

**Spanish 230:
Advanced Grammar and Composition
Moravian College
Spring 2009**

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| Prof. Carmen Ferrero Comenius Hall 412 610-861-1394 mecfp01@moravian.edu | Office Hours: M, W 2:00-3:00 PM F 12:30-1:30 PM and by appointment |
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Required Textbooks:

Manual de gramática. 4th Edition. Authors: Eleanor Dozier and Zulma Iguina. Publisher: Thompson/Heinle.

Purpose: This course is designed to give students the opportunity to improve their understanding of Spanish grammar in context and to develop their writing skills in Spanish. Using the textbook, Manual de gramática the class will focus on major grammatical topics that tend to cause difficulties for non-native and heritage speakers. Students will also spend substantial amounts of time completing various types of writing exercises, to enable them to integrate the knowledge of grammar into their writing and speaking. In addition, students will read brief **fiction texts** (the professor will provide titles), and watch movies on **Blackboard** in order to contextualize the grammar.

Working collectively, students will learn how to be attentive readers of their own writing and that of their peers.

If you miss class for any reason, you should check with the professor or another student in the class so that you know what material to prepare and what homework to complete for the next class.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

Asistencia (Attendance):

- You need to come to class and be on time. The first 3 absences will not be penalized, but will affect your class participation. If you will miss class for a religious holiday, please let me know ahead of time so we can make arrangements for missed work.
- **More than three (3) absences**, for any reason, **will result in a lowering of the final participation grade by one point**. Exceptions may be granted only in extraordinary circumstances such as prolonged illness or family emergency; these situations may require additional documentation through Learning Services or the Dean and are not automatically guaranteed. The student would need to make arrangements to complete missed work.
- Arriving **late** (10 minutes or more) to class **more than three times** will equal one absence.
- Please turn off your cell phone before entering class.

Students may NOT check their cell phone messages while in class. Please, be very respectful of this requirement.

Remember: Requests to excuse absences at the end of the semester will not be considered. Students have the responsibility of keeping track of their own absences. No reminders will be given.

Participación activa en clase (In-class active participation): Students are expected to arrive prepared to participate in all class activities by having studied the topics to be covered and having completed all assigned homework. **Active participation** involves collaborating in paired and group activities, volunteering answers for the exercises, doing peer-review, having studied all the assigned material, and speaking in class discussions. Simply being present, looking attentive and taking notes is **not** considered active participation. Participation should be in Spanish unless we are specifically engaged in a translation exercise. Regarding the Manual de Gramática, I recommend that you study the assigned material, and then complete the homework with the book closed. After that, check your answers (the correct ones are given at the back of the book) and then go back over in the book whatever sections gave you trouble. **Bring all your questions and doubts to class to discuss.** Missing class lowers the participation grade.

Participation in class will be graded as follows:

A=95 Excellent participation (the student answers questions and offers interesting comments without the need of the professor or the debate leader calling on him/her. The comments and answers show that the student prepared, completed and understood the assignment.

B= 85 Good participation (the student answers questions and offers interesting comments whenever the professor or debate leader calls on him/her. Sometimes, the student participates without being asked. The comments and answers show that the student has prepared and understood the assignment.

C=75 Fair participation (the student answers questions and offers comments only when the professor or debate leader calls on him/her. The comments and answers show that the student has prepared or attempted to complete the assignment, but doesn't seem to understand it.

D=65 Poor participation (the student answers questions and offers very brief comments only when the professor or debate leader calls on him/her. The comments and answers show lack of interest and/or a poor preparation.

F=55 Lack of participation (the student does not answer questions and does not offer any comments in the class or group discussion. The lack of comments and answers as well as incorrect answers, show that the student has not completed the assignment or, if he/she has done it, it has been in a careless or incomplete way).

Attendance to a minimum of 3 activities of *el Club de español* during the semester is required as participation such as the Spanish Table.

Tests: There will be **8 short grammar tests** in-class. Make-up exams will be granted only in extraordinary circumstances; such arrangements may require additional documentation.

Composiciones (Compositions) based on the topics of the movies they can watch on Blackboard during the semester. There will be **three** compositions. Each composition (one complete page, typed, double spaced) can be **written twice**. Both, the first and the final copy will be graded (please, refer to the “programa de curso” for exact due dates).

-**Primera copia (First draft):** Students will write it and bring it to class on the days assigned, where other students will revise it and give suggestions for corrections or improvements. After making the changes suggested by his/her peers (whenever they are believed to be correct by the student), that 1st draft of the composition will be handed in at the end of the class. The professor will mark where errors exist without correcting them, and will give back the compositions with a grade.

- **Copia final (Final copy):** Students will then have a chance to correct those errors and prepare a final copy to hand in (together with the first draft) on the dates indicated on the “Programa de curso”.

