MEDICINE
PRE-CLERKSHIP ELECTIVE

MDE 6041
Elementary Medical Spanish I—Fall

Florida State University
College of Medicine
Course Director

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“Si hablas a un hombre en un idioma que comprende, llegarás a su cabeza. Si le hablas en su lengua materna, llegarás a su corazón”

Nelson Mandela
Course Overview

**Elementary Spanish I** (fall semester) addresses the needs of medical students with little or no experience with the Spanish language by introducing Spanish language knowledge and skills in the context of health care settings and the biology of medicine. Students will develop communicative proficiency and accuracy in the use of the Spanish language in medical settings with Spanish speaking patients through listening, reading, writing, and conversation:

- Basic biomedical vocabulary including terms related to pharmacology, the autonomic nervous system, endocrine system, and reproductive system and the diseases and problems common to them.
- Cultural and vocabulary skills for greeting and conversing with patients about their health and life situations.

Students will also be exposed to pertinent information about Hispanic cultures.

**Course Format**

Students meet weekly for 1 hour instruction in grammar and vocabulary and application / practice exercises of Spanish conversation. Classroom activities include:

- Role play in Spanish, particularly in clinical scenarios
- Completion of simple medical forms in Spanish
- Oral practice
- Preparation of educational materials for Spanish-speaking patients, and
- Interviewing to determine a patient’s chief complaint in Spanish.

Weekly assignments include web-based lessons in grammar and preparation of brief reports on specific health-related topics and cultural vignettes.

The course provides unique opportunities to develop cultural competence and clinical Spanish language skills that enhance and improve the student’s ability to provide patient-centered health care to Spanish-speaking populations:

- **Presentations** in Spanish about different aspects of Hispanic culture to both enhance the quality of the relationship with Spanish-speaking patients and to avoid misunderstandings about certain cultural values and expectations.
- **Conversation partners** to practice Spanish during the week
- **Hispanic mentors** for Spanish language consultations during the semester
- **Group medical interviews** with Spanish native speakers to put into practice the oral skills practiced formally in the classroom. Students will also learn about different Hispanic cultures from Spanish native speakers who are members of the Florida State University Oscar Arias Hispanic Honor Society
The course and skills it develops support the FSU College of Medicine Mission to develop exemplary physicians who practice patient-centered health care and are responsive to community needs, especially through service to elder, rural, minority and underserved populations.

## Course Objectives

At the completion of the course, the student will:

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<tr>
<th>Competency Domain</th>
<th>Specific Learning Objectives</th>
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| **Patient Care**           | Communicate with Spanish speaking patients by making proper introductions and asking basic personal and health questions using mainly the present tense and different expressions to indicate past and future actions.  
Identify a chief complaint presented by a native speaker of Spanish. |
| **Knowledge For Practice** | Demonstrate a beginner’s knowledge of Spanish vocabulary related to the organ systems in health and disease, including appropriate terms and expressions to describe common chief complaints, symptoms and signs and common treatments.  
Discuss aspects of cultural attitudes on health and health care among Hispanic populations. |
| **Interpersonal and Communication Skills** | Comprehend a simple medical history or specific medical case in Spanish.  
Communicate basic medical information related to the medical interview in simple terms orally and in writing.  
Demonstrate communication skills that are culturally and linguistically appropriate. |
Policies

Americans with Disabilities Act

Candidates for the M.D. degree must be able to fully and promptly perform the essential functions in each of the following categories: Observation, Communication, Motor, Intellectual, and Behavioral/Social. However, it is recognized that degrees of ability vary widely between individuals. Individuals are encouraged to discuss their disabilities with the College of Medicine’s Director of Student Counseling Services and the FSU Student Disability Resource Center to determine whether they might be eligible to receive accommodations needed in order to train and function effectively as a physician. The Florida State University College of Medicine is committed to enabling its students by any reasonable means or accommodations to complete the course of study leading to the medical degree.

The Office of Student Counseling Services
Medical Science Research Building Suite 2300 K-M
Phone: (850) 645-8256           Fax: (850) 645-9452

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:
(1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and
(2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type.
Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from the Student Disability Resource Center has been provided.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in an alternative format upon request. For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center
874 Traditions Way
108 Student Services Building
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167
Voice: (850) 644-9566
TDD: (850) 644-8504
sdrc@admin.fsu.edu
http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/

Academic Honor Code

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and...[to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy)
Attendance Policy

University Attendance Policy:
Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

The College of Medicine has detailed attendance policies as they relate to each cohort and events that conflict with course schedules. See FSUCOM Student Handbook for details of attendance policy, notice of absences and remediation.

