

¡A su salud! Spanish for Health Professionals

This course has been specifically designed to meet the needs of students in the health professions. It is one of the first university courses anywhere in the country to interweave culture, language instruction, and health care material. As such, you will be performing a variety of exercises and activities designed to strengthen each of these areas.

As health care professionals, you will face a three-fold difficulty in communicating with non-English speaking patients and clients. Perhaps the most obvious is the language barrier. Successful communication with any patient, however, requires much more than being able to converse in a shared language. You will also face cultural differences that could significantly impact communication. This course will help you develop strategies to recognize these differences and use them to improve your patients' and clients' care. Finally, all health care workers face the difficulties inherent in communicating with people who are frightened, sick, and under stress. *¡A su salud!* will primarily address the first of these two communication barriers. You will learn about the third as you progress in your field.

Instructors

Section #	Instructor	E-mail	Office Hours
Section 613	Francisco Brignole	brignole@email.unc.edu	see Announcements page on the course web site

Course Textbook:

- *¡A su salud!*: Spanish for Health Professionals, Classroom Edition

Course Assignments

Class participation (20%): Oral participation is the most important part of the course. Each week you will be expected not only to attend class, but to participate actively in it. Active participation means that you come prepared to ask and answer questions, work in small groups with your classmates, and participate in role-plays. Your instructor will assess you based on the following criteria:

- Preparedness—How well did you study the material? Did you watch the relevant episode or section of the DVD?
- Comprehension and comprehensibility—Do you understand your instructor and can he understand you?
- Fluency and pace—Do you speak at a normal pace with little hesitation?
- Vocabulary—Do you use and comprehend each chapter's vocabulary? Have you learned vocabulary needed to discuss the topic at hand?
- Grammatical sophistication—Do you attempt to use the grammatical structures featured in each chapter and even to go beyond them? Do you speak with grammatical accuracy?

- **Improvement**—Is your spoken Spanish improving from week to week?

Homework (20%): You will have a short written assignment each week, due Sunday by 10:00 pm. See your syllabus for due dates. Some of these homework assignments might be brief essays that you will submit to your instructor via the Sakai dropbox. Others will be grammar worksheets that you will complete and submit to your instructor. Even though other work will not be required for a grade, you are expected to keep up with the work in the book and in the online activities.

Discussion forums (15%): Five times during the semester you will be required to respond to a question in the discussion forum. These questions have been designed to challenge you to think not just about linguistic structures, but about culture and healthcare and how they interact with language. Respond thoughtfully and don't worry if your grammar is not perfect. Your grade in this section will be based more on the quality of what you say than how you say it.

Quizzes (30%): After each of the first three *Unidades*, there will be a quiz designed to last 50 minutes. These essay quizzes will test whether you can **apply** the information you have been learning and use the grammatical structures and vocabulary studied in the previous units. The final unit will be tested on the final exam. Your instructor will grade you both on the content of what you say and on how you say it (your use of grammar and vocabulary).

Final exam (15%): The final exam for the course is the same as the quizzes in structure and objectives. The only difference is that the final will be comprehensive and longer. You will have 90 minutes to complete the final.

Grading Scale

This course is graded on a ten-point scale. In other words, 90 – 100 is equal to an A (or an H for graduate students), 80 – 90 to a B (or a P for graduate students), etc. If you wish to take the course pass/fail, you will need to file paperwork within your school or department.

Honor Code

Academic dishonesty in any form is unacceptable. Any breach in academic integrity, however small, strikes destructively at the University's life and work. Any form of cheating on assignments or exams is in violation of the honor code, and all exams should contain the written pledge: "I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this exam." Students may not work together or seek any help on homework assignments; "homework" includes any written contributions to the class electronic discussion forum. You must write your own assignments without help from friends, tutors, native speakers, or anyone else. It is in violation of the honor code for your assignments or any portion of them to be written by another person. It is also in violation of the honor code to copy, translate, paraphrase or transcribe your assignments or any portion of your assignments

from any source. For more information about the University's honor code, please visit <http://honor.unc.edu/honor/code.html>. If you have questions about what constitutes an honor violation in this course, please contact your instructor.

Revised 8/5/14

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