

Spanish 150: Conversation and Contemporary Life

MWF 11:45am-12:35 pm

Comenius Hall, 304

Department of Foreign Languages

Moravian College

Fall 2010

Professor Claudia Mesa

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Office Hours: M 2:20-3:20; WF 10:10-11:10 or by appointment

Course Description

Spanish 150 is an intensive conversation course designed to develop an intermediate level of oral proficiency through the implementation of communication-based activities. This course emphasizes the use of both active vocabulary and language skills while promoting critical thinking and cultural awareness. The discussion will unfold around current issues, films, essays, short stories, letters, and interviews. In this course you will not only develop your oral skills but also refine your ability to better understand, read and write in Spanish.

At the end of the semester you should be able to:

- Describe and narrate in major time frames (present, past, future, subjunctive and conditional)
- Participate actively in conversations on concrete topics in both formal and informal settings
- Sustain communication by using connected discourse of paragraph length
- Be able to read, understand and discuss news articles, essays, films, and short stories in Spanish
- Give a formal oral presentation in Spanish without the use of notes
- Acquire a better cultural understanding of the Spanish-speaking world
- Participate in class debates, raise questions and defend your position on specific issues

It is expected that you speak in Spanish as frequently as possible and you are welcome to talk to me at anytime. I recommend that you spend at least 2 hours per week outside class in conversation on issues associated with class materials. Find a classmate to meet regularly or any native speaker willing to work with you. You can also practice your Spanish attending the events organized by the Spanish Club such as the Spanish Table, selected movie screenings and cultural trips.

Required Materials

Blanco, José A. *Revista. Conversación sin barreras*. 3rd. Ed. Boston: Vista Higher Learning, 2010.
A tape recorder (you can borrow one from the Media Lab)

Other materials will be posted on *Blackboard* <http://blackboard.moravian.edu/>. Please set up and account and enroll in this course after the first day of class. Look for SPAN150.FA10: Conversation and Contemporary Life

Learning Assistance and Accommodations for a Disability

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (ext. 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from Learning Services.

Evaluation guidelines

1. Class participation and attendance. I will assign class participation points according to the level of preparation, accuracy of the language, vocabulary, content and preparation of each student. Because this is a conversation class, it is important that you pay special attention to both *what* you said and *how* do you say it. As a rule for this class no English will be accepted. Using English in class will count towards negative participation in your final grade. Please turn off your cell phone before entering class. A complete document regarding participation grade is posted on Blackboard.

Students will be allowed to miss up to two (2) classes without losing points off their final grade. Every absence beyond two will result in a deduction of one point off the final grade. Starting with Spanish 150 students are required to assist at least three times during the semester to events organized by the Spanish Club such as the Spanish Table, featured films, talks, museum visits and other cultural activities. These activities are part of your participation grade.

2. Homework. You are required to do homework every day as a way to prepare for class. According to the quality and consistency of your homework you will receive one of the following grades: *High Pass* (A 90-100), *Pass* (B 80-89), *Low Pass* (C 70-60) or *No Pass* (F 59-0).

3. Oral presentation on a cultural topic. Please consult the class schedule for a list of suggested topics. Specific guidelines are posted on Blackboard.

4. Grammar presentation. Imagine you are the instructor and you need to explain a grammatical structure using an appropriate context. Please include practice exercises for the whole class.

5. Vocabulary quizzes and personal dictionary. As a way to prepare for the vocabulary quizzes, you should start a personal dictionary. For each entry include the definition and a sample sentence. After each chapter you will have a short vocabulary quiz. I will collect your personal dictionaries at the end of the semester.

6. Oral exams. There will be two oral exams. The first one will consist on a recorded presentation on specific topics. A guide will be provided in advance. The final exam will be an

Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) in which the student must demonstrate progress in his/her language skills from the beginning of the semester.

7. Compositions. You will write two compositions during the semester. All compositions will be revised at least once. Specific guidelines will be provided in advance. The compositions are graded according to both linguistic accuracy and content.

8. Interview and written report with a Spanish-speaking person. You will have the opportunity to interview a Spanish-speaking person about his/her life as an immigrant in the US. This project includes preparation of the questionnaire, actual interview, written summary of your findings and oral report to the whole class.

9. Noticiero. Every week, students will be selected at random to present a newspaper article. Depending on the size of the class, you might be required to present more than once during the semester. Please note that the article must be in Spanish and cannot be more than two weeks old. I recommend the following on-line newspapers:

CLARÍN (Argentina)	http://www.clarin.com/
EL MERCURIO (Chile)	http://diario.elmercurio.com/
EL TIEMPO (Colombia)	http://www.eltiempo.com/
EL PAÍS (España)	http://www.elpais.com/

For a comprehensive list of Spanish news go to:

<http://www.spanishnewyork.com/spanish-newspapers-in-spanish.html>

Academic integrity

Academic dishonesty and plagiarism are serious offenses and will not be tolerated. They will be handled according to the Moravian policy on Academic Honesty. For detailed information please see the *Student Handbook*: <http://www.moravian.edu/studentlife/handbook/academic2.htm>

