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SPAN 202.01: Intermediate Spanish

Clary S. Loisel
University of Montana - Missoula, Clary.loisel@umontana.edu

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All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321

If you are a student with a disability and wish to discuss reasonable accommodations for this course, please contact me immediately via an office visit to discuss the specific course accommodations you wish to request. Please be advised that I request you to provide a letter from Disability Services for Students verifying your right to reasonable modifications. If you have not yet contacted Disability Services located in Lommasson Center 154, please do so in order to verify your disability and to coordinate your reasonable modifications. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at www.umt.edu/dss/.

If you would like to practice your Spanish in an informal setting, please be advised that members of the Spanish Table get together every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM at the James Bar. Please contact Kelly Noe for more information. kelly.noe@msou.umt.edu; 243-2976.

Course Description:
This is a four-credit hour intermediate course designed for students who have had the equivalent of three semesters of college Spanish. Intermediate Spanish courses aim at helping students to continue developing their listening, reading, speaking and writing skills, as well as their knowledge of grammar and culture. To succeed in this course, you have the responsibility of studying a new grammar point or learning new vocabulary on your own BEFORE coming to class. Class time will be used to answer questions and practice but not to reiterate what is explained in the book. Classes will be conducted entirely in Spanish, and students are expected to communicate in Spanish at all times.

Required Texts:
Bretz, Dvorak, Kirschner, and Bransdorfer, Pasajes: Lengua, 7th edition and Pasajes
Cuaderno de Práctica 7ª edition.

Short story: “El para siempre dura una noche de luna llena” by Rosamaria Roffiel. This story is on reserve at the Mansfield Library (both as a hard copy and electronically). To access this story electronically, go to the library’s homepage, look for the “Students” tab, click on it, scroll down until you find SPNS 202. Your password is SPNS202 (all caps, no space).

Handout on the movie “Fresa y chocolate.” This material is also available as a hard copy and electronically. You can access it exactly the same way as the short story.

**Outcomes:** By the end of this course, you should be familiar with all the vocabulary and grammar that corresponds to chapters 7-12 in Pasajes. Lexical topics include “El mundo de los negocios,” “Creencias e ideologías,” “Los hispanos en los Estados Unidos,” “La vida moderna,” “La ley y la libertad individual,” and “El trabajo y el ocio.” Grammatical topics include the past tense, the subjunctive, the future and conditional tenses, the sequence of all tenses, and the progressive. You will also see a Spanish language movie and learn the appropriate vocabulary to analyze it. In general, you will better your Spanish so that you can begin to take upper-division courses.

**Assessment:** The course is structured for students to regularly receive feedback so that they can achieve the stated outcomes. Progress toward the stated outcomes is assessed using the following criteria:

- **Attendance & class participation**
  - Workbook (each chapter is worth 2%)
  - Quizzes
  - 2 exams (each is worth 10%)
  - 2 compositions (each is worth 5%)
  - Movie critique
  - Oral presentation
  - Final exam

Worth 8% 12% 10% 20% 10% 10% 10% 20% (cumulative) 100%

* The criteria for final course grade is as follows:

  - 95 - 100 A
  - 90 - 94 A-
  - 77 - 79 C+
  - 74 - 76 C
Attendance: Consistent attendance is essential to acquire the skills needed to learn a new language. The material in this course is cumulative and requires constant practice. If you miss an important step along the way, your understanding of future concepts may be significantly impaired. Students are responsible for class work and assignments they miss. Please get the phone number from at least two of your classmates during the first week of classes. That way, if you have to miss class, you can find out exactly what happened that day. After talking to your friend and reviewing his/her notes, please come and see me if there is something that you still do not understand. Please do not call or e-mail me and ask what happened in class and/or what the homework is.

Class Participation and Preparation: A satisfactory participation and preparation grade assumes that you come to class each day prepared to be actively engaged in all class activities. You will have the responsibility of reading over a new grammar point or learning new vocabulary on your own before we go over it in class so that class time can be used to answer questions and practice but not to reiterate what is explained in the book.

Workbook: Due to time, only select exercises in the "Cuaderno de Práctica" may be reviewed during class time. However, doing these exercises is your responsibility. To receive credit for the exercises you do in your workbook, please bring the workbook to class on exam days. While you take the exam, I will look through the workbook to make sure you have done all the assignments. Should you need to bring your workbook at other times, I will make this announcement in class.

