Unidos is a first. Incorporating the flipped classroom model into its highly flexible approach, it capitalizes on using technology so that valuable class time is focused on applying knowledge rather than on instruction—it literally flips the nature of what typically takes place in class and out of class. Instead of first learning in the classroom and then practicing learned material out of class, students will, with Unidos, learn outside of class and then apply what they have learned in the communicative environment of the classroom.

Without question, instructors and coordinators of Elementary Spanish tell us that their number one goal is to increase the communicative nature of their classrooms and their courses. They also describe this among their greatest challenges. Limited contact hours, increasing class size, and varied levels of student preparedness make it difficult for students to learn vocabulary, grammar, and culture in class. At the same time, instructors want ample time for students to communicate. In short, there’s little time to talk!

The creators of Unidos seek to embrace the goal and confront the challenge of increasing the communicative nature of the Elementary Spanish course head-on. This innovative communicative language program offers a unique online environment where students receive guided instruction and practice accompanied by individualized learning support and assessment. Students encounter continuous formative and summative assessment opportunities, all of which prepares them for communicative practice in the classroom. Unidos frees the classroom to be what instructors and students have always wanted it to be: a space for social interaction—in Spanish.

Whether learning in a face-to-face traditional classroom or in a hybrid program where, by necessity, significant learning must take place outside the classroom, Unidos offers an array of resources to help instructors and students achieve their goals.

At the heart of the Unidos program are the carefully sequenced online learning modules. These offer guided instruction and practice accompanied by individualized learning support and assessment to ensure students master concepts and come to class ready to communicate.

The activities in the Classroom Manual, which are intended to be completed in class, build on the learning that takes place out of class and foster a highly engaging and effective social environment in which participants achieve meaningful communication and interaction.
Instructors tell us that they want a flexible program that allows them to grade as if they were grading by hand. The intuitive grading palette in the Online Component gives instructors a host of options to efficiently grade open-ended activities, and the preferences in the Online Component offer a wealth of customization options for grading student work. Instructors concerned with students using accent marks properly can set the percentage that the system deducts from the student grade if accent marks are used incorrectly. The Online Component also offers a Grace Period preference that allows instructors to set automatic deductions for late work. Preferences in the Online Component give instructors tools to tailor the course to individual teaching styles.

To make assigning easier than ever, the Online Component offers a drag-and-drop Assignment Calendar. Instructors simply choose what they would like to assign to any given day, check the box, and drag it to the due date. They can choose one or multiple items, making course creation quick and easy.

By completing open-ended activities in which they write sentences or paragraphs, students demonstrate that they understand how to use the language. Instructors want to ensure that comments they entered while grading open-ended activities are reviewed by their students. The student dashboard alerts students when they have comments from their instructor and they can easily review them to assimilate corrections and suggestions.

Instructors are faced with more demands for their time and expertise than ever before. They want a better way to manage all aspects of their courses and an online program that saves them time, not one that takes more time. The Unidos Online Component offers the most powerful instructor tools to help instructors efficiently manage their courses.

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MySpanishLab® is the most robust and dependable program I have ever used with my introductory courses. The program can be completely tailored to your course needs and teaching style as well as to your colleagues’ different needs/styles. With regard to learning, students are completely and clearly in control of their success and progress with the program.

“Kristy Britt
University of South Alabama
The individualized support of the online component to Unidos maximizes learning by students at all skill levels.

Students studying Spanish for the first time are often sitting next to students who have taken Spanish in high school or students who speak Spanish at home. With its array of adaptive learning tools and individualized tutorials, the Online Component for Unidos tailors learning to every student’s individual needs and provides the support they need to come to class prepared to engage and to communicate.

Apply activities promote student success by providing students with the immediate support they need to understand why they may not have been successful when completing a machine-graded activity. If a response is incorrect, students receive feedback hints that help them think critically. With the student’s second attempt, a “Need help with this activity?” feature appears that brings additional resources specific to the activity directly to the student. Resources include links to the exact page in the Interactive Presentations where the activity topic is explained, as well as tutorials and additional practice exercises. Each question becomes a true learning opportunity via this layered feedback, and students are better prepared for the in-class communicative environment!

By understanding English grammar, students can more quickly grasp concepts in Spanish grammar. Not all students have a strong grasp of English grammar, but explaining it in class takes time away from using the target language. Online, students complete a Readiness Check that tests whether they understand the English grammar that correlates with the Spanish grammar that they will learn in the chapter. If the Readiness Check results indicate that students need help with a specific topic, an individual study plan is generated, linking students to animated English grammar tutorials for the instruction they need.

The benefits are tremendous. It caters to all learning styles. No student would be left out. Students will be able to take advantage in their learning through this approach.”

FRANCES ALPREN
Vanderbilt University

“The interactive nature of the exercises makes the learning experience outside the classroom more individualized, more interesting, and, therefore, more effective.”

