

PREPARATION & PARTICIPATION

A language course is a skill learning course, similar to a music lesson or a driving lesson. (You can't practice sporadically or "cram" at the last moment and hope to do well in a recital or on your driver's test.) You need to keep up by practicing for a reasonable time each day. Therefore, this course is not designed as a lecture course, but rather as one in which students participate. Simply showing up to class is not enough.

In order to acquire Spanish, you must be exposed to it. This means being in class, hearing it and *actively* participating.

Your participation grade will be calculated according to the following guidelines:

- A The student is well prepared and volunteers frequently. He/she has excellent attendance, never speaks English and is able to understand and answer questions.
- B He/she is well prepared but must be encouraged to participate.
- C He/she participates in group activities but does not volunteer in class as a whole.
- D Preparation is inadequate to allow full participation.
- F He/she is disruptive to the rhythm of the drill, has little to add to the conversation and speak mostly English. The student is not prepared and does not bring materials to class. He/she is frequently absent.

Participation Scale

Grade	Point range	Description of qualities
A	9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Speaks and asks questions only in Spanish during class. ◆ Initiates conversations with classmates and professor. ◆ Always comes well prepared and answers readily when called upon. ◆ Elaborates on answers. ◆ Volunteers frequently without dominating conversation. ◆ Speaks clearly and understandably. ◆ Participates equally with classmates in all collaborative activities. ◆ Always stays on task.
B	8-8.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Speaks and asks questions in Spanish during class. ◆ Sometimes initiates conversations with classmates and professor. ◆ Usually comes well prepared and answers readily when called upon. ◆ Often elaborates on answers. ◆ Shows willingness to participate and volunteers regularly. ◆ Usually speaks clearly and understandably. ◆ Participates equally with classmates in all collaborative activities to the best of her/his ability. ◆ Usually stays on task.
C	7-7.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Speaks in Spanish when called upon, but infrequently initiates conversation or volunteers. ◆ Comes well prepared about 75% of the time. ◆ Participates more passively than actively in collaborative activities. ◆ Usually attempts to speak clearly and understandably. ◆ Sometimes strays from task. ◆ Resorts to English sometimes.
D	6-6.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Speaks only sometimes in Spanish. ◆ Frequently comes unprepared. ◆ Participates grudgingly in collaborative activities. ◆ Rarely speaks clearly and understandably. ◆ Often strays from task. ◆ Often resorts to English.
F	0-5.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Almost never speaks in Spanish. ◆ Always comes unprepared. ◆ Refuses to participate in collaborative activities. ◆ Rarely speaks clearly and understandably. ◆ Disrupts other students and is disrespectful of classmates and instructor. ◆ Never stays on task. ◆ Speaks English almost always.