



SAIIE

"Your Life Experience; Your Education"



UNIVERSITY OF
WISCONSIN - PLATTEVILLE

Third Year Composition and Conversation I Track 1

Course Code: SPAN 3050 Intensive

Prerequisites: 4 college semester – level Spanish.

Language of Instruction: Spanish

Contact Hours: 42 hours per track for a total of 168 hours.

Credits: 4

A. COURSE OBJECTIVE

B. COURSE PLAN

C. CLASS RULES

D. PROGRAMMED VISITS

E. COMPOSITIONS AND ORAL PRESENTATION

F. CRITERIA FOR ASSESMENT

G. GRADING

H. BIBLIOGRAPHY



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A. COURSE OBJECTIVE

A1. GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVE

In this course students will improve their communication in writing as well as orally to get by in a Hispanic environment.

This course focuses on grammar, pronunciation, conversation and reading comprehension.

A2. SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students are capable of interacting in a variety of situations and know how to deal with everyday places. Students learn to:

Understand the main ideas of extensive debates in Standard Spanish. Give and ask personal opinions in an informal debate. Take initiative, make a complaint, ask for clarification, give detailed instructions as to how to do something, summarize and respond in detail to questions.

Throughout the course students will acquire a communicative competence according to their level, in writing as well as orally in order to:

- Describe and narrate experiences, facts, stories and tales simply.
- Express their own wishes and make conjectures about the reality which surrounds them. Justify opinions and propose plans.
- Interact with native speakers in daily life situations.
- Participate in conversations about topics of personal interest.
- Understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in personal letters.
- Understand the general idea of radio and television programs which cover current affairs.
- Write personal texts that describe experiences and impressions.

B. COURSE PLAN

1. Topic 1

✓ Grammatical Content

Verbs and opinion phrases. Structure: Lo más/ menos+ adjetivo +es.
Argument: how to organize speech.

✓ Functional Content

Rate and form an opinion. Organize words: argue.

✓ Lexical Content



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Ecology.

✓ **Cultural Content**

Contrast expressions: Spanish in America and Spanish in Spain.

2. Topic 2

✓ **Grammatical Content**

Ser and estar. Uses (revision). Relative clauses. Contrast Indicative/ subjunctive. Unknown/known antecedent.

✓ **Functional Content**

Describe and define. Ask for information as to it someone knows something or someone.

✓ **Lexical Content**

Description vocabulary

✓ **Cultural Content**

Beliefs in Spain.

3. Topic 3

✓ **Grammatical Content**

Después de/ antes de + infinitive. Cuando/ después de que/ hasta que + indicative/ subjunctive. Other time connectives.

✓ **Functional Content**

Relate two moments in time. Express the moment in which an action occurred.

✓ **Lexical Content**

Vocabulary related to stages in life.

✓ **Cultural Content**

The Ages of Man.

4. Topic 4



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✓ **Grammatical Content**

Causal conjunctions: porque, a causa de, ya que, dado que...

✓ **Functional Content**

Explain the motive or cause of an action, explain the real cause of something deny any other explanation, give explanations or excuse yourself over something, express annoyance and resignation, calm and console someone.

✓ **Lexical Content**

Obsessions and Customs.

✓ **Cultural Content**

The working world in Spain.

5. Topic 5

✓ **Grammatical Content**

Connectors in arguments/debates. Consequences: por eso, por lo tanto, así que, de ahí que...

✓ **Functional Content**

Express consequence and finality, present a written complaint. Argue.

✓ **Lexical Content**

Health and esthetics.

✓ **Cultural Content**

Bulls.

6. Topic 6

✓ **Grammatical Content**

Perfect preterit subjunctive: how to form it and uses.

✓ **Functional Content**

Express wish, surprise, gratitude. React towards appreciation, offer help or service or give an idea.

✓ **Lexical Content**



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Shopping/purchases.

✓ **Cultural Content**

Sport in Spain.

C. CLASS RULES

- Class attendance is mandatory. More than two unjustified absences will result in a penalization of 10% of the final grade.
- It is necessary that students are punctual; students will not be allowed to enter the classroom five minutes after class has begun.
- It is not possible to change the date of any quiz, exam or composition unless it is for medical reasons for which the professor requires a medical note.

D. PROGRAMMED VISITS

Plaza de Toros.

Some Catholic Churches.

E. COMPOSITIONS AND ORAL PRESENTATION

To calculate the final grade the professor will apply the following guideline:

✓ **Compositions**

Students will write three compositions throughout each course sequence. The content (information, originality and depth) will be taken into account as well as written expression (agreement, conjugation, vocabulary, logical sentence order) and presentation. The composition grade will be lowered if students have written below the number of words required.

✓ **Homework and Participation**

The student will have to work on the assigned tasks by the professor at home as the following day they will be corrected in class.

✓ **Oral Presentation**

Each student will work on one of the topics proposed by the professor; each student will do a presentation in Spanish to the rest of the class. The student may use any material that makes the presentation clear.



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Students may not read directly from a text, however they may use index cards or notes which help them remember the content of the presentation.

As in the case of the compositions, the content, oral expression, pronunciation, vocabulary, clarity of ideas and grammar will all be evaluated positively.

The presentation will be approximately 10 minutes long.

F. CRITERIA FOR ASSESMENT

Percentages:

Quiz 1	10%
Quiz 2	10%
Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Oral Presentation	10%
Compositions	10%

Attendance/Participation 10%

G. GRADING

97-100	A+	77-79	C+
93-96	A	73-76	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-

87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	63-66	D
80-82	B-	60-62	D-

Below 60=F

INTERCAMBIO COMPOSITION TOPICS

The student must personally hand in three compositions to the professor. Each composition must be 250-300 words, typed in Arial Font size 12 and double spaced.

1. Football in Spain



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2. A Spanish or South American festival

3. Assessment of your time in Spain

ORAL PRESENTATION TOPIC

The position of women in Spain in the 20th-21st Century

The death penalty.

My favorite artist and painter: explanation of one of their works.

H. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Equipo Prisma. *Método de español para extranjeros. Nivel B1 Progresiva*. Equipo Prisma. Editorial Edinumen, 2004.
- Moreno Concha, Moreno Victoria, Zurita Piedad. *Avance. Nivel A2, B1, B2*. SGEL, 2006.
- Carlos G. Medina Montero. *Sin Duda*. SGEL, 2003.
- Hernández Carmen, Mikiado Clara, Moreno Concha. *Español Lengua Extranjera, Gramática*. Grupo Anaya, 2007.
- Balea Amalia, Ramos Pilar. *Viva la cultura en España*. En CLAVE-ELE, 2007.
- Centellas Aurora, Millares Selena, *Método de español para extranjeros. Nivel intermedio*. Edinumen, 2000.
- Castro Francisca. *Uso de la gramática española. Nivel intermedio*. Edelsa, 2006.
- Copias proporcionadas por la profesora.

Students have access to the public library services in Sevilla, especially the Infanta Elena library located in the Avd. Maria Luisa s/n, and the central library of the University of Sevilla in C/ San Fernando nº4.