Quizzes: There will be (at least) 10 quizzes during the semester. Some quizzes will be announced; others will not. Always come to class prepared. There are no make-ups whatsoever for any of the quizzes regardless of the excuse. Whatever grade you make on the final exam will be substituted for the missing quiz grade(s).

Exams: There will be two cumulative exams. There are no make-ups whatsoever for any of the exams regardless of the excuse. Whatever grade you make on the final exam will be substituted for the missing exam grade(s).
**Compositions and rewrites:** There will be two compositions during the semester. They will both be written in class. After I have marked and assigned a grade for the composition, the student must then turn in a revised version of the composition to have the final grade recorded. The first version counts for 75% of the total grade for that composition; the revised second version counts for 25% of the total grade for that composition. For example, if the student earns an “87” on the initial turn-in and receives a “95” on the revised version, the final grade for that composition would be an “89”.

You may **NOT** receive help from anyone on your compositions. Your work **MUST** be completely your own. Once I have marked the “first version” of the composition, I will return it to you, and you will make the necessary corrections based on a “codigo” that I will give you. You are then required to type the second version of your composition. Please use Spanish Spellcheck/Thesaurus/Grammar to improve your composition. You will turn in the “second version” along with the “first version” due by the dates specified in this syllabus. I will then evaluate your “second version” and return the corrected second version to you along with the “first version.” If you do not turn in your compositions on time, your grade for that composition will be a zero. If you are absent on the day when a composition or a rewrite is due, you must provide a **verifiable, documented excuse**. Otherwise, your grade for that composition will be a zero.

**Grading criteria for the compositions:**

- Content: 25%
- Organization: 25%
- Vocabulary: 25%
- Grammar: 25%

**Movie Critique:** On November 15 and 17, we will see the Spanish-language movie “Fresa y chocolate” in class. (Yes, it has subtitles). You should watch the movie carefully and take copious notes. We will discuss the film in class immediately following the viewing of the movie. At home, you will then write (type) a one-and-a-half to two page composition (12 point type; Times New Roman font) analyzing the film. The grading criteria is the same as that of the compositions except that there will **NOT** be a rewrite. You **MUST** turn in the movie review on November 22. If you do not turn in your movie review at this time, your grade for this assignment will be a zero. **No exceptions.**

**Oral Presentation:** Beginning on November 29 and continuing through December 10, we will have individual oral presentations. I will determine the order of the presentations at least a week in advance. You will decide on a topic on which you would like to speak. The topic of your presentation must, however, pertain to some cultural aspect of the Hispanic world. Possible topics could include a famous painter, muralist, writer, or musician. You are only limited by your imagination. You **MUST**, however, check with me before you begin. Failure to notify me will result in a ten point deduction. I would like to encourage you to use the vocabulary and grammar that you are familiar with when
doing your presentation. Your talk must last from three to five minutes. (I will time you). You may not read anything nor may you use notes. Everything you say will be well-rehearsed. You will be graded on pronunciation and fluency (10%), grammar (10%), vocabulary (10%), organization (10%), interest developed/audience response (10%), audiovisual materials/handouts (10%), bibliography of at least two academic sources (10%), content (30%) as well as time management. (Wikipedia, by the way, is NOT an academic source). If you are absent the day of your individual presentation, you MUST provide a documented, verifiable excuse to be allowed to do a makeup individual presentation. Material presented in the individual presentations may appear on exams and/or quizzes. Please take notes during each presentation. Please try to enjoy yourself with this assignment as well. I will give you your grade after everyone has given his/her presentation.

**Notice:**
No late work will be accepted. You know all the assignments from the very first day of class. Please plan your activities in advance.

**There is no extra credit project.** Please do not ask.

**Parting words:** It is important to avoid the trap of doing poorly on an exam and just shrugging it off saying that you will do better on the next one. It is very difficult to improve on subsequent exams if you have not mastered the concepts/vocabulary tested on the previous ones. This is because studying a foreign language is like learning math or learning to play the piano, in that information and skills are cumulative. You cannot expect yourself to do algebra if you have not figured out how to add fractions yet. The process by which you excel in a foreign language or even play a sport well is by mastering the basics first. Grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing, speaking, listening, etc. in a language are inextricably related. In general, it is unlikely that you will do poorly in one area and do wonderfully in another. Therefore, if you receive a D or an F (see grading scale above) on a quiz, you are strongly encouraged to make an appointment with me so that we can go through the exam together and look for ways to improve your next test score. The semester will go more smoothly if you do not allow certain concepts and vocabulary to come back and haunt you.

