General Purpose of the Course: SPA 242 is specifically designed for Spanish heritage speakers. It will expand on the proficiency in the Spanish language and the knowledge of the Hispanic culture already acquired by students. The class will focus on reading, written proficiency and grammar. We will review the grammar structures studied in SPA 131, 132 and 231 and also explore different cultural aspects with special emphasis on Hispanic Literature and Composition.

Class materials: We don’t have a specific book for this class. Students will find all the information needed for the class in D2L and other webpages. The film required for the class will be available at the Language Resource Center.

Pre-requisite: C in SPA 231 or equivalent

Course Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compositions</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation and Homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scale

- 90-100 pts.        A
- 80-89 pts.         B
- 70-79 pts.         C
- 60-69 pts.         D
- Below 60 pts.      E
**Students with Disabilities**

Students with documented disabilities that need course adaptations or accommodations please make an appointment with me as soon as possible. In order to receive special accommodations, a student must present adequate documentation at the beginning of the semester.

**Class Conduct**

There is a University policy that forbids any eating and drinking in the classroom. These activities interfere with the normal functioning of the class, and therefore we should avoid them. Also, any unnecessary class disruption (such as speaking English or distracting other students from following class activities) may result in the total or partial loss of points in the class participation grade. **Cell phones and texting are not permitted in the classroom.** Electronic devices must be turned off and put away before class begins. Ringing phones and text messaging are considered rude and disrespectful. Using cell phones in class will result in 0 (zero) points in your final participation grade.

**Course Requirements**

1-**QUIZZES AND HOMEWORK:** I will assign the homework for the class based on our work in the short stories we will read, and the students will receive a grade for it. Late homework won’t be graded, since all assignments will be covered in class immediately after being turned in by the students. If a student is going to miss a class, he or she should turn in the homework due on that day in advance. We will have weekly quizzes based on the short stories we read. Quizzes are designed to check if the students have understood the stories (not merely the vocabulary or the names of the characters) and if they have some interesting opinions about what they saw. There will be also grammar quizzes.

2-**ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:** Using Spanish to interact with your professor and the other students in the class is an important aspect of learning the language and cannot be measured in written exams. Therefore a portion of the final grade will depend on class participation. Students are required to attend all classes. Talk to your professor about any attendance problem.

This class is taught in Spanish, and the students need to speak Spanish during the class period. Speaking English during class or disrupting the class in any way will result in the loss of **all** the points in the quiz taken the week the misbehaving took place. If you disrupt the class more than once a week you will have a 0 in the quiz taken the week before. You will also lose points in your class participation final grade.

Having a good participation grade in this class is not easy. Keep in mind that just coming to class and not speaking Spanish means a 0 (zero) in class participation. Average participation is no more than 50 points worth. These are my specific criteria to assess a class participation grade:
-85 to 100 participation points: the student comes to class well prepared, shows initiative in every class and has answers to the questions asked by me or other students. He or she has interesting suggestions and observations that improve the class, is willing to be a part of any activity during the class period and helps other students.

-60 to 85 participation points: the student comes prepared to class, shows initiative and participates frequently. He or she pays attention to the explanations.

-50 to 60 participation points: the student is not well prepared for class and only participates if called by name.

-20 to 60 points: the student doesn't prepare for the class. He or she asks questions to other students instead of asking me when in doubt about my explanations. He or she answers rarely to my questions and doesn't pay enough attention to my explanations.

-0 to 20 points: the student doesn’t participate. He or she speaks English in class or diverts the attention of the other students.

Requesting the professor’s help via email or during office hours is a form of class participation. Remember though, that, in order to pass the class you not only need to participate, but to master the information given in the class.

3-EXAMS: There will be a Midterm Exam and a Final Exam, with exercises about the short stories we read, grammar and a composition. The dates for the written exams are specified in the syllabus.

