INTERMEDIATE SPANISH (I)

Profesor: Francisco Javier Fernández
Oficina: GRAINGER 314
Horas de clase: MWF: 8:00-8:50 a.m.
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Horas de oficina: MW 10:00-11:30 (Or by appointment)

I. - DESCRIPCIÓN DEL CURSO

(From Longwood Catalogue). A course designed to help students develop skills in speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing in Spanish, and apply these skills in context that recognizes and explores the peculiarities of Spanish and Latin American cultures. Prerequisite: Spanish 102 or an appropriate placement test score. Followed by 202. 3 credits.

II. - OBJETIVOS PARA EL SEMESTRE

During this course, students should develop the ability to:
1. Progressively learn and employ cumulatively certain grammatical, syntactical and phonetic structures of Spanish (GE criteria 1, 6 – Outcome 1).
2. Acquire a vocabulary appropriate for performing certain tasks in Spanish, such as asking or inviting someone to do something, responding to an invitation, expressing a judgment about something, expressing agreement or disagreement, indicating personal preference, asking someone’s opinion, proposing to do something, accepting or rejecting a suggestion. (GE criteria 1, 2, 3, 6, 9 – Outcomes 1, 2, 3).
3. Communicate in Spanish by speaking Spanish, understanding spoken Spanish, and writing in Spanish at the ACTLF Intermediate level, view and comprehend videos that inform them of or represent the perspectives, practices, and products of Spanish and Spanish American culture. (GE criteria 2, 5, 6, 7, 9 – Outcomes 1, 2, 3).
4. Identify and describe various aspects of Spanish and Spanish American culture, such as food, music, celebrations, social customs, landmarks, art, political and historical events. (GE criteria 2, 5, 8).
5. Identify and interpret, through extensive use of internet, satellite TV, videos and other electronic means, the connection of Spanish with other disciplines and as a means to acquire information. (GE criteria 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9).
6. Describe the nature of a language and culture by making comparisons of Spanish with the students’ native language and by making comparisons of Spanish-speaking cultures with students’ own. (GE criteria 1, 5, 9).
7. Participate in Spanish-speaking communities at home and around the world, through the use of electronic communication and attendance at planned college and local Hispanic cultural activities.
III. - USO DEL INGLÉS

In SPAN 201 I will speak Spanish 90-95% of the time. You may use English only when absolutely necessary, and only after asking for permission in Spanish. It is extremely important that you make an effort to express yourself using the vocabulary and constructions that you have been learning, for it is the only way you can develop oral proficiency in the language.

In group work, you will be expected to speak Spanish the entire time, as I consider this to be part of your in-class participation.

IV. - LIBRO DE TEXTO


HORARIO DE LOS CAPÍTULOS Y DE LOS EXÁMENES

17 de enero    Introducción al curso.
19, 21 de enero  Repaso pretérito e imperfecto.
24 de enero  Repaso de “Present perfect”.
26, 28, 31 de enero  Comienzo del capítulo 11.
2 de febrero  Capítulo 11.
4 de febrero  Laboratorio (Language Lab)
7 de febrero  Repaso. Actividades complementarias.
9 de febrero  Primer examen
11, 14, 16, 18, 21, 23 de febrero  Capítulo 12.
25 de febrero  Laboratorio (Language Lab)
28 de febrero  Repaso. Actividades complementarias.
2 de marzo  Segundo examen
4, 7, 9, 11 de marzo  Comienzo del capítulo 13.
14-18 de marzo  SPRING BREAK. NO HAY CLASE.
21 de marzo  Capítulo 13.
23 de marzo  Laboratorio (Language Lab)
25 de marzo  Repaso. Actividades complementarias.
28 de marzo  Tercer examen
30 de marzo  Comienzo del capítulo 14.
1, 4, 6, 8 de abril  Capítulo 14.
11 de abril  Laboratorio (Language Lab)
13 de abril  Repaso. Actividades complementarias.
15 de abril  Cuarto examen
18, 20, 22, 25 de abril  Comienzo del capítulo 15.
27 de abril  Laboratorio (Language Lab)
29 de abril  Repaso final.

