

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES
PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
FALL, 2005

Title: Advance Spanish Conversation

Instructor: Bert Patrick

** Concurrent enrollment in MLL 555 Phonetics/Oral Practice required **

Course Num: MLL 451-01

Office: 416 Grubbs Hall

Prerequisites: MLL351 Gram & Comp II &
MLL450 Readings Lit/Civ II

Office Hours: 10 TTh; 2-5 MW;
2:30-4:30 Th or by appt.

Credit Hours: 2

Office Phone: 235-4711

Course Time: 11-11:50 M-Th

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

E-mail: bpatrick@pittstate.edu

This time, like all times, is a very good one, if we but know what to do with it. --Ralph Waldo Emerson
I COURSE DESCRIPTION Activities designed to help you continue to improve your comprehension and speaking skills by watching recent films, then, analyzing, discussing and having debates about issues raised in them. Students will also do research on related topics and give presentations on them.

II PURPOSE OF COURSE The PRINCIPAL GOALS IN THIS COURSE are to help you continue to improve 1) your comprehension of spoken Spanish as used in several contemporary popular films; and 2) your ability to discuss the important elements of these movies. Then, 3) to do research on topics related to the films and 4) to give oral presentations about them and to have debates about them.

I wasted time, and now time doth waste me. --Shakespeare

III COURSE OBJECTIVES By the end of this course you should have improved listening comprehension skills, a greater ability to express facts and to interpret and express your opinions about them, a greater appreciation and understanding of contemporary issues in the Hispanic world, and a greater familiarity with and appreciation of Hispanic cinematography.

IV TEACHING STRATEGIES Class time will be spent in a variety of activities, including, but not limited to, 1) individual presentations, 2) debates over topics raised in the films, 3) one-on-one, small group and whole class discussions, and 4) viewing portions of films.

One always has time enough, if one will apply it well. --Goethe

V TEXT *Cine hispánico* is available in Quickprint, 109 Whitesitt Hall

VII EVALUATION

A. OVERALL EVALUATION

1 INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS Each student will choose a topic related to each of the films we view, do research on it, and then give a 15 minute presentation over it. Each of these presentations is worth **15%** of the final grade, a total of **45%**.

2 DEBATES There will be a topic over each film that will be debated. Each person will be evaluated based on their contributions to the debate. Criteria used to evaluate contributions will be: facts presented, effectiveness of presentation, correct use of language. Each debate is **10%** of the course grade, a total of **30%**.

Think wrongly, if you please, but in all cases think for yourself. --Doris Lessing

3 ATTENDANCE/PREPARATION/PARTICIPATION I pay close attention to who is prepared to participate fully in each day's activities. Arriving to class on time, preparing home work assignments, being a ready and active partner in pairs, small group and whole class activities, volunteering to participate in class activities, and sitting in different seats during the semester to be able to work with all classmates are some of the criteria I use to determine **class attendance/preparation/participation**. This is worth **5%** of your grade.

4 CONVERSATION PARTNER SESSIONS Each student is to have a one-on-one session with the MLL conversation partner each week. Your attendance, participation and improvement of speaking skills will be used to determine your performance in these sessions. This is **10%** of your grade in this course.

5 ORAL PROFICIENCY INTERVIEW At the end of the semester, I will interview each student to determine the level of his/her speaking ability according to the criteria of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Your results on this interview will be worth **10%** of your grade in the course.

6 FINAL GRADE Your grade for the course will be determined in the following manner: results of the **individual presentations** (45%), **debates** (30%), **attendance/preparation/participation** (5%), **conversation partner sessions** (10%), and **Oral Proficiency Interview** (10%).

<u>B. EVALUATION CRITERIA</u>	Individual presentations	45%
	Debates	30%
	Attend/prepare/participate	5%
	Conversation partner sessions	10%
	Oral Proficiency Interview	<u>10%</u>
		100%

It has long been an axiom of mine that the little things are infinitely the most important. –Arthur Conan Doyle

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 & 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 in class every day, prepared to participate fully.** Should you miss class, it is your responsibility to get the next day's assignment (call me or a classmate) and return to class prepared to participate fully in the activities. **I take role each day. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN FIVE (5) UNEXCUSED ABSENCES, I WILL CONSIDER DROPPING YOU FROM THE CLASS.** I reserve the right to define an "unexcused absence". However, if, on a given day, 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 and I will respect your request. You learn more by just being in class, observing and listening, than you do by missing. Nonetheless, *if you come to class chronically unprepared*, I will drop you from the course. Also, **chronic tardiness** is detrimental to your chances for success as well as disruptive for your classmates. Arrive on time!

VIII KANSAS STATE DEPT OF EDUCATION (KSDE) TEACHING STANDARDS

This course meets the following KSDE teaching standards:

Standard #1 Knowledge 1-6 Performance 1-4
Standard #7 Knowledge 1 Performance 1, 3-5

* * * HORARIO DE CLASE * * *

Oct 17 Introducción
18 Primera película: *Guantanamera (Cuba)*
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Nov 1
2 Segunda película: *Nueva Yol (República Dominicana)*
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17 Tercera película: *Todo sobre mi madre (España)*

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23-24 *Vacaciones del Día de Gracias*

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Dic 1

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6
7 Oral Proficiency Interviews
8 Oral Proficiency Interviews

12-16 Semana de exámenes finales

There are many difficulties that cannot be overcome if you try to do everything at once, but which will yield if you master them little by little. The truth is that a steady continuous effort is irresistible, for this is the way in which time captures and subordinates the greatest powers on earth. --Sertorius