Medical Spanish Course Specific Attendance Policy
Given the emphasis that must be placed on participation and interaction in foreign language courses, students need to attend all formal instructional classes.

Suggested Materials

Reading materials needed for the course will be posted on the course Canvas site (the University Learning Management System).

*Dictionaries: Spanish-English and English-Spanish on line
http://www.123teachme.com/medical_dictionary
http://traductor.cervantes.es/cgi-bin/traduccion
http://translate.google.com/#en|es|

MediBabble (Free I phone application)
Canopy Spanish (Free I phone application)
Duolingo (Free I phone application)

The following is a series of medical, cultural and Spanish language tutorial websites for students to practice Spanish independently outside of the classroom. They will be able to engage in Spanish learning activities between class meetings and to build on the regular class instruction during the week. They will be able to utilize these internet educational resources to fit their individual learning style to complement their in-class instruction and their particular medical interests.
Websites for individual Spanish learning and extra practice (tutorial)
They include listening, pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, reading material and quizzes for written practice:

- **Medical Spanish Resources**
  - [Medical Spanish Resources](http://www.cdc.gov/spanish/podcast.html): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Spanish podcasts
  - [http://www.medicalspanishpodcast.com/](http://www.medicalspanishpodcast.com/): Medical Spanish podcasts
  - [http://www.medicalspanish.com/learning-resources.html](http://www.medicalspanish.com/learning-resources.html): Medical Spanish learning resources
  - [http://www.practicingspanish.com/](http://www.practicingspanish.com/): Practice Medical Spanish
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyzgZbZnUik&list=PL5o-4-kgVLgivtGLZy6iTV-x6EqPSUDUI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyzgZbZnUik&list=PL5o-4-kgVLgivtGLZy6iTV-x6EqPSUDUI): Different video clips for Medical Spanish
  - [https://www.youtube.com/user/languagetailor1/videos?shelf_id=1&sort=dd&view=0:50 YouTube videos on Medical Spanish](https://www.youtube.com/user/languagetailor1/videos?shelf_id=1&sort=dd&view=0:50)
  - [https://www.123teachme.com/learn_spanish/resources_for_learning_medical_spanish_202](https://www.123teachme.com/learn_spanish/resources_for_learning_medical_spanish_202): Chief Complaint
  - [https://www.123teachme.com/learn_spanish/resources_for_learning_medical_spanish_index](https://www.123teachme.com/learn_spanish/resources_for_learning_medical_spanish_index): Medical videos. Different dialogues and situations

- **Spanish Tutorial**
  - [http://www.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/index.php](http://www.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/index.php): Clear and well organized Spanish grammar activities and culture. There is a lot of feedback
  - [http://cvc.cervantes.es/portada.htm](http://cvc.cervantes.es/portada.htm): Spanish Language and Literature
http://www.aprenderespanol.org/lecturas/ejercicios-de-lectura.html : Basic readings with exercises
http://www.practiceespanol.com/category/vocabulario-2/ : More developed exercises on specific grammatical points
http://www.languageguide.org/spanish/vocabulary/ : Different Spanish vocabulary with sound
http://www.spanish411.net/Spanish-Vocabulary.asp : Vocabulary
http://members.tripod.com/spanishflashcards/ : Vocabulary, pronunciation, spelling, grammar and quizzes
http://www.lingolex.com/spanish.htm : Vocabulary, grammar and information for Spanish learners
http://www.ielanguages.com/spanish.html : Useful vocabulary, phrases, expressions and grammar
http://www.englishspanish.com/learn/verbs : 500 most common Spanish verbs. Conjugation and quizzes
http://www.prensaescrita.com/ : Press in Spanish from the Hispanic world to practice reading
http://www.cambridgeinstitute.net/en/tests-de-nivel-ingles/test-nivel-espanol/ Test your level of Spanish

Web sites that focus on medical issues:
These web sites help expand the students’ Spanish Medical Vocabulary as well as present information about different medical issues related to the systems studied in this course:
https://gobierno.usa.gov/agencias-federales/departamento-de-salud-y-servicios-humanos : List of important Health Agencies in Spanish
http://www.cdc.gov/spanish/ : CDC information in Spanish/English
https://salud.nih.gov/ : NIH Spanish and English
https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ : MedlinePlus in Spanish
https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/yeastinfections.html : Host and Defense topics in Spanish
https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/autonomicnervoussystemdisorders.html : ANS Diseases in Spanish
https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/endocrinediseases.html : Endocrine diseases in Spanish
https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/malereproductivesystem.html : Male Reproductive System in Spanish
https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/femalereproductivesystem.html : Female Reproductive System in Spanish

