Instructor:  Kim Wells  
Office:  LAN 232  
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Office Hours:  MWF from 10:00-10:50 & 12:30-12:50 or by appointment when possible.  
TR 10:50-11:30 or by appointment when possible  


Description:  This course is designed to provide students of Spanish with essential skills and tools for reading and writing at an academic level in Spanish. It is designed to help students understand the nature of writing; to see it as a process rather that a product, to realize that while the purpose of writing is to communicate, it is still a solitary undertaking where the writer must anticipate the needs of his reader, and finally, to provide the students with resources for making this happen. The focus will be on the control of grammar, techniques to expand means of style and expression, vocabulary expansion, and techniques for organization. Students will be provided with strategies for working through writing problems, for reading critically, for revising, and for rewriting. Selections from authentic texts and movies or movie excerpts and reviews will be used to offer models of different types of writing and analysis and to generate class discussion and analysis based on current cultural information.

Prerequisite:  A grade of C or higher in Spanish 232 or 242 or equivalent.

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, expository, 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 engage in a variety of reading (fiction and nonfiction) to develop writing skills.

Program Learning Outcomes:  
1. Students will demonstrate the ability to engage in effective oral communication with native speakers of the target language.  
2. Students will analyze and summarize authentic texts in the target language.  
3. Students will write effective, original compositions demonstrating the ability to analyze,
persuade and/or defend an opinion in the target language.
4. Students will apply critical thinking skills in comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.
5. Students will, if seeking teacher certification, demonstrate mastery of professional skills necessary to teach the target language.
6. Students will demonstrate mastery of linguistic and cultural skills necessary to pursue graduate study and/or careers.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance is mandatory. Using Spanish to interact with your instructor and other students in the class is an important aspect of learning the language and cannot be measured by written exams. Therefore a portion of the final grade will depend on class participation. Your participation grade is based on attendance, your attempts to communicate in Spanish whenever possible, regular preparation of all daily assignments, participation in paired and group activities, and arriving to class with all materials. All students are expected to participate actively speaking in Spanish during the class period. Since this class meets twice a week, you must study an adequate amount of time outside of class every day. Speaking English in class or disrupting the class in any way will result in a poor participation grade. Unexcused absences and tardies will also adversely affect participation averages. If you exceed nine unexcused absences in one semester you cannot pass the class.

Late Work: No late work will be accepted without approval from your instructor and/or proper documentation is submitted from a university sponsor, physician, etc. For documented excused absences, you may make up quizzes and exams for classes missed. You are encouraged to discuss any missed assignments with your instructor. Make an appointment during office hours.

Class Conduct: All pagers and cellular devices should be silenced during class. They must be put away at all times! University policy forbids bringing food or drink into the classroom so please refrain from doing so. Courteous behavior is expected at all times and includes being attentive and respectful to other students during class. Please do not leave class after completing a quiz. You may, however, leave quietly after completing an exam.

Grading Criteria: Exams/Tests: 35%
Compositions: 35%
Participation: 30%

A = 89.5 - 100  B = 79.5 - 89.4  C = 69.5 - 79.4  D = 59.5 - 69.4

For your participation grade I will look at the following things:

- Do you speak often in class?
- Do you use Spanish the whole class period?
- Do you listen to instructions and cooperate with/in class activities?
- Do you show respect to your classmates/me through your behavior in class? (i.e. avoid texting, doing work for other classes, making inappropriate commentary, etc.)
Written assignments: Written assignments need to be turned in the day they are due in class. They are to be typed and double-spaced.

Withheld Grades: Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

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 school. All homework should be done on 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. Academic integrity is the responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citation, on an assigned exercise; (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the works or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are; (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the works or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Students with Disabilities: If you have a learning or physical disability, visual or hearing impairment that might affect your progress in Spanish, please see me. To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services, (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.
Tentative Course Schedule for Spanish 303
LT = Libro de texto, COMPOSICIÓN: Proceso y síntesis, 5a edición


R 31/8- LT: pp.14-26, La descripción. Orientación y actividades de prerreddacción en grupos. Primera etapa: Antes de redactar, la generación y recolección de ideas y técnicas de organización y expresión. Tarea: Crear un plan de redacción (pp. 26-27) para guiar la composición de su escrito y desarrollar un borrador del mismo (pp.28).


R 14/9- Repaso de la gramática. Tarea: 66-67, Completar la versión final para entregar el martes en clase.


R 21/9- Exposición, Parte 1, cont. LT: 89-100, Técnicas de organización y expresión. Tarea: La redacción: Plan y Lista de consulta, 106. Redactar el borrador.


R 28/9- LA EXPOSICIÓN, Parte 2.

T 3/10- LA EXPOSICIÓN, Parte 2.

R 5/10- LA EXPOSICIÓN, Parte 2.

T 10/10- LA EXPOSICIÓN, Parte 2.

R 12/10- LA EXPOSICIÓN, Parte 2.

T 17/10- LA ARGUMENTACIÓN, Parte 1

R 19/10- LA ARGUMENTACIÓN, Parte 1

T 24/10- LA ARGUMENTACIÓN, Parte 1

R 26/10- LA ARGUMENTACIÓN, Parte 1

T 31/10- LA ARGUMENTACIÓN, Parte 1
Examen final: martes, 12 de diciembre, 8:00 –10:00 de la mañana.