Final Grade Calculation

Participation	10%	Compositions (2)	10%
Oral presentation	10%	Noticiero	5%
Grammar presentation	5%	Taped oral exam	15%
Homework	5%	Final oral exam (OPI)	15%
Vocabulary Quizzes and Dictionary	10%	Interview with a Spanish-speaking person	15%

Letter Grades

A	94-100	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66
A-	90-93	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62
B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	F	0-59

SPANISH 150 PROGRAMA DEL CURSO

This program is subject to change
Last revised August 30, 2010

Semana 1	Temas de clase	Tareas y otras asignaturas
Agosto 30	Introducción al curso Preparación para el cortometraje <i>Viaje a Marte</i>	-Comprar el libro -Inscribirse en Blackboard -Elegir fechas y temas para la presentaciones
Sept. 1	Lección 1: <i>Realidad o fantasía</i> (2-7) Cortometraje 1: <i>Viaje a Marte</i>	-Leer pp. 6-7 -Hacer pp. 4 ej. 1 pp. 5 ej. 2 y 4
Sept. 3	Análisis del cortometraje <i>Viaje a Marte</i> (8-9)	-Ver el corto de nuevo -Hacer pp. 8 ej. 1 y 2
Semana 2		
Sept. 6	Labor Day (No hay clases)	
Sept. 8	Estructuras: <u>Presentación de "Ser" y "Estar"</u> (10-11)	-Leer pp. 10-11 -Hacer pp. 11 ej. 1 *Traer una foto de ustedes, de su familia o amigos. Describela según los usos de "ser y estar" (Debes escribir por lo menos 250 palabras.)
Sept. 10	Artículo: "La clonación: Porvenir prometedor" (16-18) <u>Presentación oral</u>	-Leer pp. 16-18 -Hacer pp. 16 ej. 1 y 3 pp. 19 ej. 1
Semana 3		
Sept. 13	Cuento: Luis R. Santos, "El otro círculo" (21-25) <u>Presentación oral</u>	-Leer pp. 21-25 -Hacer pp. 21 ej. 1, 3 y pp. 26 ej. 1 y 2
Sept. 15	Tira cómica: Joaquín Salvador Lavado "Quino" (28-29).	-Leer pp. 28-29 -Hacer Análisis: pp. 28 ej. 1 Voc. Quiz 1 (pp. 4, 16, 21, 28)

Sept. 17 Tertulia: La ciencia ficción hecha realidad (31) ***Composición 1**
Un relato fantástico (ver BB)

Semana 4

Sept. 20	Lección 2: <i>Una cuestión de personalidad</i> Cortometraje 2: <i>Diez Minutos</i> (34-37)	-Leer pp. 36-37 -Hacer pp. 34 ej. 1 y 4
Sept. 22	Análisis del cortometraje (38-39)	-Ver el corto de nuevo -Hacer pp. 38 ej. 1 y 4.
Sept. 24	Estructuras: <u>Presentación de "Pretérito e imperfecto"</u> (40-41)	-Leer pp. 40-41 -Hacer pp. 41 ej. 1 *Usando el pretérito y el imperfecto escribe la experiencia más importante de tu infancia o adolescencia.

Semana 5

Sept. 27	Artículo: "Las cuatro fórmulas científicas de la felicidad" (42-44) Artículo: Diana Washington, "Ciudad Juárez: así empezó todo" http://www.mujeresdejuarez.org/ (Haz click en "información en linea, al final de la página)	-Hacer pp. 42 ej. 1 y 3 -Leer pp. 43-44 -Hacer pp. 45 ej. 1
	Marjorie Agostín, <i>Secretos en la arena</i> (selecciones de poemas)	
Sept. 28	*Amnesty International Event and Discussion: Violence against Women in Juárez Prosser Auditorium 7:00pm	
Sept. 29	Cuento: Alberto Chimal, "El juego más antiguo" (47-49) <u>Presentación oral</u>	Hacer pp. 47 ej. 1 y 2 Leer pp. 48-49 Hacer pp. 50 ej. 1
Oct. 1	Obra de teatro: Marco Denevi, "No hay que complicar la felicidad" (49-53) <u>Presentación oral</u>	-Hacer pp. 51 ej. 1 y 2 -Leer pp. 52-53 -Hacer pp. 54 ej. 1 y 3.