*List of links helpful to class presentations:

http://college.cengage.com/languages/spanish/resources/students/links/index.html : Multiple links to History, Culture, Music, Literature. Link “Country City Tours” can be helpful. (English and Spanish)
http://www.indiana.edu/~call/generales.html : Hispanic culture: literature, language and food (Spanish and English)
http://pewhispanic.org/ : Information to improve understanding of the diverse
Hispanic population in the United States and to chronicle Latinos' growing impact on the nation. (English)
http://www.donquijote.org/culture/spain/ : Spain and its culture (English and Spanish)
Grading

Assignments and weights

The elective will be graded Pass/Fail. To earn a grade of Pass (≥ 70%) in Elementary Medical Spanish I, students must fulfill all of the following:

- **Preparation** as evidenced by completion of weekly assignments
  - Required reading will be assigned weekly
  - There will be homework assignments to reinforce and to further practice class activities

- **Participation** in class activities
  - There is no better way to improve conversational skills than to practice them in class and outside of the class.
  - Sometimes homework will be completed with other students as a pair/group activity
  - Students demonstrate achievement of the objectives in class activities.

- **Oral presentation** in Spanish on Hispanic culture
  - Students will perform a cultural oral presentation in English and Spanish (about 5 minutes long) on the topic of their interest relating to the Hispanic World. Details of presentations will be discussed in class prior to carry out such presentations
  - After the presentation, there will be a question and answer session.

- **Attendance**
  - Given the emphasis that must be placed on participation and interaction in foreign language courses, students need to attend all formal instructional classes.
  - Excused absences will be at the discretion of the instructor.

The grade is based on the following:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Meeting with the Instructor:** The instructor is available to meet with students by appointment. If the students experience any difficulties with the course, they should contact the course instructor as soon as possible to discuss any issues or concerns.

**Please note:** Any student with a disability that requires academic accommodation should: 1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC); and 2) bring a letter to the instructor from the SDRC indicating that the student needs academic accommodation. This should be done during the first week of class.

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**Material Covered in Class Weekly**

Detailed homework assignments are posted on Canvas weekly.

The weekly schedule outlined below applies to all 3 sections of the course: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

**Week 1:** August 21-25

**Monday:** Introduction to the course

**General Review I:** Review of basic general Spanish vocabulary I
Pronunciation and the alphabet, days of the week, cardinal numbers I, months of the year and the colors

**Week 2:** August 28-September 1

**Monday:** **General Review II:** Review of basic general Spanish vocabulary II
Short dialogues using specific vocabulary to identify names and basic personal information. Greetings and farewells

**Week 3:** September 4-8

**Monday:** (Labor day) class is **Wednesday:** *At the Family Doctor’s Office I.*

Objectives:

**Vocabulary:**
Nouns related to the doctor’s office. Common general diseases and concerns.
General medical terms used at the family doctor’s office. Parts of the body
Interrogative words
Vocabulary learning activities

*Communication:*
Fill out Spanish forms with basic personal information about a patient: name, address, date of birth, telephone number, marital status, place of work and social security number
Oral activities and *Role-play.* Eliciting basic personal information. Filling out patients’ forms

*Spanish Grammar:*
Uses of “hay”
Cardinal numbers II
Seasons and Dates
Present indicative of regular “AR” verbs
Interrogative and negative sentences

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**Week 4**
September 11-15

**Week 5**
September 18-22

Monday class to **Wednesday** (Exam on the 18th): *Host and Defense topics.*

**Objectives:**

*Vocabulary:*
Acquisition of specific Spanish terminology of common Host and Defense diseases and disorders.
Acquisition of general Spanish vocabulary within the context of Host and Defense matters
Acquisition of core high frequency Spanish vocabulary

*Vocabulary learning activities*

*Communication:*
Describe common symptoms of some Host and Defense diseases and disorders in Spanish. Elicit symptoms of Host and Defense diseases and disorders from patients in Spanish. Understand information provided and suggest recommendations for treatment

*Highlighted disease:* The flu. Group conversations

*Spanish Grammar:*
Form and position of Descriptive Adjectives
Telling time

Cultural presentations

**Week 6**

September 25-29

**Monday:** *Host and Defense topics*. Objectives:

*Vocabulary:*
- Review of specific Spanish terminology of common Host and Defense diseases and disorders and general Spanish vocabulary within the context of Host and Defense matters
- Acquisition of core high frequency Spanish vocabulary

*Vocabulary learning activities*

*Communication:*
- Chief complaint. Practice on specific cases through discussions and role-play.
- Prepare brief written reports. Conversations on prevention of common Host and Defense diseases/disorders. Prepare brief information for patients’ educational purposes
- Prevention of common children’s diseases/disorders. Specific vaccinations for children

