

**MISSOURI WESTERN STATE COLLEGE**  
**Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences**  
**Department of English, Foreign Languages and Journalism**

**SPANISH 452-01 (Advanced Spanish Conversation)**  
**FALL 2004**

**Prerequisite:** SPA 312

**Professor:** Dr. Alicia de Gregorio  
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**Office Hours:**  
MWF: 12:00-12:25, 2:45-4:00  
and by appointment

**Days-Times-Room Bldg.:**  
MWF 9:00-9:50 JGM 109

**Texts:**

REQUIRED:

Brown, Joan L., and Carmen Martín Gaité. *Conversaciones creadoras*. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 audio-materials from Web sites assigned as listening activities with accompanying listening comprehension testing materials provided by the professor.
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 Oral Proficiency Interview.

3. To improve aural skills.

**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.

2. One final listening comprehension exam.

3. 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.

4. Written homework: 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.

5. Selected relevant audio-materials from Web sites assigned as listening activities with accompanying listening comprehension testing materials provided by the professor.

6. Vocabulary quizzes conducted on a regular basis. Quiz dates and materials will be announced at least one class session in advance.

7. One 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 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 4 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 fifth 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. Late homework and other assignments/ course requirements (excepting extraordinary circumstances):**

- 1) Late homework and other assignments will be accepted for ½ credit until 5 calendar days after the due date.
- 2) Homework and other assignments submitted 6 calendar days or more after the due date will also receive ½ credit but will not be evaluated.

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

6. **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.

7. 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.

8. Students may not leave the classroom until the end of the session (class or exam) unless with prior approval from the professor or in case of an emergency. If a student leaves the classroom for reasons other than the approved exceptions (for example to go to the restroom), (s)he will be considered absent for the day.

**Course Grading:**

Oral Proficiency Interview: 20%

**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.**

Final Exam	15%
Listening Comprehension assignments	12.5%
Participation:	15%
Homework:	10%
Vocabulary quizzes:	15%
Oral presentation:	12.5%

**Grading Scale**

- 90-100: A
- 80-89: B
- 70-79: C
- 60-69: D
- 0-59: F

## Course Schedule

- Week 1** (Aug. 30-Sept. 3): Introduction to course; *Conversaciones creadoras*
- Week 2** (September 6-10): M 6 Labor Day Holiday  
*Conversaciones creadoras*
- Week 3** (September 13-17): *Conversaciones creadoras*  
**F 9/17: Listen in Comprehension Activities I**
- Week 4** (September 20-24): *Conversaciones creadoras*  
**ORAL PRESENTATIONS START**
- Week 5** (Sept. 27- Oct.1): *Conversaciones creadoras*
- Week 6** (October 4-8): *Conversaciones creadoras*  
F 8: Mid-term break
- Week 7** (October 11-15): *Conversaciones creadoras*  
**F 10/15: Listening Comprehension Activities II**
- Week 8** (October 18-22): *Conversaciones creadoras*  
Wednesday October 20: Mid-term grades due
- Week 9** (October 25-29): *Conversaciones creadoras*
- Week 10** (November 1-5): *Conversaciones creadoras*  
F 11/5: Last day to drop individual classes or completely withdraw from Fall semester (“W” recorded)
- Week 11** (November 8-12): *Conversaciones creadoras*  
**F 11/12: Listening Comprehension Activities III**
- Week 12** (November 15-19): *Conversaciones creadoras*
- Week 13** (November 22-26): *Conversaciones creadoras*  
W 24-F 26: Thanksgiving break
- Week 14** (Nov. 29- Dec. 3): *Conversaciones creadoras*
- Week 15** (Dec. 6-10): *Conversaciones creadoras*

FINAL EXAM: Friday, Dec. 17, 8:30-10:20 a.m.

Dec. 17 **Last day to turn in Listening Comprehension Activities IV**