LEA RAMSDELL
Towson University

Since language learning is a process that builds upon previous knowledge, students need support to help them retain the information. Dynamic Study Modules powered by amplifire™ for vocabulary and grammar lessons in the Online Component are based on the latest research in neuroscience on how we learn best. The unique “game-like” application makes learning fun and effective. Students can quickly ascertain what they know, what they aren’t sure of, and what they need to review in-depth. amplifire’s patented methodology helps students increase their long-term retention and master concepts before coming to class. The results lead to class time focused on using the language instead of taking time for instruction of vocabulary and grammar.
The consistent, explicit focus on learning objectives in **Unidos** will help you achieve consistent learning outcomes across all course models.

Spanish classes take many forms now: fully online, hybrid, and face-to-face. Achieving consistent learning outcomes for all these models is increasingly difficult. Instructors want their students in an online course to have the same skills as their face-to-face or hybrid students at the end of the course. The **Unidos** program reinforces learning objectives and gives instructors the tools to prove outcomes are achieved.

Each chapter begins with clearly outlined Learning Objectives. Specific Learning Objectives are visually tied to measurable Learning Outcomes. At the introduction to each section (**Vocabulario en contexto**, **Gramática en contexto**, **Enfoque cultural**), each Learning Objective is repeated to remind students what they will be able to achieve at the end of the section.

This is a GREAT part of the chapter. It isn’t in the margin. It isn’t an aside. It is front and center, and clearly stated: here is what you’ll be doing and this is how you will know if you ‘got it.’

**ELIZABETH CALVERA**
Virginia Tech University

"I like that there is a distinction between objectives, which are what a student will ‘learn’ with his or her brain as they memorize vocabulary and grammar points, but the outcomes describe the meaningful contexts in which the student can actually ‘acquire’ the ability to communicate without thinking through the various grammar points and vocabulary."

**JANIE MCNUTT**
Texas Tech University

The **Unidos** instructor online dashboard offers at-a-glance views of class performance for each Learning Module. The Course Performance functionality quickly shows instructors how students are progressing with each learning objective. Instructors can tailor their face-to-face time based on student results and can assess whether or not students are achieving the desired learning outcomes for the course.
NEW to Unidos, Second Edition

Students and instructors will benefit from a wealth of new content and features in this edition. Detailed, contextualized descriptions are provided in the features walk-through that follows.

- ¡Cineastas en acción!, a new video program created especially for Unidos, Second Edition, brings together five young filmmakers from different Spanish-speaking countries to attend a summer program at the Los Angeles Film Institute. As part of the program, each will produce documentaries on Hispanic culture in the United States or abroad while competing for a prestigious scholarship for best documentary. Who will win? Students using the Unidos program will decide!

  And, of course, our five young filmmakers will not only learn about making documentaries, but will also learn about each other, and create new bonds as they experience the diversity of Hispanic cultures in Los Angeles.

- Club cultura, a new cultural video program, takes a contemporary and journalistic approach as student hosts explore the Spanish-speaking world. Shot on location in Europe, Latin America, and in the United States, viewers are immersed in the cultural nuances, customs, language, and beauty of 22 Spanish-speaking countries including the United States. Interactive video activities are available online.

- Midway through the chapter, Unidos cultural provides a journalistic, thematic cultural presentation. The focus is not on a specific country, but rather on the chapter’s theme and how it is reflected in different Spanish-speaking countries, including Hispanic communities in the United States.

- Synchronous voice-recording activities (audio and video) are now available online to further engage students in communicative practice with their classmates.

- Learning Catalytics, a “bring your own device” learner engagement and classroom intelligence system first developed at Harvard, is available with content specific to Unidos. Learning Catalytics also allows instructors to create a variety of activities that promote interaction and communication, deliver them to learners via mobile devices and receive feedback in real time making it even easier to engage students.

- Guided Vocabulary Tutorials are now available both in the online program and via a mobile app to practice vocabulary on the go. Students work through a series of word recognition activities, most of which culminate with a pronunciation activity in which students compare their pronunciation to that of a native speaker.

- Mobile apps are available to practice vocabulary and grammar on the go!

- A new form-focused activity, ¿Comprendes?, is available online and follows the presentation of each grammatical structure. This quick, form-focused activity provides students with the opportunity to test themselves in order to ensure they have understood the form of the structure before moving on.

- MediaShare, Pearson’s one-stop media share tool available in MySpanishLab®, includes activities specific to Unidos. MediaShare is a comprehensive file-upload tool that allows language learners to create and to post video assignments, role plays, group projects, and more in a variety of formats including video, Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Structured much like a social networking site, MediaShare helps promote a sense of community among learners. Instructors can create and post assignments—or copy and use pre-loaded assignments for Unidos—and then evaluate and comment on learners’ submissions online. Integrated video capture functionality allows language learners to record video directly from a webcam to their assignments, and enables instructors to record videos via webcam and tag them to a specific learner and/or assignment.

