Bienvenidos a...

HU3293: Spanish for Special Purposes
Spring 2004
Profesora: Dr. Sandra Boschetto-Sandoval
(otras horas por arreglo previo)
Correo electrónico: smbosche@mtu.edu
[Reviso mi correo electrónico por lo menos una vez al día]

Antes de empezar, Ud. debiera saber:

Students who PLACE into this class will receive SIX placement credits for first year (HU2291/2292) after successfully completing the course with C or better. Students who also enroll in UN1003 in Spring 2004 AND go on to complete HU3294 in Fall of 2004 also satisfy the World Cultures lecture requirement for graduation. Students may continue with third-and fourth-year language courses in Spanish and count this course toward the general education distribution requirement (i.e. at least nine, and up to twelve credit hours) and also earn credits toward a Minor or International Minor in Spanish.

Required Texts and Materials:
- Vida moderna hispana, Brown (National Textbook Co., 1992)
- El gesticulador: Pieza para demagogos en tres actos, Rudolfo Usigli (Prentice-Hall, 1963)
- A good bilingual dictionary *
- Good writing pens and markers for clear legibility [Pencil is not appropriate for writing assignments; please see final page]

* “Good” includes: modern word usage, entries that give parts of speech, gender of nouns, and idiomatic expressions, extensive equivalents for words and phrases, verb charts and other grammatical information, list of abbreviations, and a pronunciation guide. If your current dictionary does not include the above, it will not be helpful to you. Please consult with me for recommendations prior to purchase. The language Lab (Walker 114) and the reference section of the Library display very good dictionaries that are available for reference only.

Course Objectives:
HU3293 is a high intermediate level Spanish class with dual objectives of content and skill building. The content portion of the course focuses on providing students with a better understanding of the cultural and social context of the Hispanic countries. Readings and activities, including the “business Spanish” activities, will emphasize cross-cultural contexts as well as comparative aspects of living and working in different Hispanic cultures. The desired objective is to acquire the ability and the desire to include cultural and intercultural considerations into normal business practice and decision making, beyond the merely commercial. This approach incorporates linguistic, humanistic, social science, and cultural factors, all of which make an important contribution to the preparation of future business people and intercultural communicators in a global market environment.

This course also serves as an introduction to the study of literature (in preparation for HU3294 and beyond). Because literature and film are valuable factors in learning language and
culture, we will use both literary and film texts in this class to explore social, political, cultural, and economic issues; to dispel cultural stereotypes; and to expand our understanding of intercultural communication across Hispanic contexts.

While this class is intended for students who have already studied verb tenses, subjunctive mood, pronouns and basic Spanish vocabulary, continued review of the four skills (listening, reading, writing, and speaking) is repeatedly stressed. Grammar and vocabulary, however, will mainly be used as a support for expressing language functions (i.e. business transactions, intercultural communication, literary communicative functions, a deeper understanding and appreciation of Hispanic culture).

**After two semesters of language study**, you should have improved your skills to:
- Feel comfortable in a Spanish-speaking environment
- Participate in discussions and oral presentations
- Read Spanish at an intermediate level of complexity, including a complete literary work (play or short novel)
- Present your view on subjects of interest to you individually and to the class as a group
- Be more familiar with cultural similarities and differences
- Write Spanish texts including short reports, analyses, evaluations, and compositions.

**¿Qué tiene que hacer Ud.?**

The keys to successful language learning are curiosity (la curiosidad), open-mindedness (la mente abierta), humor (el humor), a willingness to take risks (la disposición a tomar riesgos), and above all, continuous practice (la práctica constante). Be prepared to set aside at least 9 hours per week for study outside of class. Additionally, you are expected to:
- Attend regularly and participate actively in class
- Come prepared to class. Outside preparation is absolutely crucial to your success!
- Bring required textbooks and materials to class every day.
- Keep up with all written and oral assignments, which are designed to reinforce the work we are doing in class.
- Hand in assignments when assignments are due!
- Do not cram assignments in the last weeks of class! (You will not receive credit for these!)
- REVISE all assignments, quizzes, compositions and verb drill work as necessary outside of class.
- Be prepared to work in teams, to role-play, and to give informal and formal presentations in class.
- If you need extra help with assignments Email or visit the instructor, and/or visit the language lab (Walker 114) and make an appointment with one of our helpful Spanish coaches!
- Be respectful and supportive of each other while learning to laugh at your own verbal bloopers. Fluency in a language takes years of hard work and patience!
- Ask for clarification whenever you feel lost. Please take responsibility for your learning and that of your peers as well!
- Follow proper behavior and classroom etiquette as per MTU student handbook (i.e. No cell phones, food or drink allowed in class unless you have prior authorization)

**Class Requirements**
Your final grade will be based on the following class requirements. **All requirements must be completed to pass the course:**
I. Attendance, Preparation, and Class Participation (25%): This portion of the graded is calculated on the basis of: 1) regular attendance and participation in ALL (individual and group) communication exercises (oral and written) in Spanish in class; 2) class preparation outside of class as evaluated on “pop quizzes;” 3) short written ungraded assignments [designated simply Escrito on the assignment schedule. See Itinerario to be handed in. All work in the course will stress the use of Spanish as a means of communication, therefore Spanish is the lingua franca of the class! There are no make-ups for quizzes, but quizzes MAY BE REVISED for additional credit. The first quiz (IN SPANISH) will be on this course description and syllabus, so please read it carefully!

