Spanish Placement Guidelines for Heritage Speakers (only for students who grew up in Spanish-speaking families and environments, either speaking or hearing Spanish regularly):

After deciding what class may be right according to the guidelines below, students will have to make sure to attend that class on the first day of the semester. They must talk to the instructor to make sure their linguistic level is appropriate for the course. Seeing the syllabus and the book that will be used in the course may also help heritage learners decide.

Only for heritage speakers/learners:

SPAN 1001: Not for heritage speakers. For students learning Spanish as a second (or third) language. For students without any background in Spanish, whether formal (classes) or informal.

SPAN 1002: Some heritage speakers who barely speak/understand Spanish. Heritage speakers with very limited communication experience in Spanish. May be appropriate for heritage speakers who do not speak Spanish outside of classes or who may understand some Spanish but do not speak it or write it. Please note this class is aimed at non-heritage speakers.

SPAN 1050: Elementary Spanish for heritage speakers. Starts with ser and estar, the present tense and verbs like gustarle a uno.

SPAN 2050: Intermediate Spanish for heritage speakers with an active communication ability in Spanish: students who speak Spanish, but need to review grammar rules, and practice reading and writing. Students who grew up speaking Spanish since childhood. Students who actively use Spanish with people who do not speak English; students who understand Spanish very well and can converse entirely in Spanish. Students who read and write in Spanish somewhat/quite well.

SPAN 3001: Advanced Composition and Grammar: students who speak Spanish fluently and well, who have mastered most Spanish grammar rules, and can understand texts such as cultural magazine and newspaper articles without much difficulty. Students who are used to reading texts in Spanish (not for classes).

In addition:

SPAN 2050 is the prerequisite for all SPAN 3000-level courses (in some cases SPAN 1050 will do, but you will have to consult with the instructor first).

SPAN 3001 is the prerequisite for all SPAN 4000-level courses (consult with an advisor to check which classes you may take as several at the 4000 level have additional prerequisites).