

Overview of Learning Topics for the Course "Spanish Culture and Literacy"

Learning Topics, Practical Situations & Applied Vocabulary	Related Matters (Including grammar and idiomatic)	Lesson in Text	Additional Practical Situations (Material not found in textbook)	Cultural Related Topics
Greetings, Leave-taking Words, Introductions & Identifying Speakers	Gender & number of nouns, articles. Cognates. Subject pronouns, conjugations of verbs, verb SER (to be). Telling time, numbers 0-30.	Lesson 1	Informal and formal addressing through phone, and local variations. When to use ser and rules.	Titles, formal vs. informal and addressing natives. What does Hispanic mean? Why Latino/a? Latinos in the US & the concept of "gringo."
Subjects and Fields of Knowledge, College Setting	Days of week. Verb endings, ~ar verbs. Present of ESTAR (to be), prepositions. Brief differences between ser (dna) and estar (condition).	Lesson 2	Estar + adjective (status) to express condition, physical and mental states. When to use estar and rules. List of ~ar verbs.	Relativity & management of time. To be punctual or late. When doing business.
Family, Relationships, Identifying People & Professions	Adjectives, gender, number & position. types: descriptive & possessive. Verbs w/~er & ~ir endings, present tense. Verbs Tener (to have) and Venir (to come). Formulas.	Lesson 3	List of adjective. Descriptive, limiting, rules & exceptions. Virtues & weaknesses. List of ~er & ~ir verbs.	Personal space, family relations and expectations. Economic independence, gender role, higher education & work.
Pastimes, Sports & Places	Present of Ir (to go), formulas (places & activities). Ir + future intent. And ir as "let's go". More prepositions. Stem changing verbs, verbs with "yo" irregular conjugations.	Lesson 4	Exercises on stem-changing verbs; the "boot groups" and learning conjugations by groups of similar stem-changing verbs. More hobbies, sports, and places.	The outdoors, contact with nature, camping, and the popular sport: <i>fútbol</i> . More physical related activities. How about bullfights?
Vacations, Trips & Tourism	Travel agency, airport, hotel & beach. Time/Weather expressions. Rules of Ser & Estar (to be); Ser & Estar w/adjectives & w/idiomatic expressions. Months of the year, seasons & weather. Reviewing how to tell time & date.	Lesson 5	The Southern hemisphere & seasons. Expressions of time, weather & climate. Dialogues for Immigration & Customs, Airline Counter, Luggage & Porter, Hotel Services, At the Hotel & Using the Hotel Phone. More regular verbs.	Reservations and Types of Lodging. <i>Hostales</i> & Family owned services. Dialogues for swimming and camping.
Shopping, Clothes & Negotiation	Primary & more Colors, traditional and non-traditional. Numbers 101 & higher. Tener + clothing, shoes.	Lesson 6	Metric system. Dialogues on: Money exchange, Bargaining, Clothing & Jewellery Store. Clothing Materials. Also, popular clothing material and designs. Types of shoes.	Bargaining and Street Market. The use of periods and commas within the metric system (money exchange).

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Daily Routines, Body Hygiene & Bathroom	Daily routines, personal hygiene, Reflexive verbs, reflexive pronouns Indefinite and negative words	Lesson 7	Understanding Spanish double negatives & sense of redundancy.	Eating habits & siesta. The schedule for morning, day & night, and its relations to meals.
Food Products, Meals & Eating Habits	Food, meals & descriptions. Meat, fish, fruits, vegetables, and beverages. The Latinoamerican Food Pyramid. Verbs <i>Saber & Conocer</i> . How to compare? Regular/irregular & superlatives.	Lesson 8	Eating out, restaurants, and ordering and paying for meals. Condiments and spices. Seafood. Buying at the grocery store.	Concept of service, waiting & tips. To drink or not to drink... water?
Parties, Celebrations, Personal Relations & Stages of Life	Parties, celebrations, birthday. Feelings, wishing & pleasant concepts. Personal relationships; Stages of life. Interrogative words <i>Qué & Cuál</i> .	Lesson 9	Understanding <i>Qué & Cuál</i> . Specific uses. More "stages of life" related vocabulary.	Padrino/Madrina or godparents; Catholic traditions, family celebrations & relations. The <i>compadre</i> and <i>comadre</i> titles. Timing, parties & night life.
Health, Medical Terms, Health Professions, Body Parts & Medical Conditions	Symptoms, medical conditions, health professions. Body parts and organs. Verbs associated with pain & wellness. Emergency Contacts while travelling.	Lesson 10	Emergency Contacts while travelling. The senses (smell, taste, vision, etc). More on Body parts, organs & functions. Dialogues: at the hospital, Finding a doctor, talking to a doctor; at the pharmacy. Talking to a dentist, oculist, & emergency calls.	Useful Latin & Greek roots. The emergency room. The role of the medic, the pharmacist, and the status of natural medicine. Providers, hospitals, clinics & fees.
Technology, Home Electronics, Computers, Internet, Car & Accessories	Technology, computers & internet. The car and its accessories. Home electronics. Adverbs. Prepositions Por & Para	Lesson 11	Dialogues & situations about: Car problems, service/gas station. The list of new verbs related to tech.	Technology: Creating new verbs. First world technical & universally shared language.
Housing, Parts of the House, Household Chores	Types of housing. Office bedroom, kitchen, living room & more. Items of each room (appliances also). Household chores; table settings.	Lesson 12	Verbs related to chores, the use of reflexive verbs. Descriptions of places: suburbs, cities, out of town.	Extended families and the housing space. Who lives with whom?
Nature, The Environment, Recycling & Conservation	Nature: talking about & describing. The environment: recycling, ecology, pollution & conservation. Animals and verbs related to nature. Impersonal expressions & feelings in present tense.	Lesson 13	Camping, ecotourism, explorations & expeditions. Outdoors & related sports. Additional list of animals.	Flora & fauna and the environment in Latinoamerica.

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City Life, Daily Chores, Money & Banking, Post Office	Different components of city life: stores and their products. Daily chores & errands. Post office, money, banking & types of payment. Cardinal points, coordinates and directions.	Lesson 14	Dialogues on: Driving about & Touring the city: at the Post Office, the bookstore, music store, clubs & discos. Getting directions: on the bus, taxi, subway & train.	About city life and disappearing professions & trades: the tailor, shoemaker, only-leather shoe repair shop & more.
Health & Well Being, Exercise & Physical Activity, Nutrition	Health, nutrition & well-being. Physical activity: in the gym. Verbs associated with exercise, nutrition & diets.	Lesson 15	Talking to a doctor about being healthy, regular check-up, and indicators.	Walking about: physical exercise in Latinoamerican cultures.
The Workplace, Professions & Occupations, Job Interviews	Types of professions & occupations, the office & workplace; job interviews.	Lesson 16	Requirements for jobs, qualifications and typical questions. The ads in the newspaper.	Gender, beauty & jobs. Impertinent questions, ad info & jobs interviews.
The Arts, Movies & Television	Fine arts, crafts & the artisans. Artists & disciplines. Movies & TV related verbs; types of shows.	Lesson 17	Dialogues about: movies & theatres. More on artistic disciplines & occupations.	Telenovela (soap opera) in Latinoamerican culture.
The Media, Current Events & Politics, Natural Disasters	Current events and politics, tv & radio, the written press, mass media & coverage of natural disasters	Lesson 18	Social sins, prejudice & tragedy.	About governments, political involvement, freedom and rights. Latinoamerican visions.