Películas en Blackboard para los temas de la composición:

El Presente, temas actuales: Películas *El método, Te doy mis ojos.* Tema: La sociedad actual.

El Pasado: Películas *Marcelino Pan y vino, Valentina, Butterfly* Tema: El pasado y la niñez

El Futuro: Películas *Abre los ojos, Mar adentro* Tema: La sociedad futura

The professor will not accept emailed compositions unless arrangements have been previously made. Exceptions will be made only in extraordinary circumstances.

LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Final grade:

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| Active participation: Individual homework grammar exercises, peer reviews in class, three activities of <i>el club de español</i> | 15% |
| 8 short exams in class..... | 40% (5% each) |
| Three Compositions: First draft (after peer review) | 15% (5% each) |
| Three Compositions: Final draft (after professor’s feedback) | 30% (10% each) |

Academic Honesty:

It is your responsibility to make sure you are familiar with the Policy on Academic Honesty at Moravian College. Plagiarism (presenting someone else’s words or ideas as your own) and cheating are serious offenses and will not be tolerated. Homework is assumed to be done individually unless otherwise specified. For example, while you may study together, it is not acceptable to write “joint” homework and turn in two copies.

Note especially:

“When writing creative or research papers in a foreign language, students may not use electronic translation services. Utilizing such tools without express permission of the instructor constitutes plagiarism. The use of electronic dictionaries for single-word inquiries or short idiomatic

expressions is permissible at the discretion of professors in the Department of Foreign Languages.” (Moravian College Academic Honesty Policy, my emphasis)

Americans with Disabilities Act:

Any student with a disability who would like to request accommodations under the ADA must meet first with someone to evaluate the case and give recommendations to the professor. For learning disabilities and/or ADD/ADHD, see Mrs. Laurie Roth in the Office of Learning Services; for all other disabilities, see Dr. Ronald Kline in the Counseling Center.

**** The professor reserves the right to modify class topics and assignments**
Any changes will be announced by the professor**

PROGRAMA DE CURSO

L=lunes M=miércoles V=viernes

MG= Manual de Gramática

Enero

Semana 1

L 19 Introducción al curso

M 21 MG Chapter 1 Sentence comp, verb structure, sentence structure (2-12)

V 23 MG Chapter 1 Subject.verb agreement, accents (12-19)

Semana 2

L 26 MG Chapter 1 Stress (20-27).

M 28 **Test 1**

V 30 MG Chapter 2: Nouns and equivalents, noun determiners (30-44).

Febrero

Semana 3

L 2 MG Chapter 2: Adjectives (45-57).

M 4 **Test 2**

V 6 MG Chapter 3: Personal pronouns, (60-77).

Semana 4

L 9 MG Chapter 3: Se, Demonstrative and possessive pronouns, Interrogatives, (77-89)

M 11 **Composición 1 (1ª copia):** Traer por escrito para trabajar en parejas

V 13 MG Chapter 3: Possessive Pronouns, Exclamatives etc. (90- 98)

Semana 5

L 16 MG Chapter 3: Indefinites and Negatives (99-109)

M 18 **Composición 1** Entregar copia final. Repaso de gramática.

V 20 **Test 3**

Semana 6

L 23 MG Chapter 4 Prepositions (112-125)

M 25 MG Chapter 4 Para y Por y repaso (126-133)

V 27 **Test 4**

Spring Break

Semana 7

Marzo

L 9 **Composición 2 (1ª copia):** Traer por escrito para trabajar en parejas

M 11 MG Chapter 4: Adverbs (134-149)

V 13 MG Chapter 4: Conjunctions (150-157)

Semana 8

L 16 *Test 5*

M 18 **Composición 2** Entregar copia final. Repaso de gramática.

V 20 MG Chapter 5: Verbs, Indicative (160-172)

Semana 9

L 23 MG Chapter 5: Infinitive verbs (184-186) Repaso del capítulo

M 25 *Test 6*

V 27 MG Chapter 6: Present Indicative etc, (188-199)

Semana 10

L 30 MG Chapter 6: Compound Tenses (200-207)

Abril

M 1 MG Chapter 6: Ways of Expression the Future (208-223)

V 3 MG Chapter 6: Adverbial Clauses (224-246)

Semana 11

L 6 Chapter 6: Verbs like Gustar (247-266)

M 8 *Test 7*

Semana 12

M 15 Chapter 7: MG Ser y Estar (268-280)

V 17 **Composición 3 (1ª copia):** Traer por escrito para trabajar en parejas

Semana 13

L 20 Chapter 7: MG Estar-Haber (281-286)

M 22 Chapter 7: MG (288-295)

V 24 *Test 8*

Semana 14

L 27 Chapter 7: MG (296-302)

M 29 **Composición 3** Entregar copia final. Chapter 7: MG (303-314)

Mayo

V 1 Repaso de gramática y evaluación del curso.