

**Pittsburg State University**  
**College of Arts and Sciences**  
**Department of Modern Languages and Literatures**

CURSO: MLL 252. CONVERSACION I.  
SEMESTRE: OTOÑO 2009  
DIA Y HORA: LUNES Y MIERCOLES DE 11 A 11:50  
LUGAR: GRUBBS HALL 103  
CREDITOS: 2 HORAS  
PREREQUISITOS: MLL 158  
COREQUISITOS: INSCRIPCION SIMULTANEA CON MLL 254  
TEXTOS: FUENTES Conversación y gramática. Tercera edición.  
FUENTES Activities Manual (Workbook and Lab Manual)  
PROFESORA: DR. EDMEE FERNANDEZ  
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OFICINA: 412 GRUBBS HALL  
CONSULTA: De lunes a jueves a las 10:00 a.m.  
Martes y jueves a las 11:00 a.m. y a la 1:00 p.m.

MESA ESPAÑOLA Martes de 12 a 12:50 en el "Gorilla Crossing"

**Course description:** Conversational activities leading to a greater oral proficiency. Oral activities are designed to help the student move up to the Intermediate High level according to the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Guidelines.

**Purpose of the course:** To help the student develop greater speaking and listening comprehension skills and a greater cultural awareness through participation in a wide variety of class activities and by conversing with a conversation partner outside of class. This course goes along with MLL 254 Grammar and Composition I. Every effort is being made to reinforce the linguistic functions practiced in that course.

**Attendance:** Regular attendance and active participation are crucial to the learning of a language. You are expected to attend all of your classes. If you anticipate an absence due to university commitments please let the instructor know the week before Labor Day weekend. I will take roll in every class. When you reach two absences, excused or unexcused, I will talk with you about it and decide if you will be dropped from the class. So make arrangements to be in class every day. **In the event of experiencing any situation that might be preventing you from coming to class regularly and progressing satisfactorily please let me know promptly so that you and I can find a solution to the situation.**

**Study tips:** Help yourself to the maximum by referring to the *Reference Section* (starting on page 338) for information about verb conjugations and grammar points organized by categories or groups; you will also find a Spanish-English vocabulary (p 363) and the Index (p 377) for your convenience. Make the following study habits part of your learning strategies: study with a classmate; study whenever and as often as possible; pay attention to details; master small pieces of information and look for opportunities to use new terms, idiomatic expressions and vocabulary. Do as many workbook activities as possible preferably right after class. Experience the language in any possible way: native speakers, Spanish Table, Spanish Club, television in Spanish, reading material in Spanish and so on. COME TO CLASS PREPARED.

## Grading:

### Course evaluation

Class Participation	30%
Conversation with the instructor	30%
Meeting with conversation partner	40%
TOTAL	100%

### ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION (30%)

The limit of absences in this class is two. I don't anticipate anybody missing any class unless is **absolutely** necessary. **Every time you come to class and actively participate in it you earn up to five points; I reserve the right to decide how many points your participation is worthy.** I will start assigning points for this category the week after Labor Day weekend. If you are absent to class you lose your points for class participation for that day. You are expected to fully, effectively and productively participate in this class.

By full, effective and productive participation I mean playing your role enthusiastically in pair work; asking questions for clarification and more information for a small group discussion, showing that you are really involved in what is going on in the class. The instructor reserves the right to determine whether the student's participation fully meet the elements described above.

WEEKLY CONVERSATION SESSION (CHARLA) (30%) You are to meet once a week with a conversation partner to practice situations around every day communicative tasks. Conversations will start the week after Labor Day. The last week for conversations (charlas) is the week finishing on Friday November 27<sup>th</sup>. Your conversation partner is a student also, so if you ever have to miss a session please let her know in advance. SORRY, MISSED SESSIONS MAY NOT BE MADE UP. However, you could make up a session by attending two Spanish Table meetings. Please notice that only two "charlas" can be made up by attending the Spanish Table. The Spanish Table is a time for informal conversation over lunch at the Gorilla Crossing. It is held on Mondays from 12 to 12:50. Ms Roberta Shilane is the coordinator of this activity and the student María Belén Saldívar (Beli) will be her student assistant. Make sure to stay at least for half hour and to sign up the attendance sheet that Belí will keep.

CONVERSATION WITH THE INSTRUCTOR (40%) During the semester the instructor will select students at random for short conversations. Also on the designated dates that will appear under LESSONS on ANGEL, each student will have a 15-minute conversation with the instructor either in the classroom or in the instructor's office. Your conversation will be about the topics you have covered in the grammar class, the situations you have role played in this class and the activities you have practiced with your conversation partner. You need to bring a pen drive to record your conversation so that you can write a transcription of it and turn it in to me for a grade. The transcription is due the next class period after you had your conversation. **You will earn up to 5 points for completion of the interview and up to 10 points for the transcription. These conversations will start after Fall Break.**

## RETRO-CREDITS

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures has a retro-credits program designed to reward students who have already spent years learning languages in high school. Students must sign up for the program ***in 428 Grubbs Hall*** with Kathy Dyer, Departmental Secretary, during the first three weeks of the semester in which they take their **first** language course at PSU. That course determines their entry level and the maximum credits they can earn through retro-credits. For more information on retro-credits visit our webpage at [www.pittstate.edu/flang](http://www.pittstate.edu/flang).

**Transfer students who took language courses at another university or college are not eligible. The Department encourages students to seek faculty advice to determine their best entry level.**

**Teaching standards.** This course addresses the following teaching standards as mandated by the Kansas State Board of Education. When students take this course, they progress towards meeting state standards required for the K – 12 teaching license in Spanish.

Teaching Standard # 2

The teacher of a foreign language is proficient in the foreign language

**Knowledge # 1**

The teacher is aware of the levels of proficiency in the basic skills in foreign language and his or her own level

**Knowledge # 2**

The teacher understands the importance of maintaining and advancing his or her own skills.

**Performance # 5**

The teacher can express his or her own ideas on practical, social and professional topics in most formal and informal writing styles in the target language.

**Performance # 6**

The teacher can write most kinds of correspondence, such as memos, social and business letters, short research papers and statements of position in areas of special interest in the target language.

**Performance # 7**

The teacher demonstrates control of a full range of structures, spelling and non-alphabetical symbol production in the target language.

**NOTE: THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THIS SYLLABUS AT ANY TIME DURING THE SEMESTER AS DEEMED NECESSARY FOR THE GOOD PROGRESS OF THE CLASS.**

**¡BIENVENIDOS A LA CLASE DE CONVERSACION EN ESPAÑOL!**