*Highlighted disease:* HIV. Group conversations

*Spanish Grammar:*
- Verbs “Tener” and “Venir”. Expressions with “Tener”
- Present tense (indicative) of regular “ER” /”IR” verbs

**Week 7**

October 2-6

**Monday:** *Autonomic Nervous System*. Objectives:

*Vocabulary:*
- Acquisition of specific Spanish terminology of common diseases and disorders of the Autonomic Nervous System
- Acquisition of general Spanish vocabulary within the context of Autonomic Nervous System matters
- Acquisition of core high frequency Spanish vocabulary

*Vocabulary learning activities*

*Communication:*
- Chief complaint. Practice on specific cases through discussions and role-play.
- Prevention. Prepare brief written reports.

*Highlighted disease:* Gastroparesis. Group discussions

*Spanish Grammar:*
- Comparative forms

**Week 8**

October 9-13

**Monday:** *Review*. Preparation of questions for medical interviews with the visiting students from the Oscar Arias Hispanic Honor Society

Class practice before real interviews: Role-play. Chief complaint and Medical History

Preparation of cultural questions

*Spanish Grammar:*
Verbs “ir”, “dar”, “estar”  
“Ir a + infinitivo”  
Expressions with “hace”  
Cultural presentations

Week 9  
October 16-20  
Week of Foundations of Medicine 2 Final Assessment. No class

Week 10  
October 23-27  
Monday: Group medical interviews with the Hispanic visiting students from the Oscar Arias Hispanic Honor Society  
Chief complaint and Medical History  
Cultural questions

Week 11  
October 30-November 3  
Monday: The Endocrine System. Objectives:  
**Vocabulary:**  
Acquisition of specific Spanish terminology of common Endocrine diseases and disorders.  
Acquisition of general Spanish vocabulary within the context of Endocrine system matters  
Acquisition of core high frequency Spanish vocabulary  
Vocabulary learning activities  
**Communication:**  
Elicit symptoms of Endocrine diseases and disorders from patients in Spanish. And suggest recommendations for treatment. Describe symptoms of the essence of common Endocrine diseases and disorders. Chief complaint. Practice on specific cases through discussions and role-play. Prevention. Prepare brief written reports.  
**Highlighted disease:** Thyroid disorders. Hyperthyroidism. Group conversations  
**Spanish Grammar:**  
Possession: possessive with preposition “de” and Possessive Adjectives  
Cultural presentations
Week 12
November 6-10

**Monday:** *The Male Reproductive System.* Objectives:

*Vocabulary:*
Acquisition of specific Spanish terminology of common diseases and disorders of the Male Reproductive System.
Acquisition of general Spanish vocabulary within the context of the Male Reproductive System matters
Acquisition of core high frequency Spanish vocabulary
Vocabulary learning activities

*Communication:*
Elicit symptoms of diseases and disorders of the Male Reproductive System from patients in Spanish and suggest recommendations for treatment. Describe symptoms of the essence of common diseases and disorders of the Male Reproductive System. Chief complaint. Practice on specific cases through discussions and role-play. Prevention. Prepare brief written reports.

*Highlighted disease:* Prostate cancer. Group conversations

*Spanish Grammar:*
Stem-changing verbs (e>ie)

*Cultural presentations*

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Week 13
November 13-17

Week before Host-Defense exam. No class

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Week 14
November 20-24

Thanksgiving Holiday
No class

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Week 15
November 27-Dec 1

**Monday:** *The Female Reproductive System.* Objectives:

*Vocabulary:*
Acquisition of specific Spanish terminology of common diseases and disorders of the Female Reproductive System.
Acquisition of general Spanish vocabulary within the context of the Female Reproductive System matters
Vocabulary learning activities

*Communication:*
Elicit symptoms of diseases and disorders of the Female Reproductive System from patients in Spanish and suggest recommendations for treatment. Describe symptoms of the essence of common diseases and disorders of the Female Reproductive System. Chief complaint. Practice on specific cases through discussions and role-play. Prevention. Prepare brief written reports

*Highlighted disease:* Breast cancer. Group conversations

*Spanish Grammar:*
Stem-changing verbs (o>ue)

*Cultural presentations*
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<tr>
<th>Week 16</th>
<th>Monday: Presentations</th>
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<td>December 4-8</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 17</th>
<th>Monday: Presentations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 11-15</td>
<td>Final day activities</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 18</th>
<th>Week before Host-Defense final assessment. No class</th>
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<td>December 19-29</td>
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