BIENVENIDOS a HU 1235 (Transitional Spanish Language and Culture)

Notes:

1. "MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to educational services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students, (72212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department head, or the Affirmative Action Office (73310)."

2. The instructor of this course reserves the right to modify this syllabus for pedagogical reasons

3. Students with previous knowledge of Spanish who place into the Transitional Spanish course HU1235, can opt out of UN 1002 (four credit hours) by taking: one term Transitional Spanish HU 1235 + one term UN 1003 (one credit hour) + one term of Second year Spanish, with a passing grade during the first three semesters (i.e., during their freshman year and/or the fall or their sophomore year). By passing their Transitional HU1235, they will receive THREE placement credits (for HU 1231). (Depending on the degree requirements of their major, such placement credit may count as free electives). Should they opt to continue with the study of this language, they may count this course work toward the general distribution requirement (at least nine credit hours, with a maximum of twelve credit hours)

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES

a) Motivate students to further study the Spanish language, for academic, cultural and intellectual purposes

b) Encourage students to make use of available learning means or resources (professor's office hours, laboratory materials, tutors, internet, electronic mail, occasional tertulias) and foster development of language skills (reading, listening, speaking, writing) and intercultural awareness.

c) Encourage students to seek higher levels of proficiency in this world popular language, in their homeland and abroad.

d) Motivate students with other incentives such as pursuing a language certificate, at regular or advanced levels, and furthering the awareness that this certificate is important for future social and professional life.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

a) Provide a comprehensive review and refinement of grammar structures, both in spoken and written communicative contexts.
b) Specific objectives contained in each one of the chapters and exercises of the Text, Language Lab and exercise books assigned for the course.

TEXTS AND MATERIALS

1. A good bilingual dictionary Spanish-English (Oxford Langenscheidt, or Vox)
3. Young Dolly J. Wolf, Darlene F. Esquemas. Estrategias para leer

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Read the introductory sections and tips for studying and mastering the different language skills (reading, listening, speaking, writing and analysing cultural patterns) in your text, and work books You must FAMILIARIZE yourself with the structure of the different sections of your instruction books, and with the materials that the lab offers. You must learn how to use them in a way that is productive to yourself, according to your level of profficency you actually have. You will find assistance and help from the lab staff listed on lab schedules, coaching, and help in taping, copying, and using other lab equipment.

Attendance is a must in this course! More than three Unexcused absences will seriously affect your final grade in this course.

Being prepared before coming to class is also a MUST. You are responsible for personally studying in order to fill in grammar and comprehension gaps, which other way might slip by.

LAB REQUIREMENT. From the very beginning of the class attend the language laboratory at least one hour per week and work on the material and exercises that better fit your own needs. Trying to fulfill the lab requirement in the last weeks, wont help much your learning process OR lab staff, and furthermore, it is not acceptable. LANGUAGE LAB HOURS MUST BE FULLFILLED IN THE LANGUAGE LAB AT THE UNIVERSITY. Of course you may watch videos, listen to tapes and do extra pratice but this does not count as extra lab credit.

NOTE: If for some reason no class is scheduled, you must be prepared for a quiz on the following class day.

GRADING SCALE

92-100 Excellent (A) 70-74 Average (C)
86-91 Very Good (AB) 66-69 Below Average CD
80-85 Good (B) 59- 62-(D)
75-79 Above Average (BC) Below 58 Failure (F)

Your final grade will be based on the following percentages:

Class attendance and participation 25%
Quizzes 25%
Lab 15%
Y ahora un poco de español:

Puesto que el objetivo general del presente curso es una revisión general de estructuras y habilidades previamente estudiadas y equivalentes a un primer año de estudio a nivel universitario, su esquema de clases y su contenido (SYLLABUS) se ajustará PROGRESIVAMENTE al nivel, intensidad y ritmo con que el curso se desarrolle. Su secuencia, POR LO TANTO, no tiene porque ser la misma del texto de clase. Esta secuencia se ajustará también pedagógicamente a los objetivos de REVISION O REPASO para el presente curso. Esta determinación obedece además a la necesidad de operar con mayor flexibilidad, de acuerdo a las habilidades lingüísticas del grupo.

Por ahora, para empezar, la primera semana seguiremos el primer capítulo "Prepárase para viajar !" del libro de prácticas Esquemas, Estrategias para leer y el primer capítulo "What is Grammar? A Brief Introduction to the Study of Spanish Grammar del libro de texto Spanish for Oral and written review.

Para el resto del curso, elaboraremos un silabas cada dos semanas que se adaptará al ritmo de progreso de la clase.