

**SPAN 201: Intermediate Spanish I (CRN 12580)**  
FALL SEMESTER 2015  
SUNY-Geneseo Department of Languages and Literatures  
TR 2:30 3:45 Welles 133

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*Office Hours:*  
Monday 11:00am 12:30pm and  
Wednesday 12:45 2:15pm  
and by appointment

**Final exam: Friday, December 18th, 8:00 11:00am in Welles 133**

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

A continuation of SPAN 102, this course will continue to introduce the structure and sound of the target language. Develops the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. **Prerequisites:** SPAN 102 or its equivalent.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

In addition to the learning outcomes of Spanish 101, students will be able to:

1. Construct sentences using the following **grammatical** structures:
  - direct and indirect object pronouns
  - verbs like *gustar*
  - the present perfect tense
  - the pluperfect tense
  - the preterite tense
  - imperfect tense
  - formal and informal commands
  - the present subjunctive tense in nominal, adjectival, and adverbial clauses
  - the progressive tenses
  - the relative pronouns *que* and *quien*
2. Appropriately use **verbs & prepositions**:
  - expressions of time with *hacer*
  - *por* and *para*
  - *ser* and *estar*
3. **Communicate** effectively about the following subjects:
  - physical traits and personality
  - emotional states
  - family
  - sports and pastimes
  - houses and neighborhoods
  - celebrations and other life events
  - kitchens, cooking, and food
  - travel
  - technology and information
  - shops and other city places
4. **Communicate** cultural facts and knowledge related to the Spanish speaking world with a focus on the following countries:
  - the United States
  - Mexico
  - Spain
  - Guatemala
  - Honduras
  - El Salvador
  - Nicaragua
  - Costa Rica
  - Panama
5. Demonstrate proficiency in Spanish at the **Intermediate Low level** according to the Guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

- [\*Anda. Custom edition for SUNY-Geneseo.\*](#) Heining-Boynton, Cowell, LeLoup, eds. ISBN: 978-1-269-56881-4.
- Access code for MySpanishLab web site (bundled with new textbook with above ISBN).

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

### DAILY CLASS EXPECTATIONS — PARTICIPATION AND PREPARATION (30%)

**Attendance:** This course meets twice a week. Remember: language learning is a cumulative process, and regular attendance is essential to your progress. After the first week of classes, you are allowed **two absences** on non-evaluation days during the semester with no penalty; each additional absence will reduce your final participation grade by 1 point.

**Preparation (5%):** You are responsible for **thorough** preparation of daily assignments (as indicated on the calendar) **before** class. This includes memorizing the class session's **vocabulary** and practicing the **grammar** points. Good preparation will enable you to respond to questions in class and to participate actively in communication tasks, two essential components of your participation grade. This class moves very quickly, and preparation facilitates active participation and the development of your language skills. Most importantly, you can have more fun in class if you are well-prepared!

**Participation (10%):** To participate successfully, you must come to class fully prepared and willing to speak. Active participation includes arriving to class on time, paying attention, participating in activities, asking questions when confused, and speaking mostly in Spanish. You will be given an overall participation grade once at the midterm and once at the end of the semester, but your participation will be evaluated on a daily basis. If you would like to know where your participation grade stands at any time, please consult with me!

**Homework (10%):** Homework assignments indicated on the MySpanishLab calendar or assigned in class are mandatory unless otherwise noted. Completing these assignments allow us to spend more time in class practicing skills learned outside of the classroom. I will monitor completion of homework activities continuously throughout the semester and do my best to address any difficulties either in class or during office hours.

**Cultural exposure (5%):** Part of your participation grade will consist of you attending at least **five cultural events** held by the Spanish Club or the Department of Languages and Literatures, and writing a paragraph summary and/or reflection (in Spanish!) about at least one of them. These events might consist of movies, *tertulias*, a presentation by a speaker, a play, or any other event. All department-sponsored events will be announced in class; please consult with me if you plan to attend another event that might fulfill this requirement. **Word of advice: do not leave this requirement for the end of the semester!**

### PROJECTS (30%)

You will complete three individual projects throughout the semester that are designed to help you put the grammar and vocabulary studied in class to practical use. Projects will be submitted in parts, and late work will **not** be accepted. Remember that these projects re-

place regular exams, and so should be completed diligently and carefully! Guidelines for these projects will be shared on Google Drive.

#### WRITTEN QUIZZES (15%)

Written quizzes will be given every so often based on the grammar and vocabulary studied in class. Since these quizzes will be similar to class and homework activities, you can prepare for the quizzes by completing your homework, attending class, participating in classroom activities, and attending my office hours when necessary.

This course's philosophy on quizzes will take a modified standards-based approach. Since the goal is for you to achieve **proficiency by the time the course ends**, you will be permitted to take any quiz on which you score lower than 80% a second time, so long as you can demonstrate at least 1 hour of dedicated practice on that topic.