4-ORAL PRESENTATION: One of the requirements of the class is giving an oral presentation about a cultural aspect of a Spanish speaking country. Every presentation will be at least fifteen minutes long. Props, videos, games and other materials are highly recommended. The presentation grade will be based not only on the correct use of Spanish, but on its originality and content. The last day to decide the topic of the Oral Presentation is October, 15

5-SHORT STORIES AND FILM: We will base our class activities in six short stories by Julio Cortázar (1914-1984) an Argentinian writer with links to the Surrealist movement. We will also watch an Spanish film called Intacto. The short stories and the film are original and strange, with huge amounts of unusual vocabulary and a surprising ending. We will have short true/false quizzes before working on every story in class to make sure that everybody has read the texts and watched the movie. We will also have class discussions and grammar exercises based on the stories. You will be able to find all the short stories on the web:

Story 1: Continuidad de los parques http://www.loscuentos.net/cuentos/other/1/2/4/
Story 2: Casa tomada http://www.loscuentos.net/cuentos/other/1/1/1/
Story 3: Lejana http://www.loscuentos.net/cuentos/other/1/1/115/
Story 4: Las babas del diablo http://www.literatura.us/cortazar/babas.html
Story 6: Las ménades http://www.loscuentos.net/cuentos/other/1/2/110/

**6-COMPOSITIONS:** I will assign a topic for a composition after studying every story. I will also assign a composition topic related to the film *Intacto*. Every topic will be somehow related to the story or the film we just worked on. Every student will have to turn in THREE compositions along the semester on the topics assigned. Every composition will be at least three pages long (Font 12, double space). Students need to turn in a first draft that I will return with comments before the final version of the composition, which will be graded. The first draft is due one week after we finish reading the story the composition is based on. The second draft is due two weeks after finishing the story. In order to receive a decent grade, compositions need not only to be written in correct Spanish, but also have to be original and interesting. If a student doesn’t turn in three compositions he will fail the class with an F. Late compositions won’t be accepted under any circumstances.

Be warned that you may find strong language, nudity and explicit sexual situations in the films we will watch in class. Although these images don't have a pornographic intent, they may offend some of you. If you have any moral restraints about this issue, talk to me about it as soon as possible. We can find a solution to this problem by giving you some alternative class work, or, if you agree to do so, by changing you to a different section of the same course. If, in spite of any moral concerns about this issue, you decide to stay in the class, you do it under your sole responsibility.

**7-MISSED EXAMS:** In general, students won't be allowed to making up exams. If, however, for reasons beyond your control, you know that you will not be able to take an exam, talk to your professor to arrange an alternate day or time *before* the day of the test. A student who misses an exam without previously arranging for an alternate day or time must present appropriate documentation of a personal tragedy or medical emergency in order to avoid a 0 in the exam.

**8-FINAL EXAM POLICY:**

We will have the following policy regarding the final exam:

a) If a student has a grade average of 93 before the final exam, he or she doesn’t need to take the final to get an A in the class.

b) If:
   -A student turns in all the homework on time
   -He or she gets full credit in class participation
   -The average grade in the Midterm Exam, the Oral Presentation and the Oral Exam is higher than an 85

The final grade of that student will be no lower than his or her final exam grade. This policy is designed to help the students who really improve during the course. They may have low grades during the first weeks and still make a good (or even excellent) final grade.

c) If a student doesn’t get a grade of C or higher in the final exam he will fail the class with an F.
Tentative Course Schedule Fall 2017

M W Fall 2017

M  8-28 Course presentation.

W  8-30 Story 1: *Continuidad de los parques* due. Grammar.

