

MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Department of English, Foreign Languages and Journalism

SPANISH 442 (Topics in Spanish)

Spring 2006

Topics in Spanish: Morphology, Syntax and Lexis I

Prerequisite: SPA 302 or 312, and SPA 310 or departmental approval

Professor: Dr. Alicia de Gregorio

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Office Hours:

MWF: 8:50-9:50

M: 3:00-4:30

W: 3:00-3:30

and by appointment

Days-Times-Room Bldg.: MWF 11:00-11:50 Murphy Hall 108

Texts:

REQUIRED:

Canteli Dominicis, María y John J. Reynolds. *Repase y escriba. Curso avanzado de gramática y composición*. 4th ed. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2003.

RECOMMENDED:

Dozier, Eleanor. *Manual de Gramática*. 2nd edition. Boston: Heinle & Heinle, 1999.

The Oxford Spanish Dictionary. Oxford University Press.

Other materials subject to examination and/or required for completion of assigned work:

1. Lecture materials presented and handouts distributed by the professor in class and utilized for in-class discussion.
2. Video and audio materials presented and discussed in class.
3. Selected relevant Web sites assigned as class projects and/or as homework.
4. Software: Scott, V., Terry, R., Domínguez, F. *Atajo. Writing Assistant for Spanish.* Boston: Heinle & Heinle Publishers, 1995.
ATAJO IS AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS AT FOREIGN LANGUAGE LAB (JGM 107)

Course objectives:

1. To acquire and/or solidify knowledge of advanced grammar topics;
2. To acquire knowledge of specialized semantic fields;
3. To learn new idiomatic expressions with appropriate contexts for usage;
4. To read texts for analysis of content as well as of grammatical and lexical issues;
5. To write translations as a tool to solidify mastery of grammatical and lexical issues;
6. To produce language in line with that of educated native speakers of Spanish.

Course Requirements:

1. **Two exams.**
2. **Comprehensive final exam.**
3. Regular **quizzes**, to be announced one to two class periods in advance.
4. **Translation project:**

Students will produce a translation into Spanish of an English prose text. The text will have a minimum length of four (4) double-spaced pages, with a maximum extension of five (5) double-spaced pages, and will be selected by the professor from a minimum of two (2) options provided by the students for the professor's consideration and approval.

By February 1: Students will submit English originals for translation project to professor for her to determine which one each student will translate.

By March 3: Final draft of translation (accompanied by the English text). The professor will mark the translation for corrections and improvement.

By April 17: Final version of translation project. The original draft with comments and marks made by the professor as well as the English text must accompany the final translation. A grade will be assigned to the final version of the project.

5. Three translation assignments:

- a) For each assignment students will select one (1) English text of approximately 100 to 200 words in length each. Each text will come from a different source and will be different in genre or register.
- b) Students will submit a Spanish translation of the text selected (the original text must accompany this translation).
- c) The professor will mark grammar, vocabulary, and spelling errors, as well as provide other suggestions for improvement.
- d) A final version of the translation after corrections and other modifications will be submitted for a grade. (The first version of the translation with professor's feedback and marks and original text must accompany the final version)

6. Written assignments/ Homework

7. All materials covered in class are subject to testing.

8. Participation.

GRADING GRADING SCALE

Exámenes I, II 30% 90-100: A

Examen Final 15% 80-89: B

Controles 12.5% 70-79: C

Trabajo de traducción 15% 60-69: D

Traducción de textos breves 12.5% 0-59: F

Tarea 7.5%

Participación 7.5%

Students' Responsibilities:

1. **Attendance** is required for all class sessions. More than four 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 to class on time. If a student is more than seven minutes late in arriving, he/she will be considered absent for the day.

4. 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, (s)he will be considered absent for the day. If a student leaves during an exam, (s)he will not be allowed to return to the classroom and to complete the exam.

5. **Academic Honesty:** Any student caught cheating on an exam or quiz or plagiarizing will receive a zero. Students in SPA 442 may not have a native speaker or a student with a higher level of written proficiency write, edit or correct their texts. Translations of English texts into Spanish constitute a major component of the course. **Students may not reproduce Spanish translations published in books, journals, magazines or the Internet and submit them as their own work.** Throughout the semester the professor will conduct frequent random checks to ensure all translation work submitted by the students is their own.

6. **Late homework and other late assignments/ course requirements (excepting extraordinary circumstances):**

1) Late homework and other assignments will be accepted for ½ credit until five calendar days after the due date.

2) Homework and other assignments submitted six calendar days or more after the due date will also receive ½ credit but will not be evaluated.

3) Homework will not be accepted after the last day of classes of the semester (= late homework and late assignments will not be accepted during final exam week)

4) Students are responsible for knowing about all class assignments. If a student fails to submit assignments on time, (s)he may check with their professor to find out on which dates (s)he did not submit homework or other required assignments. It will be the student's sole responsibility to find out which assignments were due on said dates.

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 the professor.

8. Although it is my intention to adhere to the course plan as fully as possible, I reserve the right to **modify the syllabus** based on unforeseen circumstances. Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class. In the event of student absence, it is the *responsibility of the student* to determine if any such changes have been announced.

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.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (January 17-20): *Repase y escriba*

Week 2 (January 23-27): *Repase y escriba*

Week 3 (Jan. 30-Feb. 3): *Repase y escriba*

M 30: Borrador de traducción de texto breve I

W 1: Plazo para presentar textos originales (2) en inglés de interés para proyecto de traducción

Week 4 (February 6-10): *Repase y escriba*

Week 5 (February 13-17): *Repase y escriba*

M 13: Traducción de texto breve I corregida

W 15: Examen I

Week 6 (February 20-24): *Repase y escriba*

M 20: Presidents' Day (Holiday)

Week 7 (Feb. 27-March 3): *Repase y escriba*

F 3: Borrador de proyecto de traducción

Week 8 (March 6-10): *Repase y escriba*

W 8: Borrador de traducción de texto breve II

Week 9 (March 13-17): Spring Recess

Week 10 (March 20-24): *Repase y escriba*

W 22: Mid-term grades due

W 22: Examen 2

Week 11 (March 27-31): *Repase y escriba*

F 31 Last day to withdraw classes

F 31: Traducción de texto breve II corregida

Week 12 (April 3-7): *Repase y escriba*

F 7: Borrador de traducción de texto breve III

Week 13 (April 10-14): *Repase y escriba*

Week 14 (April 17-21): *Repase y escriba*

M 17: Versión final del trabajo de traducción

Week 15 (April 24-28): *Repase y escriba*

F 28: Traducción de texto breve III corregida

Week 16 (May 1): *Repase y escriba*

Repaso general

FINAL EXAM: Friday May 5, 11:30-1:20