EXAMEN FINAL: Lunes 2 de mayo (8 a.m.-10:30 a.m.)
V. - ASISTENCIA

The attendance policy for this course is the same as the college policy in the Longwood University Catalog and the Student Handbook. To clarify some of the points in the policy, please note:

- **ATTENDANCE**: There are 42 class meetings. If a student misses 10 classes, whether excused or unexcused, he/she will have missed 25% of the scheduled class meeting times, and will receive an ‘F’ in this course. If a student misses 4 classes for unexcused reasons, his/her final course grade will be lowered one letter grade. In addition, please note that if a student is not in class, he/she cannot participate in class activities, which will affect the “participation grade”. Please note what constitutes “excused absences” as defined in the college policy. I will require, in most cases, written documentation to excuse an absence.

- **EXAMS, QUIZZES, TESTS**: Please note the dates of all exams. We do not allow make-ups for exams or quizzes unless the circumstances are very serious, such as illness or accident, and in some cases we may require documentation. We cannot make exceptions for personal reasons such as travel, reunions, and social events. If you loose your exam or quiz you will have a zero (0) in that test. Besides that, an absence will be added to your records. In the event that we need to make changes or adjustments to this schedule, advance notice will be given.

- **ASSIGNMENT**: If you know you are going to be absent from a class, you must make arrangements to find out and turn in assignments as necessary. It is NOT the instructor’s responsibility to keep you informed as to class activities. If you miss a class, you are responsible for seeing that any assignment due that day is turned in by a classmate or friend, and you are responsible for getting the next day’s assignments. Make sure you have other students' phone numbers so that you can find out what the assignments are and have them ready when you come back to class. If you discover that you must miss a class, please do not call or e-mail me for assignments or for permission or to explain, unless you have extenuating circumstances and documentation to prove it. Never ask if you missed anything: if we had class, you missed a lot.

And, please, remember the golden rule: absolutely late homework will not be accepted.

VI. - EVALUACIÓN

| Actividades Culturales: ............... 5% |
| Participación/Preparación: .......... 10% |
| Pruebas: .................................. 10% |
| Situaciones/presentaciones: .......... 10% |
| Tarea/Otras Actividades: .............. 15% |
| Examen Oral: ............................ 10% |
| “Midterm exams”: ...................... 20% |
| Examen final: ........................... 20% |
ACTIVIDADES CULTURALES (5%)
You must attend at least three approved Cultural Activities during the semester. There is a list with the approved activities for this semester in the Modern Languages web page (http://www.longwood.edu/modernlanguages/index.html). The goal of this activity is to acquaint students with the differences and similarities between their culture and the many cultures whose official language is Spanish. **If you know of an activity that would be appropriate, please let the class know and we will add it to the list.**

TO RECEIVE CREDIT, you have to turn in a summary in Spanish of each Cultural Activity you attend (about 10 or 12 sentences) AT THE LAST WEEK OF CLASSES. Summaries submitted after that date will not be accepted.

PARTICIPACIÓN Y PREPARACIÓN (10%)
Proficiency is the primary goal of this class, and extensive practice is a necessity. Therefore, **class participation, on-time arrival, and a sincere effort not to use English are crucial.**

Evaluation of your participation will be based on observation of preparation and willingness to participate frequently and constructively during class.

Preparation for classes may be measured by pop quizzes, collecting and grading homework/Activities assignments, your involvement in a discussion, or your level of participation during a planned classroom activity.

PRUEBAS (10%)
There will be several quizzes throughout the semester, both announced and unannounced, that will deal with various issues being discussed in class. Quizzes could focus on grammar, vocabulary, or discourse situations.

Remember that **WE DO NOT ALLOW MAKE-UPS FOR EXAMS OR MINI-PRUEBAS UNLESS THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE VERY SERIOUS**, such as illness or accident, and in some cases we may require documentation. We cannot make exceptions for personal reasons such as travel, reunions, and social events.

SITUACIONES/PRESENTACIONES (10%)
You will be given a series of situations related to the vocabulary that we have seen. When assigned, you will be responsible, with a partner, to develop and present each situation to the class. You may not use notes, as we are trying to develop proficiency in speaking with these activities. Your presentation may be less than perfect which is ok. Try to create the situation so that you will remember what you wanted to say and be ready to present in class. Groups will be chosen at random, and the presentations will help your participation grade (provided you are ready). Do not come unprepared!