Finally, studying a foreign language is both rewarding and frustrating. Expect to be confused and frustrated at times and to make errors. We will try to make the classroom a non-threatening environment in which to practice. Everyone feels inhibited about speaking in class at first, but with time and as you get to know your classmates, you will feel more comfortable practicing. The more you practice, the more proficient you will be.

You will find that you need different study skills in this class than those you might use in other classes. For example, it is better to study in frequent, short intervals rather than study one night for four hours straight. (You would become a better tennis player if you practiced a little bit every day than if you went to the courts once every six weeks for three or four hours). We will offer suggestions throughout the semester as to how you can better prepare for class and the exams. We am always happy to meet with you.
individually to discuss ways that you can improve your skills in a foreign language, manage your time, and memorize large quantities of new material. Most importantly, though, you should keep up with the class and spend two hours outside of class for every hour you spend in class each week. As soon as you realize that you do not understand something, you should get assistance immediately!

**Cell Phone Notice:** You do not have to turn off your cell phone completely. You are, however, **REQUIRED** to put it on mute or vibrate. If your phone “rings” in any manner, (i.e. a song, etc.), I will ask you to leave class immediately. You will receive a five-point deduction from your course grade (which is only known after you complete the final exam) for each incident. In other words, should you bring your cell phone to class and it goes off and your course grade at the end of the semester is 92, I will deduct five points leaving you with an 87. Should the incident happen again, I will deduct another five points, and so on. It’s a shame that I have to do this, but there have been so many cases of cell phones going off in my class, I have decided to try to put an end to it.

**Prontuario (tentative):**

Aug. 30: Introduction to the course. Review  
Sept.  1: Review  
Sept.  3: Chap. 7

Sept.  6: **Día Feriado: No hay clase**  
Sept.  8: Chap. 7  
Sept. 10: Chap. 7

Sept. 13: Chap. 7  
Sept. 15: **In class composition**  
Sept. 17: Chap. 8

Sept. 20: Chap. 8  
Sept. 22: Chap. 8  
Sept. 24: Chap. 8

Sept. 27: **Exam 1**  
Sept. 29: Chap. 9  
Oct.  1: Chap. 9

Oct.  4: Chap. 9  
Oct.  6: Chap. 9  
Oct.  8: **In class composition**

Oct. 11: Chap. 10  
Oct. 13: Chap. 10  
Oct. 15: Chap. 10
Oct. 18: Chap. 10
Oct. 20: Exam 2
Oct. 22: Chap. 11
Oct. 25: Chap. 11
Oct. 27: Read “El para siempre dura una noche de luna llena” by Rosamaria Roffiel.
Oct. 29: Rosamaria Roffiel’s visit. Discussion of her story.

Nov. 1: Chap. 11
Nov. 3: Chap. 11
Nov. 5: Chap. 12
Nov. 8: Chap. 12
Nov. 10: Chap. 12
Nov. 12: Chap. 12
Nov. 15: Movie: “Fresa y chocolate”
Nov. 17: Movie: “Fresa y chocolate”
Nov. 19: Movie/Discussion of Movie
Nov. 22: Movie Critique Due. Hard copy must be turned in by class time on this day.
Nov. 24: Día Feriado: No hay clase
Nov. 26: Día Feriado: No hay clase
Nov. 29: Oral Presentations
Dec. 1: Oral Presentations
Dec. 3: Oral Presentations
Dec. 6: Oral Presentations
Dec. 8: Oral Presentations
Dec. 10: Oral Presentations
Dec. 13: Conclusion; Review; Course Evaluation.

Final Exam: Thursday, December 16 from 1:10-3:10 in this classroom.
Grade Sheet: SPNS 202 (Fall 2010)

Student: ____________________________________________

Attendance and participation: ___________________________________ x .08 = ____

Workbook: Chap 7: _____ Chap. 8: _____ Chap. 9: _____
              Chap. 10: _____ Chap. 11: _____ Chap. 12: _____ x .12 = ____

Quizzes: ___________________________________________ x .10 = ____

Exams:
  First Exam: ______ x .10 = ____
  Second Exam: ______ x .10 = ____

Oral Presentation: ______ x .10 = ____

Compositions:
  First Composition
    First Version (75%): ______
    Second Version (25%): ______
    Final Grade: ______ x .05 = ____

  Second Composition:
    First Version (75%): ______
    Second Version (25%): ______
    Final Grade: ______ x .05 = ____

Movie Critique: ______ x .10 = ____

Final Exam: ______ x .20 = ____

Total: __________________________

Cell Phone Penalty: __________________________

Course Grade: __________________________