

MISSOURI WESTERN STATE COLLEGE

Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Department of English, Foreign Languages and Journalism

SPANISH 412-01 (Advanced Spanish Conversation)

SPRING 2003

Prerequisite: SPA 312

Professor: Dr. Alicia de Gregorio

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Office Hours:

11:00-11:55 MTThF

8:30-9:50 Th

and by appointment

Days-Times-Room Bldg.: T 9:00-9:50 SSC 214

Texts:

REQUIRED:

Brown, Joan L., and Carmen Martín Gaité. *Conversaciones creadoras*. 2nd edition. Boston/New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1999

RECOMMENDED:

The Oxford Spanish Dictionary. New International Edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.

Other materials and sources:

1. Selected relevant Web sites assigned as class projects and/or as homework
2. Audio-video materials utilized in class for comprehension and discussion.

Course objectives:

1. To improve conversational ability (aural and oral skills) in a variety of contexts and content areas.
2. To acquire and demonstrate a level of oral performance at the Intermediate High or higher rating on the American Council of the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Course requirements:

1. ORAL PROFICIENCY INTERVIEW: IN ORDER TO PASS THIS COURSE STUDENTS MUST RECEIVE AN INTERMEDIATE HIGH OR HIGHER RATING ON THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES' ORAL PROFICIENCY INTERVIEW. The interview will be conducted in the professor's office at a mutually agreed upon time during the last six weeks of the semester.

2. Class participation during all class sessions. Texts from textbook or articles and other information from on-line sources will be assigned as homework to be read and prepared prior to class meetings as bases for class discussions and conversations.

3. Written homework: Every week students will complete in writing homework assignments as preparatory material for class discussion. A selection of activities will be covered in class; a number of activities will be collected and graded by the professor. Grades will be based on total/ thorough completion of assignments; there will be no penalization for errors.

4. Vocabulary quizzes conducted on a weekly basis.

5. A 10 minute oral presentation on a topic of interest to the student with prior approval from the professor, followed by a response period of a minimum of 5 minutes in length during which the student will spontaneously address of questions and commentaries from other students or the professor in connection with the content of the presentation. The use of the student's own ideas, opinions or experience, rather than a summary of written or audio-visual sources, will be at the core of the project. The assignment will be graded on the content and linguistic component of presentation (70% of grade) and on the content and linguistic component of the student's spontaneous responses (30% of grade). The presentation will be taped for grading purposes.

Students' Responsibilities:

1. **Attendance** is required for all class sessions. More than 2 absences will not be tolerated unless excused due to emergency, and the course grade will be lowered by five percentage points with every absence, beginning with the third instance.

2. **Make-up assignments and tests** are possible only with the advance approval of the professor, based on an emergency situation. Make-ups must be requested before missing the assignment or the first day of classes after the date the assignment was due.

3. Students are required to arrive in class on time. If a student is more than seven minutes late in arriving, he/she will be considered absent for the day.

4. **Academic Honesty:** Any student cheating on an exam or quiz or plagiarizing will receive a zero.

5. **Students With Disabilities:** Any student in this course who has a disability that prevents the fullest expression of abilities should contact me personally as soon as possible so that we can discuss class requirements.

6. The use of cell phones (making and receiving calls) is *absolutely prohibited* during all class and examination sessions. Only under extraordinary circumstances will exceptions be made, and only after prior consultation with me. For a first violation of this rule, the student will be politely reminded of this policy; if there is a second violation, the student will be asked to leave the class.

Course Grading:

Oral Proficiency Interview: 40%

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Participation: 20%

Homework: 10%

Vocabulary quizzes: 15%

Oral presentation: 15%

Grading Scale

90-100: A

80-89: B

70-79: C

60-69: D

0-59: F