Semana 6

Oct. 4	Lección 3: Prohibido pensar (60-61) Cortometraje 3: "Nada que perder" (62-65)	-Hacer pp. 62 ej. 1 -Leer pp. 64-65 Voc. quiz 2 (pp. 28, 34, 42, 47, 51)
Oct. 6	Análisis del cortometraje "Nada que perder" (66-67)	-Ver de nuevo el corto -Hacer pp. 66 ej. 1 p. 67 ej. 6
Oct. 8	Estructuras: <u>Presentación de "Las preposiciones"</u> (68-69)	-Leer pp. 68-69 -Hacer pp. 69 ej. 1 y 2 *Composición 2: Personal Statement for Study Abroad program

Semana 7

Oct. 11	No hay clases (Receso de Otoño)	
Oct. 13	Opinión: Cristina López, "Pocholo es virtual" (75-77)	*Taped oral exam due -Hacer pp. 75 ej. 1, 2 -Leer 76-77 -Hacer pp. 78 ej. 1
Oct. 15	Cuento: Elena Poniatowska, "Cine Prado" (80-83) <u>Presentación oral</u>	-Hacer pp. 80 ej. 1 -Leer 81-83 Hacer pp. 84 ej. 1

Semana 8

Oct. 18	Tira cómica: Forges, "La lectura, la inteligencia y el pensamiento..." (86-87) Formulación de preguntas para la entrevista	-Leer pp. 86-87 -Hacer pp. 86 ej. 1 (Preparación) *Traer preparadas las preguntas iniciales para la entrevista
Oct. 20	Lección 4: Poder, quiero más poder (90-91) Cortometraje 4: <i>El ojo en la nuca</i> (92-95)	-Voc. quiz 3 (pp. 62, 75, 80, 86) -Hacer pp. 92 ej. 1 pp. 93 ej. 3 -Leer pp. 94-95
Oct. 22	Análisis del cortometraje <i>El ojo en la nuca</i> (96-97)	-Ver de nuevo el corto -Hacer pp. 96 ej. 1 y 2

Semana 9

Oct. 25	Estructuras: <u>Presentación "El subjuntivo I"</u> (98-99)	-Leer 98-99 -Hacer pp. 99 ej. 1
Oct. 27	Opinión: Manuel Vicent, "La tortilla" (100-01)	-Hacer pp. 100 ej. 1 -Leer pp. 101 -Hacer pp. 102 ej. 1 y 2
Oct. 29	Carta: Juan Gelman, "Carta abierta a mi nieto" (104-106) <u>Presentación oral</u>	-Hacer pp. 104 ej. 1 -Leer pp. 105-106 -Hacer pp. 107 ej. 1 y 2

Semana 10

Nov. 1	Poema: Octavio Paz, "Entre la piedra y la flor" (109-112) <u>Presentación oral</u>	-Hacer pp. 109 ej 1 -Leer pp. 110-111
Nov. 3	Lección 5: Por amor al arte (118-119) Corto 6: "Dime lo que sientes" (120-123)	-Hacer pp. 112 ej. 1 y 2 -Hacer pp. 120 ej. 1 y 3 -Leer pp. 122-123
Nov. 5	Análisis del cortometraje (124-125)	-Ver de nuevo el corto -Hacer pp. 124 ej. 1 y 2

Semana 11

Nov. 8	Estructuras: <u>Presentación de "El subjuntivo II"</u> (126-27)	-Leer pp. 126-127 -Hacer p. 127 ej. 1
Nov. 10	Artículo: "Lo que dure el amor" (132-134)	-Hacer pp. 132 ej. 1 y 2 -Leer pp. 133-34 -Hacer pp. 135 ej. 1
Nov. 12	Cuento: Augusto Monterroso, "El mono que quiso ser escritor satírico" (137-139) <u>Presentación oral</u>	-Hacer pp. 137 ej. 1 y 2 -Leer pp. 138-39 Hacer p. 140 ej. 1 y 2

Semana 12

Nov. 15	Tiras cómicas en español: Maitena Burundarena: "Teléfono una enfermedad celular"	Voc. Quiz 4 (92, 100, 104, 109, 120, 132, 137) *Traer a clase una tira cómica o una canción en español que te guste. Leer 170-171
Nov. 17	Lección 6: Modos de vivir (146-147) Cortometraje 6: <i>My Backyard Was a Mountain</i> (148-151)	-Hacer pp. 148 ej. 1, 2 y 3 -Leer pp. 150-151 *Reporte escrito de la entrevista: Así llegué yo a este país
Nov. 19	Análisis del cortometraje (152-153) Presentación oral: <i>My Backyard Was a Mountain</i> (148-151)	-Ver de nuevo el corto -Hacer pp. 152 ej. 1

Semana 13

Nov. 22	Estructuras: <u>Presentación:</u> <u>Oraciones condicionales con si</u> (154-155)	-Leer pp. 154-155 -Hacer pp. 155 ej. 1
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Nov. 24-26 **Thanksgiving Break**

Semana 14

Nov. 29	Presentaciones de las entrevistas	
Dic. 1	Presentaciones de las entrevistas	Entrega del diccionario Personal (incluir 148, 170)
Dic. 3	<i>Machuca</i> Dir. Andrés Wood	Ver la película en BB Completar cuestionario

Semana 15

Dic. 6	Examen Final: OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview)	Meet in Comenius 406 (my office)
Dic. 8	Examen Final: OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview)	Meet in Comenius 406 (my office)