

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES**  
**PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**FALL, 2006**

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Title: Spanish Conversation I

Instructor: Bert Patrick

Course Num: MLL 252-01\*

Office: 416 Grubbs Hall

\* **Concurrent enrollment in MLL 254-01 required**

Prerequisite: MLL 158, or equivalent

Office Hours: 11-12 MW; 2-5 MW; 2-4 Th  
or by appointment

Credit Hours: 2

Office Phone: 235-4711

Course Time: 10-10:50 TTh

Cell Phone: 404-9400 (before 10pm, please)

E-mail: [bpatrick@pittstate.edu](mailto:bpatrick@pittstate.edu)

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**I COURSE DESCRIPTION** Conversational activities based on an integrated-skills approach leading to greater oral proficiency as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and to a greater appreciation of Hispanic culture.

**II PURPOSE OF 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 class.

**III COURSE OBJECTIVES** At the end of this course, students should be able to demonstrate the ability to converse about a broad range of familiar topics and to use circumlocution to communicate about unfamiliar ones. The student should also have developed a greater awareness and appreciation of the rich diversity of Hispanic culture.

**IV TEXTS & MATERIALS** *Fuentes: Conversación y gramática* (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.) by Rusch, Domínguez, Caycedo Garner

**V COURSE PROCEDURES** Class time will be spent a) doing selected oral activities from among those assigned in the text or based on them, b) doing listening comprehension activities from an audio or video cassette program, or c) using previously studied material for role playing activities. There will be homework assignments from the text that you are to prepare for in-class application. In addition, each student will have a weekly one-on-one conversation session with a conversation partner.

**VI STUDY TACTICS** Help yourself to the maximum by referring to the *Referemce section* (starting on 299) for information about verb conjugations and grammar points organized by categories or groups, a Spanish-English vocabulary (page 316) and the Index (330). Make the following study habits part of your learning strategies: study outloud; study with a classmate; study whenever & as often as possible; pay attention to details; master small pieces of information & look for opportunities to incorporate them into your use of the language; imagine yourself in a life situation in Costa Rica/ Paraguay/España, etc. in which you would use the information you are studying; seek out native or advanced speakers of Spanish to talk to; listen to audio programs in your car or on your walkman; watch Spanish language programs on television; and practice using the language at every opportunity, even by talking to yourself.

**VII EVALUATION** Your grade for this course will be determined by your results on 1) your use of Spanish for class activities... both quantity and quality, 2) an oral interview at mid-term, 3) a final oral interview at the end of the course, 4) your weekly conversations with the

conversation partner, and 5) your attendance, preparation and participation in class activities.

**A OVERALL EVALUATION SPEAKING IN CLASS** (20%) Each student will receive a daily grade based on their use of Spanish in class. Students are expected to speak *only Spanish* in class. I will listen to you as you do class activities and, based on *how much* you speak Spanish and *how well* you speak, I will give each student a grade each day. **ORAL INTERVIEW AT MIDTERM** (25%) Each of you will speak with me in my office about a topic from one of the chapters we have covered. Topics will come directly from the text and you will have (probably) already talked about them in class and/or with the conversation partner. Most interviews will be during class time but some will have to take place at other times. **WEEKLY CONVERSATION SESSION** (20%) Once a schedule is established, you are to meet at a predetermined time each week for a conversation session. You may talk about any topic but it is to your benefit to talk about what we are studying in class. If you miss a session, for whatever reason, **IT MAY NOT BE MADE UP**. **FINAL ORAL INTERVIEW** (25%) As a culminating experience for the class, I will interview each of you. I will evaluate you and let you know where I believe you rank according to the ACTFL guidelines. **ATTENDANCE, PREPARATION AND CLASS PARTICIPATION** (10%) Being in class each day, being prepared to participate fully and then actually doing so are all important elements in a successful learning experience and the best way to guarantee you will benefit to the maximum. I will use these criteria for the final 10% of your class grade. In summary, your grade for the course will be determined by your results on speaking in class (20%), the mid-term interview (25%), the conversation sessions with the conversation partner (20%), the Final Oral Interview (25%) & class participation (10%).

<b><u>B EVALUATION CRITERIA</u></b>	Speaking in class	20%
	Mid-term interview	25%
	Weekly conversations	20%
	Final oral interview	25%
	Attendance, preparation, participation	10%
		100%

**C GRADING SYSTEM** A 100-90 B 89-80 C 79-70 D 69-60 E 59-00

**D CLASS ATTENDANCE** Frequent, daily exposure to and use of the target language is vital in making real progress toward fluency in a foreign language. Therefore, at a minimum, I expect you to be present for every class, prepared to participate fully. Should you miss class, it is your responsibility to get the next session's assignment (call me or a classmate) & return to class prepared to participate fully in the activities. If, on a given day, however, you have an exam or a presentation to make in another class and you are not prepared, go ahead and come to class; before class gets underway, simply ask me not to call on you on that day & I will respect your request. You learn more just by being in class, observing & listening, than you do by missing. Nonetheless, **if you come to class chronically unprepared, I will drop you from the course**.

**VIII KANSAS STATE DEPT OF EDUCATION (KSDE) TEACHING STANDARDS** This course meets the following KSDE teaching standards:

**Standard #1** Performance 5. **Standard #2** Knowledge 1,2. Performance 11.

**\*\*RETRO-CREDIT\*\*** The retro-credit program allows students who have studied a language at the high school level to receive university credit. If interested, **sign up for this program** in 428 Grubbs Hall with Kathy Dyer, Departmental Secretary, **during the first three weeks of the semester** in which you take your first language course. That course determines the entry level and the maximum credits you can earn through retro-credits. Transfer students who took language courses at another university or college are not eligible. No exceptions or extensions will be granted. The Department encourages students to seek faculty advice to determine their best entry level.

## Horario de asignaturas

AGO 22 Introducción

24 Cap 5

29 Cap 5

31 Cap 5

SEP 5 Cap 5

7 Cap 5

12 Cap 5

14 Cap 6

19 Cap 6

21 Cap 6

26 Cap 6

28 Cap 6

Oct 3 Cap 6

5 Entrevistas de medio semestre

10 Entrevistas de medio semestre

12 Vacaciones otoñales

17 Cap 7

19 Cap 7

24 Cap 7

26 Cap 7

31 Cap 7

NOV 3 Cap 7

7 Cap 7

9 Cap 8

14 Cap 8

16 Cap 8

21 Cap 8

23 Vacaciones del Día de Gracias

28 Cap 8

30 Cap 8

DIC 5 Entrevistas de fin de semestre

7 Entrevistas de fin de semestre

DIC 11-15 Semana de exámenes finales