

Spanish 102 primavera 2009

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Office hours: TWR 6-7 pm or by appointment

Text: DICHOS Y HECHOS, 8th edition

DICHOS Y HECHOS 8th edition workbook/lab manual (one softcover)

CD packet

Why are we here?

Yes, it can be used to fulfill a general education requirement. But you are also learning for pleasure and a purpose. Hispanics are the largest minority population in the U.S. (13% of the total population of this country, and growing rapidly). It is estimated that the U.S. will be 50% Hispanic in fifty years; they account for HALF of America's population growth! There are 41 MILLION in our country now. The Lehigh Valley is 20% Hispanic; over 60,000 people in this area speak Spanish as their first (or ONLY) language according to the most recent census. That means one in five of your clients, patients, students, customers, co-workers, or supervisors is or will be Hispanic AND primarily Spanish-speaking. Thus, by taking this class you are about to take advantage of an amazing and lucrative opportunity. Learning Spanish in the 21st century enhances ALL careers and ALL majors, and provides many opportunities for travel, promotions and diversification that non-Spanish-speakers will not have.

Now for the less pleasant information: alas, evidence of plagiarism, copying, or cheating of any kind on an exam will result in an automatic 0% for that test at the least (which will probably lead mathematically to an F in the course). A notice of academic dishonesty will also be placed in your permanent student file. I HAVE written such letters in the past—twice in the past semester—in order to protect the other students in my courses who are honest and do their own work. College policy dictates that more than one incidence of academic dishonesty can result in dismissal from the College—and I will work to see that happen when it occurs, out of respect for the vast majority of my students who are honorable and ethical.

Course Outcomes: This course will give you tourist-level Spanish for survival. It will introduce you to the basic components and some more complex elements of the Spanish language, enable you to express simple concepts in writing, understand basic questions and statements, get the gist of newspaper-level reading material, and carry on a simple conversation in the present, past, and future.

Class responsibilities:

1. Participate in class. See participation grading policy.
2. Attend class. I take roll every day. More than two UNEXCUSED/undiscussed-beforehand-absences will lower your final grade up to one letter. Former students will tell you this is not a bluff. I have lowered people with 96% exam averages to an A- or a B+ final grade if they demonstrated that they felt that they did not have to attend actual classes like everyone else. I do it to half a dozen students on average every spring and fall semester. (Depressing, for all concerned. Don't make me do it to you.)

Good manners dictates that you should leave a message on my voice mail (3406) if you cannot attend telling me why. If you are seriously ill or if there is a death in the family, you must get a Dean's excuse note. If you have a LEGITIMATE reason for missing a class, tell me the first day of class. I am usually cool about that kind of thing--just NOT about sudden absences for no reason. Also: Coming to class more than 15 minutes late will constitute missing half a class--and it adds up.

3. Take two chapter exams and two oral exams, in compliance with the CCC honor code. (See information on the Honor Code and classroom protocol in the Customs Book.) For the oral exam you will chat for 4 to 5 minutes with a friend from class, in Spanish, about anything you wish, in my office while I observe the interchange. You may rehearse with that partner beforehand to decide what you want to talk about. But you may not read from a script; the conversation must be spontaneous. It sounds far more horrific than it actually is. By that point in the semester you know lots of Spanish and you are used to me; I promise. It will be fun. ***NO makeup exams will be given unless one or both of the following requirements are met: (1) you have arranged a specific alternate exam date with me at least 36 hours before the exam, and/or (2) you have notification sent to me from the Dean of Students informing me officially of serious illness, hospitalization, death in the family, or other sudden events that would require you to miss an exam. All other missed exams will be graded 0.***

4. Complete lab work by buying the lab CDs (roughly an hour in length per chapter of the textbook) and listening to them. DO NOT panic if they sound incomprehensible at first; the textbook publishers try to expose you to “real” Spanish (i.e., Spanish meant for native speakers, not you who would ask natives to repeat themselves slower). Expect dialogues for the lab manuals, therefore, to be jaw-droppingly incomprehensible and daunting to a 102 student. Take a deep breath and hit the BACK button as many times as necessary. The lab pages which accompany the lab are to be found in the workbook/lab manual and must be completed and turned in when specified on the exam schedule.

5. Do workbook exercises for each chapter. There will be no other homework; no extra credit.

6. Read this syllabus. If you e-mail me and write “I missed three classes, is that all right?” or, “What’s the homework?” I will refer you to this syllabus . . . and my estimation of your intelligence will not rise. Please exchange contact information in a way you feel comfortable with, with at least two other class members so you can

GRADING:

Attendance/Participation	10%
Written exams	20% each (40% total)
Oral exam (2)	15% each (30% total)
workbook	10%
lab exercises	10%

PARTICIPATION GRADING POLICY:

A: Student comments or asks questions more than once each period. Student answers questions accurately. In general student seems interested in course and in learning Spanish.

B: Student comments or asks questions once each period. Student answers questions accurately. Student seems willing to be impressed if good stuff occurs in course.

C: Student usually answers questions accurately but does not raise her hand. Student seems to be suffering through the course and basically uninvolved, but will make at least some effort to pass.

F: Student does not answer questions accurately or raise her hand. Student seems totally uninterested and not willing to learn or do work. AND/OR: has excessive absences or comes to class late on a consistent basis.

Schedule:

20 enero	Intro
27 enero	Chapter 6
3 feb	ch 6
10 feb	ch 7
17 feb	ch 7
24 feb	ch 8

3 marzo **Examen # 1** (first 120 minutes) and oral midterms (last 60 minutes). Labs
workbooks chapters 6 through 8 due.

10 marzo *Pausa de primavera. No hay clase.*

17 marzo ch 8

24 marzo ch 9

31 marzo ch 9

7 abril ch 10

14 abril ch 10

21 abril ch 11

28 abril Ultima clase! **Examen #2** (first 120 minutes) and oral finals (last 60 minutes). Labs
and workbook chapters 9 through 11 due.