M  9-4   Exercises on *Continuidad de los parques*

W  9-6 Quizz on *Continuidad de los parques*. Literary Analysis of *Continuidad de los parques*


W  9-13 Quizz on *Casa tomada*. Exercises on *Casa tomada*. (First draft of the composition based on story 1 due)


W  9-20 Quizz on *Lejana* Exercises on *Lejana* (Final version of the composition based on story 1 due) (First draft of the composition based on story 2 due)


W  9-27 quizz on *Las babas del diablo* Exercises on *Las babas del diablo* (Final version of the composition based on story 2 due) (First draft of the composition based on story 3 due)

M  10-2 Literary Analysis of *Las babas del diablo*

W  10-4 Story 5: *Final del juego* due (Final version the composition based on story 3 due) (First draft of the composition based on story 4 due)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>10-9</td>
<td>Quizz on <em>Final del Juego</em>. Exercises on <em>Final del Juego</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>10-11</td>
<td>Grammar (Final version the composition based on story 4 due) (First draft of the composition based on story 5 due)</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>10-16</td>
<td>Review for the Midterm Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>10-18</td>
<td>Midterm Exam (Final version the composition based on story 5 due)</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>10-25</td>
<td>Quizz on <em>Las Ménades</em> Exercises on <em>Las Ménades</em>.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>10-30</td>
<td>Film: <em>Intacto</em> (1st part) due. Grammar. (First draft of the composition based on story 6 due)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>11-1</td>
<td>Film: <em>Intacto</em> (2nd part). Exercises on <em>Intacto</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>11-6</td>
<td>Film: <em>Intacto</em> (2nd part). Exercises on <em>Intacto</em>. Grammar</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>11-8</td>
<td>Quizz on <em>Intacto</em> (3rd part). Exercises on <em>Intacto</em>. (Final version of the composition based on story 6 due).</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>11-13</td>
<td>Film <em>Intacto</em> (4th part). Exercises on <em>Intacto</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>Oral Presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
M Thanksgiving Holidays

W Thanksgiving Holidays

M 11-27 Oral Presentations.

W 11-29 Oral presentations.

M 12-4 Review for the Final Exam.

Th 12-6 Review for the Final Exam.

T 12-12 Final Exam 1-3 pm (Final version of the composition based on Story 7 due).

Program Learning Outcomes: This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes:

1. To understand and demonstrate writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and presentation.
2. To understand the importance of specifying audience and purpose and to select appropriate communication choices.
3. To understand and appropriately apply modes of expression, i.e. descriptive, expositive, narrative, scientific, and self-expressive, in written, visual, and oral communication.
4. To participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding.
5. To understand and apply basic principles of critical thinking, problem solving, and technical proficiency in the development of exposition and argument.
6. To understand and demonstrate writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and presentation.

Student learning outcomes:

- Students will be exposed to and actively engage in discussions regarding songs, comics, videos, news,
Internet materials, and readings from text that relate to the **culture** of places where Spanish is spoken.

- **Students will use **vocabulary** dealing with the following themes in their writing and speaking: numbers, the calendar, time, interrogative words, weather, seasons, personality, the city, location, colors, clothing, family, physical traits, food.**
- **Students will be able to correctly utilize the following **grammatical** structures: articles, gender, number, present tense, future (verb + infinitive), adjective placement and agreement, *ser* and *estar*, direct object pronouns, indirect object pronouns, the verb *gustar*.**
- **Students will be able to **communicate**, in oral and written form, about what one normally does, where one lives, what one likes to do, and one’s family.**
- **Students will **investigate** very simple topics on the Internet in Spanish and record their findings.**

**Academic Honesty:** Academic dishonesty, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. All students in this class are expected to comply with university policies regarding academic honesty. Any student caught cheating will receive a grade of zero on the assignment and will be reported to the dean of his or her major school. All homework should be your own. Students are not allowed to use translation programs, native speakers, LRC workers or other students to assist them with assignments. Doing so constitutes academic dishonesty and will be dealt with according to university policy.

In accordance with University policy, students with disabilities who need accommodations are expected to initiate a meeting with the professor immediately upon registering with Disability Services to discuss how accommodations included on the Special Accommodations Request form will be provided. Students with disabilities who may have special needs and have not requested support services should seek assistance through Disability Services.