

MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Department of English, Foreign Languages and Journalism

SPANISH 452- 01 ((Advanced Spanish Conversation))

Fall 2006

Professor: F. Eduardo Castilla Ortiz

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Office Hours: MWF: 1:00 p.m.- 1:50 p.m.; 3:00-3:50 p.m.; and by appointment

Days-Times-Room: MWF 2:00-2:50 p.m. Murphy Hall 109

Prerequisite: SPA 312

Texts REQUIRED: Brown, Joan L., and Carmen Martín Gaité. Conversaciones creadoras. 3rd edition. Boston/New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2006.

Selected written materials placed on reserve at Missouri Western Library.

RECOMMENDED: The Oxford Spanish Dictionary. Oxford University Press.
materials subject to examination and/or required for completion of assigned work:

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. In-class oral exam (situation with a complication):

Groups of two students (with one group of three in case of odd-number enrollments) will conduct dialogs developing one of the situations presented in the Escenas sections included in Conversaciones creadoras. The group will be assigned a set of "escenas" to prepare prior to prepare, and on the day of the examination, the professor will select one of these. Students may not use notes or any other language prompts during the presentation. Each student will include a minimum of five words or expressions from the Vocabulario básico or Vocabulario útil sections of the chapter in which the selected "escena" is included. The grade for the exam will be determined by the degree of students' participation in the exchange, the ability to create a situation with a complication or to handle linguistically a situation with a complication as required of each student, the students' grammatical competency, and the usage of thematic vocabulary.

The grade will be assigned to each member of the group individually. The presentation will be taped for grading purposes.

Grading

Oral Proficiency Interview:	20%
Presentación Final	20%
Listening Comprehension assignments	10%
Participation & Homeworks:	10%
Vocabulary quizzes:	20%
In-class Two oral exams:	20%

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

Students' Responsibilities:

1. Attendance is required for all class sessions. Absences will not be tolerated unless excused due to academic documented situation or an emergency, and the course grade will be lowered with every absence, beginning with the first 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 at class on time. If a student is more than seven minutes late in arriving, he/she will be considered absent for the day.
4. 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.
5. Late homework (excepting extraordinary circumstances): Late homework will be accepted for ½ credit until next class after the due date.
6. 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.

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.

ADA 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.

Prospective Course Schedule

Week 1 (Aug 28- Sept 1): Introduction to course

Week 2 (September 4-8): Capítulo 1

☺ ☺ ☺ M 4 (Labor Day) : No class ☺ ☺ ☺

Week 3 (September 11-15):

Week 4 (September 18-22): Capítulo 2

Week 5 (September 25-29): Capítulo 3

Week 6 (October 2-6):

Week 7 (October 9-13): Capítulo 4

☺ ☺ ☺ Oct. F 13: Mid-term break ☺ ☺ ☺

Week 8 (October 16-20): Capítulo 5

W 18: Mid-term grades due

Week 9 (October 23-27): Capítulo 7

Week 10 (Oct 30-Nov 3): Capítulo 8

Nov F 3: Last day to drop classes ("W" recorded)

Week 11 (November 6-10):

Week 12 (November 13-17): Capítulo 9

Week 13 (November 20-24): Capítulo 10

☺ ☺ ☺ W 22-F 24: Thanksgiving break ☺ ☺ ☺

Week 14 (Nov 27 - Dec 1): Presentación Final

Week 15 (December 4-8): Presentación Final

General Review

FINAL EXAM:

SPA 452-01: Monday, Dec. 13, 2:00-3:50 a.m. Room: Murphy Hall 205

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Academic Honesty Policy and Due Process

Academic honesty is required in all academic endeavors. Violations of academic honesty include any instance of plagiarism, cheating, seeking credit for another's work, falsifying documents or academic records, or any other fraudulent activity. Violations of academic honesty may result in a failing grade on the assignment, failure in the course, or expulsion from the University. When a student's grade has been affected, violations of academic honesty will be reported to the Provost or designated representative on the Academic Honesty Violation Report forms.

Please see the Western Student Handbook and Calendar for specific activities identified as violations of this policy and the student due process procedure.

This handbook is also available online at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/handbook/index.pdf>