II. Informe cultural de país/Country Report (25%): This project involves working in teams of 2 or 3, research work outside of class, and a formal oral presentation. Since various components are involved, you will receive information and separate instructions in Week 2 when course enrollment has been finalized. The reports will be presented in class during Weeks 10 and 11.

III. Formal written assignments, designated ESF (Escrito formal) on the Itinerario [see separate handout] (30%). These include extended exercises, reports, short compositions, analyses, evaluations, and responses to readings from print texts and/or film viewings. These assignments will be graded and MAY BE REVISED for additional credit, as long as they are revised in a timely manner.

IV. Examen Final/Final 1 ½ hr exam during week 15 (20%): The content of the exam will cover the following components:
- 30%, Information presented by peers in their Country Reports (see above)
- 40%, Cultural, social, historical, and psychological issues presented in the play, El gesticulador
- 30%, Grammatical, cultural and intercultural aspects presented in the context of the various readings

THERE IS NO MID-TERM EXAM; THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM DURING FINAL EXAM WEEK; THERE IS NO EXTRA CREDIT.

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-93</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>92-89</td>
<td>AB</td>
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<tr>
<td>88-82</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>81-77</td>
<td>BC</td>
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A [long] Note on Attendance, Preparation, and Participation!
I do not expect attendance to be a problem in this class, knowing that you are a highly motivated group of students [For many of you, this course alone is worth 9 credits!] However, “winter” semester and the structure of this class present particular problems that make a strict attendance policy absolutely necessary. Each day, I will circulate a sign-up sheet during the first minutes of class. Make sure you are in class on time to sign the sheet. If you fail to sign the attendance sheet or if you consistently arrive late for class, you will lose participation credit.
PREPÁRENSE (Be prepared!) As I consider preparation BEFORE and OUTSIDE of class so important to participation IN class, I will use “Pop Quizzes” [Prueba Sorpresa ©] to check on your work outside of class. In other words, pop quizzes may not necessarily be announced ahead of time! These short quizzes (at most 25 minutes), based on vocabulary, grammar, or assigned reading exercises will be used to estimate the class participation portion of your grade. Since the flesh is weak and January and February nights are especially dark and long, I will eliminate the worst quiz grade when calculating the final participation grade.

**Most important** Interaction and communication are absolutely crucial for successful language learning. If you are not in class, you cannot participate at any level, even minimally. Therefore, your grade will be seriously affected if you miss class without an official excuse (a doctor’s note, an instructor’s note, or a note from the Dean of Students).

ACUÉRDESE: THERE ARE NO MAKE-UPS FOR MISSED QUIZZES OR EXAMS. If you know that you will be away or will miss class, it is your responsibility to inform me IN ADVANCE and to complete the required assignments. **Any absence without written notice either before or following the absence will be considered “unexcused.”** Unexcused absences are serious grounds for failure in class participation and failure in the course.

I expect all of you to come PREPARED to DO Spanish work in class. This means that we will not be talking ABOUT Spanish; instead, we will be engaged in working through various exercises IN Spanish to put our knowledge to more efficient use given the limitations of class time.

Aqui se habla español! This also applies to group discussions. My hope is that you will volunteer responses in class; otherwise, my expectation is that if called upon for a response in class, you will have prepared the assignments and reading for that day, and can make a reasonably good attempt at response in Spanish. Do not be afraid to make mistakes. Any attempt to communicate in Spanish is considered participation. Use of English is not!

Tareas y Proyectos (Assignments and Projects)

The purpose for assigning written “tareas” (homework assignments) is to insure that you receive feedback on your progress towards written (and oral) proficiency in Spanish. Assignments completed in a timely fashion can also better prepare you to complete more formal assignments, other projects and oral presentations. Due to our very unfortunate time constraint, there is simply not enough time allotted in a day (or week) for communicative interaction in Spanish. Hence the need for work outside of class. REVISION is also an important component when considering participation and assignment portions of the final grade (55%). Since quizzes and all informal AND formal written assignments can be revised for additional credit, REVISION is not only an important indicator of who is doing the most, if not the best work! It adds additional points to the final calculation!

