Spanish Conversation and Composition I
Course Design
2004-2005

Course Information

Organization: Eastern Arizona College
Division: Communicative Arts
Course Number: SPA 261
Title: Spanish Conversation and Composition I
Credits: 2
Developed by: Bryan McBride
Lecture/Lab Ratio: 2 Lecture/1 Lab
Transfer Status: ASU:DEC (SPA), NAU:E, U of A:SPAN 251
Activity Course: No
CIP Code: 16.0905
Assessment Mode: Pre/Post Test (100 Points)
Semester Taught: Upon Request
GE Category: None
Separate Lab: No
Awareness Course: No
Intensive Writing Course: No

Prerequisites
None

Educational Value
This course is designed for students at the intermediate Spanish level who wish to continue learning speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.

Description
Emphasizes speaking and writing in everyday idiom; employs material based on current topics.
Competencies and Performance Standards

1. Demonstrate Intermediate-high level conversation.

Learning objectives

What you will learn as you master the competency:

a. Engage in conversation about a variety of topics beyond immediate needs.
b. Respond to unanticipated questions on increasingly complex topics.
c. Display communicative ease within given context.
d. Display appropriate non-verbal communication.
e. Ask questions relating to the topic.
f. Respond correctly to questions.
g. Exhibit correct and clear pronunciation and intonation.
h. Communicate information, express ideas and accomplish tasks.
i. Develop grammatical structures.
j. Develop active and passive vocabulary.
k. Maintain a conversation on increasingly complex topics with moderate accuracy.

Performance Standards

Competence will be demonstrated:

- without the use of notes, textbooks and dictionaries.
- in oral exercises.
- in the completion of assignments and activities.
- in the completion of unit tests.

Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when:

- learner converses fifteen minutes with the instructor using grammar and vocabulary at the intermediate-mid level. Learner will ask five open ended questions pertaining to the discussion and respond to all open ended questions asked by the instructor.
- learner gives a 20 minute oral presentation in front of the class on a topic pertaining to the Spanish language that meet the rubric standards outlined.
- learner participates in classroom discussions.
- learner displays communicative ease within given context.
- learner converses for fifteen minutes with a sympathetic interlocutor without a language breakdown on a topic familiar to learner.
- learner responds to unanticipated questions on increasingly complex topics.
- learner uses non-verbal communication in conversation.
- learner's speech is correctly pronounced.
- learner's speech demonstrates correct grammatical structure.
2. Develop listening skills.

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

a. Recognize spoken Spanish at the Intermediate-high level.
b. Demonstrate comprehension of main ideas of lengthy aural discourse of increasingly complex topics.
c. Demonstrate comprehension of messages from authentic and other sources to gain information.
d. Interpret and respond appropriately to specific instructions.
e. Develop grammatical structures.
f. Develop active and passive vocabulary.
g. Comprehend the main ideas and significant details in oral presentations.
h. Identify and comprehend cultural nuances, including humor, in spoken language.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

o without the use of notes, textbooks and dictionaries.
o in the completion of assignments and activities.
o in the completion of unit tests.

**Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when:**

o learner converses fifteen minutes with the instructor recognizing spoken Spanish at the Intermediate-high level.
o learner participates in classroom discussions.
o learner listens to music in Spanish and transcribes a song with 80% accuracy or higher.
o learner listens to short stories on tape and answers questions relating to the story.
o learner answers questions after listening to a passage or conversation.
o learner responds appropriately to questions in Spanish.
o learner follows directions expressed in Spanish.

3. Improve reading abilities.

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

a. Derive meaning from and demonstrate comprehension of the written target language from connected and/or complex texts.
b. Acquire knowledge from a variety of printed materials.
c. Develop grammatical structures.
d. Develop active and passive vocabulary.
e. Read authentic newspapers and magazine articles.
f. Comprehend the main ideas and significant details in written text.
Identify and comprehend cultural nuances, including humor, in written language.

Apply critical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate texts which have a clear, underlying internal structure.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- without the use of textbooks, notes and dictionaries
- in oral and written exercises.
- in the completion of assignments and activities.
- in the completion of unit tests.

*Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- learner completes tests (3) by objective measurement, by short answer, and by essay with a score of 70% or higher.
- learner answers questions relating to the work read.
- learner demonstrates comprehension by paraphrasing in source language.
- learner summarizes the main idea of authentic texts.
- learner identifies cultural differences that may or may not be evident in written texts.

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4. **Improve writing abilities.**

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

- Follow writing process (i.e., organizing, revising, proofreading) in target language.
- Show evidence of grammatical accuracy at the Intermediate-high level.
- Describe and narrate in coherent unified paragraphs.
- Create increasingly complex sentences in writing.
- Demonstrate control of basic sentence structure.
- Communicate information and express ideas in written form for a variety of audiences and purposes.
- Identify the target language's literary masterpieces and their authors.
- Develop active and passive vocabulary.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- without the use of textbooks, notes and dictionaries.
- in the completion of written assignments and activities.
- in the completion of a unit test.

*Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- learner writes critical essays (10) in Spanish showing improvement in creative and analytical writing through revision.
- learner passes tests (3) by objective measurement, by short answer, and by essay with a score of 70% or higher. Shows knowledge of numerous relevant vocabulary items and
grammatical structures studied in class.

- learner participates in peer-critique essays in groups and individually.
- learner revises essays from holistic comments by instructor.

5. **Increase knowledge of the cultural variety and richness of the Latin world.**

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

a. Use common social conventions, social courtesies and non-verbal cues in conversation.

b. Demonstrate knowledge of geography in Latin countries.

c. Compare and contrast the Latin culture with student's own cultural background.

d. Use behavior that is appropriate and consistent with Latin customs.

e. Use formal and informal language appropriately in a variety of settings.

f. Explain how the target language and its culture add to the richness of our cultural diversity.

g. Identify, analyze and discuss various patterns of behavior or interactions typical of the culture studied.

h. Investigate and explain the function of products of the culture (e.g., institutions, crafts, laws, music) and their relationship to cultural perspectives.

i. Use idiomatic expressions in appropriate contexts.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- without the use of textbooks, notes or dictionaries.
- in oral and written exercises.
- in the completion of assignments and activities.
- in the completion of unit tests.

*Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- learner completes tests (3) by objective measurement, by short answer, and by essay with a 70% or higher.
- learner answers questions relating to cultural topics
- learners' behavior is appropriate with Latin customs

**Types of Instruction**

Classroom Presentation
Language Lab / Conversation group
Grading Information

Grading Scale

A  90% - 100%
B  80% - 89%
C  70% - 79%
D  60% - 69%
F  0% - 59%