Course title: Spanish Skills in Context: Podcast Reporting
Course code: COMM 3006 SCMJ / SPAN 3003 SCMJ
Programs offering course: Advanced Liberal Arts, Business and Society, Communications, New Media and Journalism Spanish, Liberal Arts

Language of instruction: Spanish
U.S. semester credits: 3
Contact hours: 45
Term: Fall 2020

Course Description

“With the benefit of hindsight, it all seems quite obvious. MP3 players, like Apple's iPod, in many pockets, audio production software cheap or free, and weblogging an established part of the internet; all the ingredients are there for a new boom in amateur radio. But what to call it? Audioblogging? Podcasting? GuerillaMedia?” –Ben Hammersley of the Guardian

The term “podcasting” appeared for the very first time, published in The Guardian on 12 February 2004. Podcasting as a technology is not even ten years old, but its origins and main characteristics coincide with traditional radio as well as with alternative radios such as community radios or free radios.

With podcasting, the possibilities of “making radio” get cheaper, the access get wider and communication and distribution get multiplied. Definitely, the radio is once again one of the most effective and trendy means for news, information, music, debates, talk shows and interviews, but also for creativity, fiction and experimentation with sound. During this course, we will approach and come to know different and original Spanish podcasts and radio shows considering a social responsibility in their local and national contexts.

On the other hand, this creative freedom radio and podcast offer as a means of communication (and as a technology) is based in the implementation of linguistic and paralinguistic, expression and expressivity resources. This means fantastic motivation
and opportunities to improve an advanced Spanish in context. To do so, this course will contribute with comprehension, expression and interaction activities as well as detection and diagnosis of the most common mistakes in spoken communication.

'Spanish skills in context: podcast reporting' is a process-oriented 12-week workshop (42 hours). The student will learn essential tools and mechanisms for the creation, production and distribution of podcasts. Besides, the student will improve his/her Spanish language knowledge, recognizing implicit senses, diverse linguistic registers and accents, as well as composing structured texts for podcast reporting.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Know podcasting technology, recognize its similarities and differences with both traditional and alternative radios
- Identify and learn the essential elements (hardware and software to produce and distribute podcasts) taking part of podcasting communication at a basic level
- Understand, express and discriminate different text typologies: descriptive, narrative, expositive and argumentative texts in the framework of the diverse radio genres
- Detect, diagnose, compare and value the most common mistakes in spoken communication
- Know and value the most important podcasts and radio programmes in Spain, as well as the most original initiatives considering their social responsibility and cultura diversity respect
- Coordinate, participate and share collaborative tasks and projects working in groups
- Encourage and promote critical thinking and active citizenship
- Value the contemporary Spanish culture and language

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

The methodology we will follow during 'Spanish skills in context: podcast reporting' will be based on a practical approach to program contents focused on task-based learning.
and team projects, from a communicative approach, based on activities of consciousness-raising and the idea of research-action-participation. Therefore, we require the student participation and interaction, while the teacher is required to promote the participation and interaction through dynamic exercises.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to act in accordance with their university and CIEE’s standards of conduct concerning plagiarism and academic honesty. Use of online translators for work in Spanish will result in an automatic failure.

Language Resource Center

Students should make use of the Language Resource Center in order to receive assistance in the drafting of their classwork and final assignments

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Mid-term Exam 15%
2. Audio Productions 15%
3. Final Audio Project 15%
4. Radio show on Radiópolis Radio Station 35%
5. Participation and positive attitude in sessions 20%
   TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Mid-term Exam

A mid-term exam will cover the concepts in the course and test media skills, conceptual and critical-thinking skills.

Audio Productions

During the course students will be asked to produce a number of audio productions. The topics of these audio productions are diverse, such as an interview, a survey, or a gastronomic récipe.

Final Audio Project
Students will be required to produce a 30-minute radio journalist report.

Radio show on Radiópolis Radio Station

Students are required to prepare a script and produce a 1-hour radio show at Radiópolis Radio Station. This radio show will include both audio productions and the final audio project, all produced by the students.

Participation and positive attitude in sessions

In-class discussions will be encouraged at all sessions. Class participation will therefore be graded according to the students’ previous work and reflections about the provided material. Active participation means not only attendance (being there ≠ participation) but discussion with relevant basis (text-based and not just random personal experience and background), asking and answering questions in class, engaging in class discussions and conversations with classmates, questioning information presented and discussed. Students are also expected to actively participate in in-class exercises and to do some homework. Participation points will be assigned based on the following criteria: (1) frequency of participation, (2) quality of comments, and (3) listening Skills.

