiences.

 M1: HW- Verbos irregulares en pretérito

 M1: HW- Irregular verbs in preterit

Grading

This homework will be graded based on your accuracy in answering all questions. Be sure to take your time, and you have **3** attempts to complete it.



Module 1

Quiz: Los viajes

Quizzes are designed to test your knowledge of the content (vocabulary and grammar) in the prior activities and learning materials in the prior pages in this module. Be sure to review the following learning materials: reading assignments, grammar handouts, video lessons, and the connect activities.

This quiz format includes multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, and short answers.

Instructions

Click the following hyperlink in this section that will redirect you to an external tool in canvas.

For this quiz, be sure to...

- Familiarize yourself with the quiz format
- Read the questions carefully
- Manage your time effectively
- Check your responses for errors
- Submit the quiz within the allotted time

[➞ Module 1 Quiz. Pretérito \(6 questions- 1 attempt\)](#)



Grading

This quiz is graded and will automatically be reflected in Canvas gradebook. Review any feedback provided by your instructor afterward.

Your assignment must comply with the Texas State Honor Code. Explore [Academic Integrity Resources](#)



Module 1

Wrap-Up

Congratulations on completing Module 1, "Los Viajes"! You have successfully recognized and applied key vocabulary related to travel, conjugated verbs in the preterit tense, and identified irregular and stem-changing verbs in past contexts. Now that you have mastered these foundational skills, you are ready to build on them in Module 2, "El hotel." In this next module, you'll focus on new vocabulary related to hotels and lodging, while continuing to refine your understanding of verb tenses. By applying your knowledge of the preterit tense and integrating it with new structures like the imperfect tense and object pronouns, you will be able to describe past actions, people, and events with even more depth. Make sure to review the content and complete the activities in this module, as they will be crucial for your continued success!



Module Review

Before moving on to the next module, be sure to have completed the following activities and assessments to ensure a thorough understanding of the material. This will help you build a strong foundation for the upcoming content.

- Homework: Vocabulario Los Viajes (MLO 1)
- Homework: Prácticas del pretérito (MLO 2-5)
- Cultural Activity: Listening comprehension- Un viaje a España (MLO 1, 5)
- Quiz: Module 1 Los viajes (MLO 1-5)