- The Unidos skills section has been edited to make it more manageable for students. Some of the readings for the Lee section have been updated, ensuring consistently high-interest readings at the appropriate level.

- The end-of-chapter Vocabulario list now includes English definitions.

- Annotated Scope and Sequence The authors share their thinking through annotations in the Scope and Sequence of the Annotated Instructor’s Edition, explaining the rationale of the grammar scope and sequence.
CHAPTER ORGANIZATION
HOW THE UNIDOS PROGRAM WORKS

Through its highly articulated and individualized online learning, practice, and assessment system, Unidos meets students at their point of need. Its personalized learning and practice modules provide learners with continuous formative and cumulative assessment opportunities. The activities in the Classroom Manual build on the learning that takes place outside of class and make for a highly engaging and effective social environment in which participants achieve meaningful communication and interaction.

Unidos provides a seamless integration of out-of-class work and in-class communication. Here we show you how the pieces fit together.

**Unidos gives you the time to create a truly communicative classroom—it’s time to talk!**

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**CHAPTER OPENING ORGANIZER**

Prepares students visually with clear goals for the chapter. Specific Learning Objectives are tied to measurable Learning Outcomes. For example, the learning objective “learn how to form adverbs in Spanish” is expected to result in students’ ability to “express when, where, or how an action occurs.”

Both the Online Component and the Classroom Manual use consistent language to describe learning objectives and outcomes so that the goals of every chapter are clear and accessible to students.

Reporting features in the Online Component provide instructors with at-a-glance views of student performance for each learning objective.
CULTURE

Unidos fosters awareness of the diversity of the Spanish-speaking world by deeply integrating culture throughout the entire program.

CULTURA EN LÍNEA

Experience online interactive introductions to the cultural theme and countries of focus through videos, art, and an array of resources in Cultura en línea. These can be assigned either before class or after completing the in-class Cultura interactiva sections.

Club cultura, a cultural video program with a contemporary and journalistic approach, immerses viewers in the cultural nuances, customs, language, and beauty of the 22 Spanish-speaking countries, including United States. Activities to accompany Club cultura are available online in the Cultura en línea folder.

Vistas culturales videos present cultural artifacts of the country or countries of focus. With native speakers from each country providing the narration for each clip, students are introduced to the variations of the Spanish language throughout the Hispanic world. Vistas culturales Expansion Activities are available online and include a list of useful vocabulary words with definitions, before viewing, while viewing, after viewing, and in-class activities.

Art of the Hispanic world comes to life through interactive Art Tours. Based off the art found in the chapter openers, these tours feature Spanish narrations, and offer an in-depth look at key works of art, enabling students to zoom in on details they couldn’t otherwise see.

CULTURA INTERACTIVA

The Cultura interactiva section provides an immediate orientation to the target culture(s) of the chapter. As many students have insufficient prior knowledge about the countries of the Hispanic world (including their location), Unidos includes a map with visual clues about important cultural aspects of each country.

¿Cuánto sabes?, a warm-up activity, activates background knowledge and prepares students to learn more about the culture(s) throughout the chapter.
Preface

**INTEGRATED CULTURE**

Culture is integrated throughout the chapter in realia pieces, photos, activities, and maps. The Cultura boxes describe cultural products, practices, and perspectives, making the cultural contexts of the vocabulary and grammar activities meaningful and accessible to students.

Chapter theme, learning outcomes, and culture all come together in Unidos cultural. Midway through the chapter (between the vocabulary and grammar sections), Unidos cultural provides a journalistic, thematic, cultural presentation. The focus here is not on a specific country but rather on different cultural aspects of the Hispanic world, including Latinos in the United States, which are relevant to the chapter theme. The communicative Comparar questions that follow the readings provide the opportunity for cross-cultural reflection. Additional comprehension-based activities and opportunities for cultural reflection are provided in the Cultura en línea folder in the Online Component.

**VOCABULARY**

Vocabulary is presented in communicative and cultural contexts to help students truly learn how to use words in oral and written communication.

Study begins with the Vocabulario en contexto section in the Unidos Online Component. Vocabulary instruction along with meaningful and mechanical practice are completed online, freeing up valuable class time for communication. All learning is divided into a series of carefully sequenced learning modules. Each module contains two components: Learn and Apply. Students complete each learning module before coming to class and are guided throughout the process with point-of-need support.

The ending -ito/a (Jorge → Jorgito) is very common in Hispanic countries. It is frequently used to differentiate parents from children of the same name. It also expresses smallness (hermanito/a, silla), affection, and intimacy (mi prima). Names that end in a consonant use the ending -cito/a (Carmen → Carmencita).

Hispanics are often given more than one name (Carlos Alberto, María del Carmen). These names are often combined (Maric, from María Victoria). María may also be part of a man’s name: José María.

Comparar: Are diminutives common in your family or community? How are they formed? Does your family call you by a special name or nickname?