Course title: Spanish for Heritage Learners
Course code: SPAN 4003 BASP
Programs offering course: Advanced Liberal Arts, Business and Culture, Economics and Culture, Global Architecture and Design, Liberal Arts
Language of instruction: Spanish
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Spring 2021

Course Description

This is a proficient Spanish language course corresponding to level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and Advanced High of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). It will focus on the analysis and production of different text typologies, considering the concepts of appropriateness, coherence, cohesion, correction, variation and style, and in the analysis and production of proficient spoken narrations and description considering their specific grammatical, discursive and lexical strategies. In addition, the course will address the historical presence of the Spanish language in America and, in particular, in the territory of the United States of America. Linguistic phenomena resulting from language contact with English and cultural manifestations of Latinos in the United States will be treated.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Describe, explain and apply the advanced grammar of contemporary Spanish.
- Analyze the distinctive discursive strategies and stylistic features of contemporary Spanish texts.
- Produce oral academic presentations showing the ability to provide a well-supported argument, including detailed evidence in support of or against a point of view.
- Produce proficient Spanish texts in a variety of text types (narrative, descriptive, expository and argumentative).
- Analyze the Spanish of the United States in its historical, geographic, sociocultural and situational diversity.

Course Prerequisites

Native level of inheritance or similar.

Methods of Instruction

Classes will have an eminently practical character. Reading of texts, scheduled discussions and exercise work of different types will be combined in class. Active work and the preparation and timely delivery of written texts and assignments on grammar, accuracy and lexical richness will be required.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Midterm Exam 20%
2. Final Exam 30%
3. Essays 30%
4. Oral Presentation 10%
5. Active and collaborative participation in exercises conducted in class 10%

TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Midterm Exam
Final Exam

They will consist of three parts:
Essays

Students will prepare weekly compositions. The essays will respond to the different text typologies presented in the classroom and must respect the specific linguistic strategies associated with each one of them.

Oral Presentation

Students will make an oral presentation on a topic related to Spanish language or culture (10-15’). The professor will provide a guide for its proper preparation.

Active and collaborative participation in exercises conducted in class

Students are expected to participate in class by asking questions that show their active engagement in class and by being able to comment on the readings due for each session. The level of engagement with the class materials, as evidenced in written work and class participation, will be one of the factors of the final grade.

Students are responsible for the material covered in regular classes, on-site classes, discussions, peer presentations and readings.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions on time and be prepared for the day’s class activities. CIEE does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences, whether due to sickness, personal emergency, inevitable transportation delay and/or other impediments. You are considered responsible of managing your own absences. Please keep in mind that exams, paper submission dates, presentations and any other course work deadlines cannot be changed.

No academic penalty will be applied if students miss up to 3 class sessions. If students miss up to 6 class sessions, students’ final course grade will drop 5 points out of 100 on the CIEE grade scale for each additional absence beyond 3 (for example a 95 will become a 90 if they reach the 4th absence, and an 85 if they reach the 5th absence). Students will automatically fail the course if they miss more than 20% of total class hours (i.e. if they exceed 6 absences).

For students who miss up to 20% of the total course hours due to extenuating circumstances, the Academic Director may allow for exceptions to the local attendance policy based on documentation such as proof of bereavement, religious observances, hospitalization etc.

Students arriving more than 10 minutes late to the class will be considered absent for a day.

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

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class: 1.1 .

Course, professor & students’ presentation


Class: 1.2 .

Writing processes

Plan and document: context of the text (for whom it is written and for what purpose), research, organization of ideas and presentation. Keywords and preliminary outline.
Textualize the text. Structure and linguistic activities used in the production of written texts.

Week 2
Class: 2.1

Introduction and conclusion.
The paragraph and its importance in planned written texts.
Review, reformulate and correct the text. Self-revision and the correction of others.

Class: 2.2

Prototypical text genres. Essential characteristics.
How to write biographical and autobiographical texts.
Narrative texts in the past tense.

Week 3
Class: 3.1

Specific linguistic strategies.
Discourse markers. Time clauses.

Class: 3.2

Bilingualism, diglossia and linguistic attitudes around Spanish in the United States (Read the chapter of Lipski (2005), «El español de América: los contactos bilingües», in R. Cano (coord.), Historia de la lengua española, Barcelona, Ariel, pp. 1117-1138).

Week 4
Class: 4.1

How to write descriptive texts.
Descriptions in planned written texts in Spanish.

Class: 4.2

Specific linguistic strategies.

Week 5
Class: 5.1

The distribution of information in the text.

Class: 5.2

Discourse markers. Information organizers.

Week 6
Class: 6.1


Class: 6.2

How to write expository texts.
The canonical structure of an expository text: introduction, body and conclusion.
Thematic progression.

**Week 7**

Class: 7.1

Objectivity as the main characteristic of an expository text. Mechanisms of objectification in written Spanish.

Class: 7.2


**Week 8**

Class: 8.1

How to write argumentative texts and opinion articles.

Class: 8.2

Arguments in planned written texts in Spanish.

**Week 9**

Class: 9.1

Partial exam

Class: 9.2

Specific linguistic strategies.

Brevity, clarity and conciseness, essential characteristics of the thesis.

**Week 10**

Class: 10.1

Formulation of arguments and counterarguments.

Discourse markers in argumentative texts: causal, consecutive, concessive, counter-argumentative.

Class: 10.2

Latin groups in the United States and linguistic varieties (1) (Read the essay of Antonio Torres (2005), «El español en los Estados Unidos como expresión de identidades mixtas», in E. Martinell y E. Erlendsdóttir (eds.), La conciencia lingüística europea: Nuevas aportaciones de impresiones de viajeros, Barcelona, Promociones y Publicaciones Universitarias, pp. 93-110).

**Week 11**

Class: 11.1

Latin groups in the United States and linguistic varieties (2).

Class: 11.2

Rules of accentuation: general rules and diacritical accentuation (1 and 2).

**Week 12**

Class: 12.1

Spanish punctuation and syntax. General uses of punctuation marks (1 and 2).
Grammatical aspects of advanced Spanish writing.
Expression of grammatical gender and its association with sociolinguistic questions
Grammatical number. Matters of agreement.
Use of determinants: contexts of obligatory use; use of different determinants and semantic consequences; possible and impossible combinations of determinants in Spanish.

**Week 13**
**Class: 13.1**
Form and standard usage of verbs.
Usage and the importance of prepositions. Popular prepositional phrases and prepositional phrases not recommended for use.
Lexical aspects of educated Spanish writing.
Undesirable repetitions, catch-all words and lexical poverty.

**Class: 13.2**
Lexical precision, a requirement of advanced Spanish writing.
Collocations in Spanish. Reference sources.
Colloquialisms and cultismos.

**Week 14**
**Class: 14.1**

**Class: 14.2**

**Week 15**
**Class: 15.1**
Conclusions

**Class: 15.2**
Final Exam

**Course Materials**

**Readings**
Reference bibliography for the Spanish of America:
ONIEVA MORALES, J. L. (2003), Curso superior de redacción, Madrid, Verbum.
REAL ACADEMIA ESPAÑOLA (2005), Diccionario panhispánico de dudas, Madrid, Santillana. www.rae.es
REAL ACADEMIA ESPAÑOLA (2013), El buen uso del español, Barcelona, Espasa.
REAL ACADEMIA ESPAÑOLA (2014), Diccionario de la lengua española, Madrid, Espasa Libros. www.rae.es