As some of you may already know, © I take REVISION very seriously. While I do not assign a grade to informal written assignments (Escritos), I will use various qualifiers to inform you as to whether the assignment exceeds, meets or falls short of expectations. Excelente, muy bien, and vale (OK) are self-explanatory. If your paper is marked with NC (unsatisfactory/no credit), the assignment must be revised before it is recorded. Written assignments must be double-spaced in clear ink or type. If typed, please use 12 point font and remember to allow sufficient space between lines. Complete revisions (clearly labeled with the date and the number of the assignment) should be made on a separate sheet of paper attached or stapled to the original. Corrections are never to be made on the original assignment sheet unless told to do so. If these guidelines are not followed, or if the assignment is sloppily written (ay! chapucería ©=sloppiness) you will not receive credit.

It is your responsibility to keep on target with assignments, to follow through on deadlines, and to complete revisions in a timely fashion. Deadlines are usually posted on the Itinerario (under Preparación). Otherwise, please be attentive in class, or follow up on our list-
serv communication by Email. DO contact me if you need help with any assignment or if you need to renegotiate deadlines. Otherwise late assignments (beyond 3 days) will NOT be accepted.

Oral Assignments and Presentations: The purpose of oral assignments is to practice speaking/oral presentation skills in Spanish language. They also serve to foster team collaboration, broader cultural understanding, as well as independent research and creativity. Reading lengthy texts is never appropriate for group presentations. Therefore, advance preparation is absolutely necessary for a successful team presentation. Separate instructions will be provided to you concerning the Country Report Team Presentations due in Weeks 10 and 11.

Language Lab:
The Language Lab is located in Walker 114. There are various procedures that need to be followed when using equipment or material in the lab. The lab is an important component of language learning. While I will NOT REQUIRE attendance, the lab serves as an important resource for aural comprehension practice. In addition, several assignments will require that you make use of the lab throughout the semester. Lab hours are usually posted outside the door of Walker 114. Monitors and “coaches” will be available to help you. I will update you as the semester progresses. Please note: You are automatically charged a lab fee upon registration for a language class! Put this money to good use by taking full advantage of the equipment and varied materials, including audio tapes, videos, vocabulary and grammar exercises available there and purchased with your money!

There are now as many Spanish speakers in the world as English speakers! The United States is the fourth largest Spanish-speaking country in the world! More Spanish speakers enter the United States LEGALLY every year than any other language group. Spanish is unofficially the second language of the United States! Spanish is spoken on at least four major continents. ¿Sabía Ud. que...? Everytime we celebrate Spanish Heritage Month, we remember the important role that Spanish language, culture and history have played and continue to play in U.S. culture, language, and history.

© Minors and International Minors in Spanish Language and Culture!

Competing successfully in the world market requires language skills, cultural awareness and international experience. The study of a modern language will help you address that challenge. In addition to gaining proficiency in the language and intercultural communication skills, you will also study literature and acquire knowledge of contemporary issues. A minor in a modern language can give you the competitive edge in your career and help you develop skills to cope effectively with the complex challenges of a rapidly changing global environment.

Students who want to earn a MINOR in Spanish (18 credits) must complete two years of the language (12 credits) and at least two courses (6 credits) chosen from Spanish-language specific courses at the 3000 or 4000 level (see your instructor for the list) which can be taken either at MTU or completed through study abroad. Three of the six credits may be earned through participation in an approved internship in a country of the target language.

Students who want to earn an INTERNATIONAL MINOR in Spanish (21 credits) must complete two years of the language (12 credits) and at least three courses (9 credits) chosen from 3000-4000 level courses which can be taken either at MTU or completed through study
abroad. In addition, students must spend at least six (6) weeks for work or study in a Spanish-speaking country.

Certificates in Spanish and Area Studies

Certificates and Advanced Certificates in Spanish and Area Study (21 credits) are also available. The difference between the International Minor and the Certificate is that the Certificate does not mandate either study abroad or advanced study in Spanish and culture. Instead students may satisfy requirements for the Certificate by completing requirements in English.

For additional information on Certificates, Advanced Certificates, Minors and International Minors, please see your instructor or view our website at: http://www.hu.mtu.edu/mod_lang/

MTU Study Abroad (Mexico, Latin America, or Spain)

If you are interested in obtaining information on study abroad, internship, or coop opportunities [with or without financial aid], please consult with one of the Spanish instructors (Department of Humanities) or with the Office of International Programs (Administration Bldg.). Most of these programs allow for the transfer of credits to MTU. I am happy to support your application for study abroad if you maintain at least a C average in the appropriate language class! PLEASE NOTE: If you are working toward an International Minor in Spanish, either study or an internship in a Spanish-speaking country is required.

NOTES:
• If you face circumstances that could impact your performance in this class, please see me ASAP so that we can make appropriate re-arrangements.
• 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 reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students at 487-2212. For all other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office at 487-3310.
• Your instructor is visually impaired, and has filed under ADA. Please follow guidelines for written assignments carefully. You may be asked to revise or rewrite an assignment if not perceived as legible or clear by your instructor.
• The syllabus and course schedule may be revised during the semester to accommodate the needs either of students or the instructor.