

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%