“Dedicated practice” may include time spent at my office hours, the tutoring center, a private tutor, completion of extra activities (assigned or approved by me), etc. **Documentation of practice must be presented before retaking the quiz.**

#### ORAL EXAMS (15%)

There will be a midterm and a final oral exam that will consist of individual conversations with me. Topics will be based on the grammar and vocabulary studies up to those points in the semester. Guidelines for this exam will be shared on Google Drive.

#### ORAL PRESENTATION (10%)

In lieu of a final exam, you will participate in a group presentation during the final exam session. With your group, you will choose a city of interest in the Spanish-speaking world to present to the class. The presentations should be performed without notes and with the aid of an effective and complementary audiovisual presentation (e.g. PowerPoint). Guidelines for this presentation will be shared on Google Drive.

## CLASSROOM POLICIES

#### GRADED WORK

All work listed on the calendar should be fully prepared by class time on the day for which it is listed. Coming to class unprepared will inhibit your ability to participate in learning activities, result in confusion, and negatively affect your participation grade.

Homework assigned on MySpanishLab is due on the day indicated in MySpanishLab. **This daily homework does not appear on the syllabus.** Your conscientious completion of this work will help me assess what topics we need to spend more time on!

#### MAKE-UP WORK

Because attendance is required and thorough preparation essential, students are responsible for all course work. For this reason the calendar is detailed. If you have any doubts about what you might have missed, contact a classmate or your instructor. With the exception of written quizzes, work delayed because of an unexcused absence will be penalized 5% per day.

#### DICTIONARIES

**I am not a dictionary!** If you'd like to look words up during class, please bring a dictionary (or a smartphone with access to a dictionary).

#### CELL PHONES

*Please make certain that your cell phone won't ring or vibrate during class*, especially if you will be using a smartphone to access online dictionaries. Respect the energy and preparation of your classmates, and familiarize yourself with Do Not Disturb. Rings, vibrations, and texting, checking social media sites, etc. will not be tolerated in class. I reserve the right to revisit this policy if the need arises.

#### CONTACTING ME

The best way to communicate with me is by email. I will do my best to respond promptly, but please be patient after 5:00pm and on weekends and holidays. **However, if you have a question about an assignment, please speak to me after class or make an appointment to meet with me during my office hours.** I am often in my office outside of classtime, and would love to chat even outside of office hours (as long as my door is open).

### ACADEMIC HONESTY

We will observe the Academic Honesty Policy and its related process as stated in the most current *Undergraduate Bulletin* and in the *Student Handbook*.

The Department of Languages and Literatures takes cheating and plagiarism very seriously! Do not jeopardize your success in this course due to misunderstanding the nature of these offenses – if you have *any* questions about either, please come and talk to me.

### DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES MAKE-UP EXAMINATION POLICY

The Department of Languages and Literatures authorizes make-up examinations **only** for **documented** reasons involving personal medical or family emergencies or due to participation in College team sports or legitimate academic events (e.g., Model United Nations, scholarly conferences). If such documentation is provided, it is up to the instructor's discretion to grant a make-up exam or to excuse the student from taking the exam without penalty. If the instructor approves a make-up exam, its content may significantly differ in format from the scheduled exam. If the student's performance in the course up to the date of the missed exam makes it impossible to pass the course, even if taking a make-up and scoring 100%, no make-up or special arrangements will be offered. The Department considers make-up exams a **privilege**, not a right.

### ACCOMODATIONS

SUNY Geneseo will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented physical (including pregnancy), emotional or learning disabilities. Students must contact the Director in the Office of Disability Services (Dr. Tabitha Buggie-Hunt, 105D Erwin) and their faculty to discuss needed accommodations as early as possible in the semester.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY

All electronic devices should be silenced and out of sight during class unless otherwise indicated by the instructor. Exceptions will be made for students who bring proper documentation justifying their need to use such devices in class. Students who don't abide by this rule will be verbally reminded of it for a first incident and asked to leave the classroom in the event of a second incident.

## TITLE IX STATEMENT

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find a number of resources at [gene-seo.edu/affirmativeaction/students](http://gene-seo.edu/affirmativeaction/students). Reputable off-campus resources include [Know Your IX](#), [End Rape On Campus](#), [SurvJustice](#), the [Clery Center for Security On Campus](#), and [Not Alone](#).

## A FINAL NOTE

My goal is not only for you to succeed in this course, but to enjoy it enough that your interest in the language extends beyond the bounds of the classroom. Every group of students is different; **if you feel that any aspect of the course is not working for you, I encourage you to share your concerns with me, and even help think of possible solutions.**

Likewise, if you are having difficulty with the material, the workload, class discussions, or any other aspect of the course, please do let me know so we can ensure that you get the most out of the time you put in!

If you are struggling in this class or are concerned about your grade, you should meet with me during office hours immediately. Problems addressed early in the semester can often be solved by adjusting study/work habits!

## FINAL GRADE BREAKDOWN

	A	94 100	A	90 93	
B+	87 89	B	84 86	B	80 83
C+	77 79	C	74 76	C	70 73
		D	60 69		
		E	0 59		