

SPANISH 2  
PROFESSOR: FRANCHESCA VELAZQUEZ

Spring 2000

Spanish 2 Course Description (for this particular section):

High-Beginning Spanish. This course stresses communication skills in Spanish. Much of the practice work will be done in pairs. The goal is for beginning students to acquire conversational ability in Spanish. By the end of the semester you will have studied the past tenses, commands, and subjunctive forms, among other things; and will have had many opportunities to use those concepts in meaningful, interactive ways. In the process, the student will develop greater knowledge of the customs and various cultures that exist in the Spanish-Speaking world. It is assumed that you are in this class because you want to learn how to communicate in Spanish. You will not have developed that ability completely by the end of the semester, but you will be surprised at how many communicative skills you will have acquired!

Method of instruction:

Every effort will be made to make this class student-centered. That is, an activity will be modeled, then you will work in pairs and small groups to assimilate the vocabulary and structures under consideration. You should make every effort to speak only Spanish and to prepare for the classroom learning activities.

Specific course goals and objectives:

1. Students will work on developing oral competence in the Spanish language through the use of a conversation partner and communicative activities.
2. Students will develop knowledge of advanced grammatical structures such as "pretérito" and "imperfecto".
3. Students will develop greater knowledge of the customs and various cultures that exist in the Spanish-Speaking world.
4. Students will become competent writers using the Spanish language, and various creative-writing activities.

Required: 1. Text Dos Mundos. Terrell, Andrade, Egasse, Muñoz, McGraw Hill, Inc. New York, 4th Edition, 1998.  
2. Spanish/English dictionary.

Tests and Grades: Your final grade will be based on six elements:

**Oral Performance 20%:** Participation in class is necessary in order to obtain an "A" or "B" grade. Since the emphasis is on development of oral abilities in Spanish, the student must be an active participant. Points will be deducted when students are not on task (i.e.: using English).

**Homework 15%:** Homework will be assigned almost every day and it represents 15 percent of your final grade. It is due the next session at the beginning of class and will not be accepted late. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** You may miss up to four homeworks without penalty (ex. sick days, etc.)

**Written & Oral exams 45%:** Nine chapter tests will be given throughout the semester (see attached Course Syllabus for tentative dates). **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS ARE GIVEN.** The tests may be written or oral or a combination of both- this will be announced ahead of time. The final exam is not comprehensive; it will only cover Capítulo 14. Tests may be graded on

selected items or all items. Pop quizzes may also be given as part of this grade.

**Portfolio Assignments 10%:** Throughout the semester, you will be given portfolio assignments. These may include writing and illustrating a poem or short story, creating a booklet describing and illustrating a passage from your childhood, writing a movie critique, etc. Deadline dates as well as further instructions will be provided throughout the semester. No late portfolios will be accepted unless there is an excused absence.

**Focus Activity (enfoque) 10%** Every day as you walk into the classroom there will be an "enfoque" activity up in a transparency. You are to complete the appropriate information in a sheet provided. "Enfoque" sheets will be collected every two weeks.

**Class attendance:** Since the emphasis of this class is in development of oral abilities in Spanish, you must be in class to acquire those skills. Regular attendance is required. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class period. The teacher reserves the right to drop a student if he/she has excessive absences. More than four absences are considered excessive absences.

**Tardies:** You will be marked absent if you are tardy. So, after class (not during class; please do not interrupt classtime with this) be sure to see the instructor and change the absence to a tardy. Also, tardiness is disruptive to the class.

**Grading scale:**

100-90%= A 80-89%= B 70-79%= C 60-69%= D below 60%= F

Your grade will be determined by the following:

Homework	15 %
Written & Oral exams	45 %
Portfolio	10 %
Focus Activity	10 %
Oral Performance	20 %

**Drop from class:**

Students are expected to be responsible and follow the formal procedure at the Admissions and Records office. Last drop date for this class: March 10, 2000.

**Study Hints**

1. Whenever you study, do it orally. Pronunciation will improve if you practice aloud.
2. Don't feel you have to sit at a desk to study. Try using the new words to describe people and things you see as you walk or drive.
3. As you prepare for class, get to the point where you can say the utterances without looking at the book.
4. Where possible, study with a classmate. Also, at the beginning of the semester you can register for tutorial help.

\*Schedule is subject to change. Test date changes will be announced. It is your responsibility to be in class to receive this information.