

PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences
SPRING 2007

Course Number and Title:	MLL 356-01 Spanish Conversation II
Department Assignment:	Modern Languages and Literatures
Credit Hours:	Three
Pre-requisite:	MLL 252 and MLL 254
Co-requisite:	MLL 358 Readings in Literature and Civilization I
Meets:	11:00 – 11:50 M W
Faculty Member:	Edmée Fernández, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Spanish
Office:	412 Grubbs Hall
Telephone:	(620) 235 – 4678
E-mail:	efernand@pittstate.edu
Textbook:	Fuentes: Conversación y gramática. Fuentes: Lectura y redacción. 3 rd edition. (2005)

Course description:

For students who have already taken a third semester Spanish course and wish to increase their ability in speaking, listening, reading, writing and culture. The textbook uses an integrated skills approach to intermediate Spanish that develops both receptive and productive skills simultaneously. The primary objectives of this course are to help students perfect their ability to listen and to speak Spanish. This is a required course both Spanish minors and majors.

Major Topics:

This course promotes listening comprehension and oral communication based on the same topics that MLL 358 examines. Topics include: A question of identity, Spain: past and present, Pre-Columbian America, Immigrants in the Spanish-speaking America, Fusion of cultures in the United States, New Democracies, Our Environment, Let's Talk about Work, Spanish and Spanish-American Art.

Grading:

Course evaluation

Attendance	10%
Class participation	15%
Meeting with conversation partner	10%
Oral presentations	20%
Final oral interview	25%
TOTAL	100%

Attendance

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 you earn one point.** If you are absent to class you lose your points for attendance and class participation for that day. You may make up one absence by attending two sessions of the Spanish Table. Please notice that only two absences can be made up, and that your class participation points may not be made up by attending the Spanish Table.

Class participation

You are expected to fully, effectively and productively participate in this class.

Every time you fully, effectively and productively participate in class **you earn up to four points.** By full, effective and productive participation I mean contributing significantly to pair and group work; asking questions for clarification and more information after a presentation; adding and expanding on the information presented by your classmates, all of this showing that you are interested in what is going on in the class.

Meeting with conversation partner

Every time you meet with your conversation partner, she/he will present you with everyday communicative situations so that you have an opportunity to practice topics that we do not have the time to do in class. You will earn 4 points every time you complete your conversation with your partner. Sorry, due to the fact that your conversation partner is also a student, she/he can not offer you a make-up session. If you happen to miss a session with your conversation partner, you can make it up by attending two sessions of the Spanish Table. Please notice that only two sessions can be made up. The Spanish Table consists of 50 minutes of informal conversation over lunch at the Gorilla Crossing, every Tuesday from 12 to 12:50. There will be a person in charge of recording your attendance and participation in the Spanish Table.

Oral presentation

There will be two oral presentations in this class. 1) First, you will interview a hispanic person living in your community (compañeras de conversación and compañeros de clase are excluded) using the guide presented in LR p 92 Actividades 18 y 19. You will present a summary of your interview to the class. Your presentation should last between 3 and 5 minutes. You may have your notes in an index card but you may not read your presentation. Let me know by Wednesday February 14th whom you are going to interview. The dates appear in this syllabus.

2) Your second oral presentation is about the same topic of your final essay for the Readings class. Your presentation will last at least five minutes and the dates appear in this syllabus. You may have your notes in an index card but you may not read your presentation. You will receive up to 5 points for each presentation

Final oral interview

On the designated dates, I will interview each one of you individually either in my office or in 430 Grubbs. The interview will last about 20 minutes. The interview will be recorded. You will take the tape home, and transcribe the whole interview (what I said, what you said, etc), the mistakes underlined with a colored pen and add your personal comments on what you learned by doing the interview. The transcription is due not later than May 16th.

You will earn up to 5 points for completion of the interview and up to 10 points for the transcription.

Important dates:

Presentación oral de las entrevistas a hispanos de la comunidad:

Miércoles 21 de febrero

Lunes 26 de febrero

Miércoles 28 de febrero

Lunes 5 de marzo

Presentación oral sobre una obra de arte:

Miércoles 18 de abril

Lunes 23 de abril

Miércoles 25 de abril

Lunes 30 de abril

Miércoles 2 de mayo

Entrevistas finales:

Lunes 7 de mayo (no hay clase)

Miércoles 9 de mayo (no hay clase)

Lunes 14 de mayo (no hay clase)

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make any modification to any section of this syllabus.

Kansas State Department of Education 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 the state standards required for K – 12 teaching license.

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 # 1

The teacher demonstrates advanced proficiency in the target language to converse according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Guidelines.

Performance # 2

The teacher initiates, sustains and brings to closure a wide variety of communicative tasks, including those that require an increased ability to convey meaning with diverse language strategies due to a complication or an unforeseen turn of events.

Performance # 3

The teacher narrates and describes with paragraph-length connected discourse in the target language.

Performance # 4

The teacher engages in a variety of formal and informal conversations on practical, social, professional and abstract topic, using native-like discourse strategies in the target language.

Class Policy:

This class includes numerous activities that require you to engage, explore, explain, elaborate, and evaluate. You are expected to be involved and stay involved. It is mostly your responsibility to make this class work to improve your oral skills in Spanish. I set up the activity but you are the one who has to actually speak and perform it. Each class will add some new dimension to your oral command of the language. There is no way that a session can really be made up. You are expected to make a commitment to attend all classes and fully participate in each one of them.

Communication:

Since language is communication, try to get used to participating actively in class. This means answering when called on, volunteering to speak in front of the class either individually or in groups. Keep the channels of communication open. If you are having problems keeping up due to your heavy work schedule or some unexpected situation let me know as soon as possible. Be cooperative and supportive of your classmates.

Bienvenidos a la clase de Conversación

