



**NOW WITH SUPERSITE**

## A Guided Journey of Language and Culture

*Experiencias: Beginning Spanish* is just that, a program developed to give students a collection of rich cultural experiences of the Spanish-speaking world from which they build their own multimodal cultural portfolio of engaging projects in the target language. Culture is the point of departure for all activities and cultural competence is cultivated. Based on research in second language acquisition, metacognition and student-centered pedagogy, *Experiencias* takes a unique and fresh approach where students are empowered with strategies that encourage them to take charge of their own learning experience.

*Over the years, I have found that teaching metacognitive learning strategies, integrating culture and facilitating authentic interaction are effective ways to engage students in successful communication.*

**Diane Ceo-DiFrancesco, PhD, Xavier University; *Experiencias* co-author**

### Culture is the Content

Deepening the students understanding of the Spanish-speaking world cultures and developing cultural competence is the priority of this program. To do so, culture is the point of departure for all activities. Each chapter introduces the students to real people, products, and practices of a specific region, and then ask the students to investigate, explain, and reflect on what they have learned building a connection to the people and their culture.

### Second Language Acquisition Research put to Practice

The authors have developed this program based on SLA research and their own classroom experience. Vocabulary is presented in smaller chunks utilizing input-based and inductive approaches, asking students to make inferences. Through a reduced grammar focus and a concentration on high frequency language and communicative structure reinforced by frequent and intentional recycling, students are set to succeed and develop their language proficiency.


### Task-Supported and Project-Based Approach

Students are asked to engage in interesting task-based projects throughout. In each chapter, learners need to complete three multimodal projects - write their own travel blog, create their own video, and build an e-cuaderno synthesizing all they have learned about each region. In addition to these three portfolio-style tasks/projects which repeat in each lesson, students are also asked to work on a cultural project, a high interest contemporary project, and a project where students need to research about their own community.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS PROGRAM

- Two engaging and personalized video features:
  - *Encuentros* Video: Daniel and his Spanish-speaking friends sharing their life experiences on Daniel's 'how-to' show
  - *Estrategias de estudio*: short video segments throughout the chapters, offering language acquisition tips and strategies directly to the students
- Daniel's Travel blog: comprehensible language to build both cultural and language literacy. It also functions as a model for students' own blog!
- Clear learning objectives
- Stepped learning process (Paso 1, 2, 3) so each step builds off the previous one within an activity
- Integrated listening input throughout
- Animated Grammar Tutorials and additional practice activities online

**Estrategia de estudio: Hearing What the Native Speaker Hears**



How important are verb endings in Spanish? As you begin to have conversations in Spanish, you will develop an understanding of how you can change verb endings to convey different information. These endings will help you understand who is doing the action. When you hear "hablo" in Spanish, the sound of unstressed /o/ at the end of the verb means that the speaker is referring to himself or herself. You hear "hablas", and the sound /s/ indicates that the speaker is talking directly to someone else. Listen carefully for these cues; they will help you comprehend messages and respond appropriately.

### Empower Students to Learn with Metacognition

Get to know Daniel, who makes frequent appearances throughout the program as the students' personal guide and mentor on their language and cultural journey. He shares language acquisition tips to make students aware of how to learn best. He also introduces each chapter's main theme and shares his travel blog.



### NEW!

### News and Cultural Updates

These monthly links with scaffolded activities for students are available on the Supersite. They provide real world connection to language and culture via carefully curated articles and videos from across the Spanish-speaking world. Instructors can enhance their classroom with authentic and culturally relevant resources, focusing on the three modes of communication (interpretative, interpersonal, and presentational).

## What does “Now with Supersite” mean to you and your students?

The Supersite is your online source for integrating text and technology resources with powerful functionality, a focus on language learning, and a simplified user experience for students and instructors. The Supersite enhances language learning and facilitates simple course management.

### FOR STUDENTS

#### Communication Tools

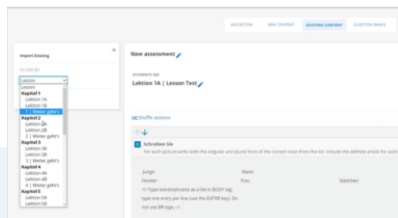
- Partner Chat and Info-Gap Partner Chat activities for increased spoken production
- Live Chat for real-time video chat, audio chat, and instant messaging without leaving the Supersite
- Forums for oral assignments, group discussions, and projects

#### Grammar, Vocabulary & Pronunciation Tools

- Animated Grammar tutorials with explanations for most grammar points
- Vocabulary presentations with audio for personalized learning and study
- Game-like Cumulative Matching activity that provides an engaging review of new vocabulary terms

#### Student Resources

- Interactive vText: the online, interactive student edition with links to presentations and activities
- Student Edition Activities
- Composition Engine
- Enhanced auto-feedback to improve comprehension and grades



**NEW!**

#### Assessment Builder with Randomization

This new tool allows instructors to leverage existing tests and exams from any chapter to create new, customized assessments. With the fully randomizable assessment program, each student can receive the same test organized differently, ensuring a higher degree of academic integrity.

### FOR INSTRUCTORS

#### Grading & Course Management Tools

- Customize your course and section settings, create your own grading categories, plus copy previous settings to save time
- Manage classes, view rosters, set assignments, view student scores, and manage grades using the all-in-one Gradebook
- Advanced Gradebook Analytics offer insight into student performance and engagement in the course
- Grading options allow you to choose to grade student-by-student, question-by-question, or spot check. Plus, give targeted feedback via in-line editing and voice comments.
- Instructor Tools to add your own content: open-ended activities, video and notes added to existing content

#### Abundant Content means Less Prep Time

- Textbook “mouse-icon” activities
- Videos with instructor-controlled subtitle settings
- Audio resources
- Self-tests
- Teaching resources like tests and syllabi

#### Digital Instructor’s Edition

- Available on the Supersite for anytime access, with teaching suggestions, annotations, and the ability to add notes
- IAE eCompanion

#### Instructor Resources

Get access to editable task-based activities to help facilitate communicative practice in class and to expand on the chapter’s content.

Print copies of these activities or simply project them on a screen for students to see during class.

Instructor Resources also includes:

- Digital Assessment Program for timed and password-protected tests
- Assignable online practice activities
- Videoscripts and index of accessible activities
- Testing Program (Editable tests and exams, testing audio, and IPAs) – with Answer Keys and Audioscripts