

Spanish Composition and Communication

COURSE DESIGNATOR ARGN 3015

Language of Instruction Spanish

NUMBER OF CREDITS 4 credits

Contact Hours 60 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Fifth semester college-level Spanish. This course seeks to integrate the student's ability to write, speak, read and understand modern Spanish at a level that is expected of majors and minors. Students generate a series of creative and original compositions and read a variety of texts from both Spain and Latin America. The class employs diverse learning techniques—grammar review, audio tape exercises, paired work, small group work, all class discussions, oral presentations, peer editing, process writing—to provide students with the appropriate opportunities to enhance their language skills as they learn academic content through the active use of the Spanish language. This class is designed to further develop and strengthen the language skills acquired in Spanish IV.

INSTRUCTOR

Fundación Ortega y Gasset staff

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will have acquired a good knowledge of the different aspects of Latin American culture and society, and of the changes that have affected Latin America over the years (with a special emphasis on Argentina).

Students will also improve their writing and oral skills, though all skills involved in the learning process will be practiced. Throughout this course, students will read both fiction and non-fiction texts in Spanish.

METHODOLOGY

Action-oriented approach, where the student is the focus of the language class and must carry out tasks using the target language. Contrastive grammar will be used by the instructor to highlight the differences between the English and the Spanish language.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

SPAN 1004 or equivalent

REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS

Lynn Heyck, Gonzalez Pagani. *Tradición y cambio. Lecturas sobre la cultura latinoamericana contemporánea.*
Valdez and Dvorak, *Composición, proceso y síntesis.*

GRADING

CRITERIA FOR GRADING AND GRADING STANDARDS

Grading Rubric		
A	93-100	Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
A-	90-92	Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.
B+	87-89	
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
C+	77-79	
C	73-76	

C-	70-72	Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
D+	67-69	
D	60-66	
F	0-59	Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.

Summary of how grades are weighted:

Class participation	20%
Compositions	25%
Midterm and final exams	40%
<i>Crónica de una muerte anunciada</i> (discussion in class)	15%
Overall Grade	100%

COURSE CONTENT

Writing: Narrative, informative, expository, argumentative texts; literary comment.

Students will write five compositions during this course, one preliminary (draft) version and one final version for each composition. Students will work in teams to correct each other's work before turning in their essays.

Oral expression: debates, round tables about newspaper articles and *Tradición y cambio* topics: society, education, cultural identity, religion, ethnicity.

Grammar: subjunctive mood (all tenses); adverbial clauses; impersonal form; passive voice (and "se" passive), relative pronouns, revision of uses of verbs "ser", "estar" and "haber", and of all past tenses in Spanish, prepositions and idioms.

Reading: *Crónica de una muerte anunciada*, by Gabriel García Márquez. Class discussion (style, genre, historical context).

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend classes, and those academic activities that form part of each course, regularly and punctually. Credits will be received for academic performance and for the number of class hours attended. Absences should be justified to the Academic Coordinator. **75% of attendance to classes is required to earn credits for each course. Being more than 15 minutes late to classes will imply a half absence.**

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own, can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or

incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an “F” or “N” for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

STUDENT CONDUCT

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct and student needs. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.