Evaluation criteria are: understanding of the course concepts, applied creativity, self-critical skills, capacity of relation, teamwork skills (empathy, group motivation, dynamism, etc.). Skills in understanding, oral and written expressions and interactions; positive attitude, the choice of topics for the project (and social responsibility), originality and way of approaching to them, proper writing skills for the scripts, the resources used, types of interviews, music and other sounds, and active participation in class.

Attendance

Students are not allowed to miss class for unjustified reasons. For each unexcused absence, the participation portion of the grade will be lowered. Hence, it will be very difficult to receive a 100 in the class. Please keep this in mind.
If a student misses class once without a valid excuse (a note from a physician in the event of an illness), then the professor will automatically lower the final grade by 5 points (on a 100-point scale) for each class missed thereafter. Students with 6 or more unexcused absences will fail the course. Students should arrive to class on-time. Arriving more than 15 minutes late for a class will count as an unexcused absence.

Please note that an excused absence is one that is accompanied by a doctor's note: signed stamped and dated. Travelling and/or travel delays are not considered valid reasons for missing class.

Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, and local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class 1.1 Getting to know each other

Fundamental elements of podcast communication. Introduction to the course. On and sounds: http://www.jamendo.com

Class 1.2 Basics of radio communication


Week 2

Class 2.1 Audio description in Spanish.
Warming up your voice. Reading: “Aprendiendo a leer. El oficio de hablar”. https://radioslibres.net/capitulo-5-aprendiendo-a-leer/

Class 2.2 Podcast technology:


Week 3
Class Main characteristics of radio language
3.1

The 6W. Listening: “Pirámide invertida y las 6W”. https://www.ivoox.com/episodio-14-piramide-invertida-6w-audios-mp3_rf_135781

Class 3.2 Knowing the most important podcasts and radio programmes


Week 4
Class 4.1 Radio genres.


Class 4.2 Audio production 4: “Entrevistas y encuestas”.

Reading: “Cómo hacer una Buena entrevista”. http://www.entreperiodistas.com/como-hacer-una-entrevista-periodistica/

Week 5
Class 5.1 Radio edition.

Basic concepts: sources and shots. Digital platforms to upload, share, and promote audios: http://www.soundcloud.com www.ivoox.com
Class 5.2  The script.

Introduction to the audio story. Reading: “El guión de radio”.
https://definicion.de/guion-de-radio/

Week 6
Class 6.1  6.1 Review basic concepts and fundamental elements of podcast communication.

Class 6.2  Mid-term Exam

Week 7
Class 7.1  7.1 Mid-term grades. Most common errors diagnosis.


Class 7.2  Advertising and media.

Reading: “La publicidad como fuente de financiación de los medios”.
Audio production 5: “Cuñas publicitarias”.

Week 8
Class 8.1  The audio report.

Examples. Oral and written expression and interaction. Reading: “Consejos para realizar un buen reportaje”.

Class 8.2  Audio production 6: “El reportaje”.

Week 9
Class Final project
  9.1
What's your final project about? Research and documentation. Focus, sources, effects. Script structure. Reading: “Cómo hacer un programa de radio en cinco pasos”.

Class 9.2
Special class to practise our Spanish and at the same time expand our vocabulary and improve our pronunciation. Audio production 7: “Recetas gastronómicas”. Reading: “Vocabulario de comida y bebidas”.
https://www.profedeele.es/actividad/vocabulario/comida-alimentos-bebidas/

Week 10
Class 10.1 Final project. Script corrections.

Class 10.2 Final project. Recording and editing in class.

Week 11
Class 11.1 Final audio projects.
    Improvisation exercises. Uploading audio reports. Producing a script for our radio show on Radiópolis Radio Station.

Class 11.2 Presentation of final audio project.

Week 12
Class 12.1 Participation in our radio show on Radiópolis Radio Station.
    http://www.radiopolis.org/escuchanos.html

Class 12.2 Evaluation session.

Course Materials

Online Resources
Música libre

http://www.jamendo.com
https://bandcamp.com
http://freemusicarchive.org
https://www.archive.org
http://www.freeplaymusic.com
http://www.openmusicarchive.org
http://www.royaltyfreemusic.com

Sounds

Banco de Imágenes y Sonidos CNICE

http://www.freesound.org
http://www.findsounds.com
http://www.therecordist.com/free-sfx
http://www.sounddogs.com
http://www.soungle.com

Soundscapes

Andalucia soundscape

http://www.archivosonoro.org
http://www.acousticecology.org

Sound Transit
The domestic soundscape

Barcelona Freesound
http://www.escoitar.org

Soiunmapa

Mapa sonoro de Andalucía (Tesla Dream)

Plataformas para audio
http://www.soundcloud.com
www.ivoox.com

Podcasts en español

Esta Peli ya la he visto

El Octavo Pasajero

Lecciones de Historia

La biblioteca de Alejandría

El sótano