TAREA/OTRAS ACTIVIDADES (15%)
The main part of your homework will be QUIA exercises. It is a student responsibility to purchase a new QUIA book password before January 26. As you begin the course you will be asked to make several QUIA exercises in order to review some grammar concepts already learned in former Spanish courses. Lab Manual activities from QUIA could be assigned during “Laboratorio” sessions. Also, there will be various homework and activities, apart from QUIA, assigned throughout the semester as the class progress merits. You are expected to have all assignments prepared for the day they are assigned as NO late homework will be
accepted without prior arrangement or excused absence (See “V.-ASISTENCIA”). Notice that QUIA exercises will be posted with a specific date due as well.

**All non-QUIA assignments must be typed**

**EXAMEN ORAL (10%)**
During the last week of classes your speaking skills will be tested. You will be asked to perform a conversation following a topic given. The professor will evaluate your exam according five objects: use of the grammar structures, fluency, pronunciation, vocabulary and comprehension. There are some oral exercises scheduled along the course, so try to perform your best in order to improve your proficiency in speaking Spanish.

**MIDTERM EXAMS (20%)**
There are four midterm exams programmed during the semester. Every exam will cover all the grammar structures previously taught in the corresponding chapter.

**FINAL EXAM (20%)**
The final exam entails a comprehensive evaluation of linguistic and communication skills studied during the semester.

**VII. - ESCRITURA/COMPOSICIONES**

Microsoft Word in Spanish (with spell-check and thesaurus in Spanish) is available in the Language Lab. You can customize your own version of MS Word adding these proofing features as well. Ask Help Desk if you do not know how. Also, as a Longwood student you can purchase a copy of Microsoft Office 2000 for a really cheap price (6 dollars?).

Pay attention to the spell-checkers in Spanish cause they can’t recognize differences between certain words such as “mas / más”, “tu / tú”, “cántara / cantara / cantará”, etc. To choose the correct option will be your responsibility. Pick up a copy of the keyboard layout in each lab. Ask for help if you need it. It will help if you are already familiar with MS Word. About web translators you have to know that they are not permitted in our class. Be aware that if you use a translator to write a composition you have 90% of possibilities to have an ‘F’ in that composition. Also, **IF YOU USE A WEB TRANSLATOR DURING A TEST, QUIZ OR EXAM THE PROFESSOR WILL CONSIDER THAT YOU ARE CHEATING AND YOU WILL RECEIVE AN ‘F’ IMMEDIATELY.** Moreover, web translators are inaccurate and completely useless in an academic environment. The professor will enjoy reading and correcting the students’ compositions but will be annoyed reading and correcting nonsense web translations. **Avoid a waste of time –yours and mine– and a bad grade: do your compositions by yourself using your textbook and your dictionary.**

**VIII. - NOTAS**

90-100  A  Excellent (given only to students of superior achievement)
80-89  B  Good (given only to students who perform well above the average)
70-79  C  Fair (average range of achievement)
60-69  D  Poor (below average; not recommended to continue to the next level)
0-59   F  Failing (may not continue to the next level)

Please, do not ask the professor questions like that: “How can I get a god grade in your class?” or “What do I have to do to get an A?” Here you can find the answer in advance: steady work during the semester.
Do not ask for your grades neither, just go to your “Online grade book” in “Blackboard” and check them out. It is a student responsibility to have a record of his/her grades.

IX. - BIBLIOGRAFÍA

A good bilingual dictionary, not a pocket-sized paperback.

X. - ACTIVIDADES ADICIONALES

LANGUAGE LAB: Students will be asked to attend to the Foreign Language Lab (Grainger 307) at least once a week in order to practice what was learned in class and complete some exercises. This attendance and the assignments will be part of the student homework grade. The equipment in the lab includes computers, Spanish language dictionaries, CD-ROM’s, Spanish language TV programs, movies, etc. Please remember that the equipment in the lab should be used only for foreign language related work.
TUTORING: In addition, there are language tutors available in the Learning Center. A schedule will be provided.

XI. - CÓDIGO DE HONOR

Students are expected to live by the Longwood College Honor Code. All work done for this class must be pledged: “Yo, _________________. juro que no he dado ni he recibido ayuda en este trabajo ni he notado ninguna infracción del Código de Honor.” If you would like to abbreviate this, you may write: “Juramento”, and sign your name.

| I, Francisco Javier Fernández, reserve the right to alter this syllabus at any time in order to accommodate better the learning needs of the students. During any class period, I also reserve the right to dismiss any student whose behavior negatively affects the learning environment of the classroom. I will record cases of dismissal as an absence for the student. |

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