Bienvenidos a...

HU3293: Spanish for Special Purposes
invierno/primavera 2006
Profesora: Dr. Sandra Boschetto-Sandoval
Oficina: Walker 321 Horas: MW 2-3; Tu/Th 1-2
(otras horas por arreglo previo)
Correo electrónico: smbosc@cmt.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 2006 AND go on to complete HU3294 in Fall of 2006 also satisfy the World Cultures university 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:

- Translation project copies provided by instructor
- Handouts (HS) provided by instructor
- A ring binder or notebook to collect HS (class handouts)
- A good bilingual dictionary *
- Good writing pens (black or blue) 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.

Recommended [useful for Proyecto de Traducción with contextual back-up]

- Construccionario/Constructionary ICBO [International Conference of Building Officials][available in bookstore, along with Metas]
- A ring binder or notebook to collect Translation Project hand-outs

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 basic knowledge of working environments in Hispanic countries, including cultural, political, social, historical, economic, and environmental contexts. 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.

More specifically, this course also serves as a keystone special literacy course, providing students with technical (and cultural) translation experience as “contracted” by Professor Linda Phillips (Civil Engineering, MTU). Working in teams, students in HU3293 will study, summarize and translate (from English to Spanish) eight (8) civil engineering international senior design reports of projects undertaken in Bolivia in the summer of 2005 under the direction and mentoring of Professor Phillips.

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, basic civil and environmental engineering vocabulary, intercultural communication, 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 individually and in teams
- Read Spanish at an intermediate level of complexity, including a business document or technical report
- Present your view on subjects of interest to you individually and to the class.
- Be more familiar with cultural similarities and differences
- Acquire cross-cultural and intercultural awareness and “literacy.”
- Gain important insights about yourself.
- Write, edit, complete, and revise short reports, analyses, evaluations, commentaries, and documents in Spanish
- Gain important insights as to the processes involved in technical and cultural translation.

¿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, and verb drill work as necessary outside of class [unrevised work is opportunity lost!]
- Type all Escripto and ESF assignments!
- Use only 14 pt. font on all typed assignments
- REVISE all project drafts as required and in a timely manner.
• Be prepared to work in teams, to role-play, and to give informal and formal presentations in class.
• Be prepared to complete team-related projects outside of class.
• Be prepared to meet important project deadlines!
• Turn off all cell phones before entering class.
• Clarify issues with the instructor by visiting instructor’s office before week 3.
• If you need extra help with METAS assignments, e-mail 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 (30%): 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) out-of-class preparation for in-class work and assignments as evaluated on “pop quizzes”; “quizzes” will not always be announced in advance. It is your responsibility to be prepared for quizzes. 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, syllabus, and project guidelines so please read through these handouts carefully!
   3) short written (to be handed in) non-graded assignments [designated simply Escrito on the assignment schedule] (See PLAN, separate handout) Participation is gauged by the use of Spanish in class. The use of English in class is not considered participation.

II. Proyecto de Traducción en Equipo: Investigación, Resumen y Traducción del Informe Técnico (45%): This project involves working in teams of 3-4, research work outside of class, and two (2) formal oral presentations. Since various components are involved, you will receive information and separate instructions in Week 2 when course enrollment has been finalized, and team leaders selected. The reports will be revised and completed in stages with oral and written presentations/drafts delivered during week 6, 7 and 8, and 10, 11 and 12. Final project deadline is Monday, April 24, including hard (print) and electronic copy formats. [SEE IMPORTANT SEPARATE HANDOUT]

III. Graded written assignments, designated ESF (Escrito formal) on the PLAN [see separate handout] (25%). These include extended exercises, reports, short compositions, analyses, evaluations, technical glossaries, 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.

NOTE: THERE IS NO MID-TERM EXAM; THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM; THERE ARE NO MAKE-UPS FOR QUIZZES OR TESTS; THERE IS NO EXTRA CREDIT.

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

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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.

**Most important** What is an “officially-excused absence”?

Communication and interaction 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). A simple email note or a verbal communication does NOT qualify as an official excuse. Reminder: 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 will be considered “unexcused.” Unexcused absences are serious grounds for failure in class participation and failure in the course.

**Further expectations:**

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.

Spanish is our means of communication in the classroom. 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, 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; taking the “risk” in language is sufficient and important.

If you are having problems of any kind with/in the classroom, I expect that you will contact me early in the semester. I am very happy to help you, when I know that you are taking responsibility for your learning.

Tareas y Proyectos (Assignments and Projects)

The purpose for assigning written tareas (homework assignments) and proyectos 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, 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 or NR (unsatisfactory/no credit/not recorded), the assignment must be revised before it is recorded. Written assignments must be double-spaced and typed on a separate sheet, using 14 pt. font. 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! chapuceria 🙄=sloppiness) you will not receive credit, and will need to re-do the assignment.

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 Plan de Clase (under Preparacion). Otherwise, please be attentive in class, or follow up on our listserv communication by Email. DO contact me if you need help with any assignment or if you need to renegotiate deadlines. Please remember that assignments three (3) days past due may not be accepted.

Oral Assignments and Presentation(s): 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 PROYECTO Presentations due in Weeks 6, 7, 8 and 10, 11, and 12.

Language Lab:

The Language Lab is located in Walker 114. 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. There are various procedures that need to be followed when using equipment or material in the lab. Make sure you sign in and sign out every time you use the language lab! This information will prove useful at the end of the semester!:). In addition, certain project assignments may 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, dictionaries, vocabulary and grammar exercises available there and purchased with your money!

😊😊¿SABÍA UD. QUE…..? 😊😊
There are now as many Spanish speakers in the world as English speakers! Spanish is spoken on at least three major continents. ¿Sabe cuáles? In 2003 the U.S. Census Bureau declared Latinos to be the largest minority group in the United States, surpassing African-Americans and reaching 40 million, which constitutes more than 10 percent of the whole Spanish-speaking world. By the end of this century, their impact on American life will be enormous (as will their cultural, political, and economic influence). Everytime we celebrate our Hispanic heritage we remember the important role that Spanish language, culture and history have played and continue to play in almost every fact of U.S. culture, including language. Spanish is the unofficial second language of the United States. Indeed to describe Spanish as a “foreign” language in the United States is increasingly problematic. As Ilan Stavans asks: “Is a form of communication so intimately related to the fabric of our nation’s life, spoken by millions, really alien to our collective identity?” (The Chronicle Review, July 2005 B6).

Find out more about Spanish language and culture, as well as other languages of the world by visiting http://www2.ignatius.edu/faculty/turner/languages.htm en la red!

© 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://www2.hlu.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.