SPA 334 (SPANISH FOR HERITAGE SPEAKERS)
Spring 2015
(TR 4:30pm-7:10pm   -   Location: AG/IT Building 233)

Instructor: Dr. Elisa Gironzetti
Office Hours: T 3:30-4:30 pm HL126 – (o concertar cita vía email)
Phone: (903) 468.8725
University Email Address: egironzetti@leomail.tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:


Additional materials will be available in class and through the eCollege course site and in class.

*Please Note: Students are welcome to use other editions, including electronic books, but it is each student’s responsibility to contend with any issues involving pagination or textual differences should the student opt for another edition.*

Course Description:

Heritage language learners are those individuals who are proficient in English and who grew up speaking another language at home; they are able to communicate, at some extend, in more than one language. The main purpose of the Spanish for Heritage Speakers courses is to build upon the language knowledge that students bring to the classroom and develop their proficiency of academic Spanish. Special attention is given to building vocabulary and strengthening composition skills in Spanish. Taught exclusively in Spanish, this course is designed for heritage or native speakers only.

Learning Objectives:
At the end of this course students will:
- Advance skills in reading and writing complex texts in Spanish.
- Advance knowledge of Spanish grammar and vocabulary.
- Improve orthography with emphasis on the use of written accent.
- Improve accuracy in managing mood and tense for discourse production.
- Develop greater familiarity with the U.S. Hispanic culture.
Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will critically analyze, discuss and communicate information about a cultural theme that connects the Hispanic communities in the US with the Hispanic world, including topics related to immigration, identity, trans-national experiences and multiculturalism. Completion of the final project will give students a wider perspective on the Hispanic cultures and its contact with other communities, and will increase their understanding of global communities in an interconnected and diverse world. This outcome will be assessed by an integrative evaluation of the final research project which includes a written report and an in-class presentation.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**

This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes / objectives of this course and instructional units/modules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Redacciones en clase</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Proyecto cultural</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Fichas de lectura</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Presentación global portfolio</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Diarios de aprendizaje</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Diccionario y lista de control</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exámenes (10% cada uno)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Grading**

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

*Please Note: All assignments will be graded based on content and linguistic accuracy. For todos los trabajos se evaluarán el contenido y la competencia lingüística.*

### Course Workload

1. **Portfolio (80%)**

Each student will create a personalized portfolio comprising the following works (see calendar for each work deadline and Portfolio checklist document on eCollege): The portfolio has to be completed and submitted by week 15. Late work will not be accepted.

   a) **Redacciones (writing activities).** There will be two short writing assignments based on covered material. For each assignment, you will have to: 1) choose a topic, 2) research the topic and make notes, 3) write a first draft, 4) revise and write the final draft in class. The specific topics will be discussed in class. You will receive further instructions on these assignments; please check the dates for each activity in the class schedule. You may not submit a paper or essay already submitted in this or another class for a grade, even if it is your own work. This constitutes a violation of the Academic Honesty Policy. Any assignment in this course is to be original work. You may not seek tutoring or any other kind of help for the writing activities; only your instructor is authorized to give such help. **Use of translation devices or services** to complete a writing task is not allowed either. See section on Academic Dishonesty for more information.
b) **Fichas de lectura.** For each text that we read during the semester, you will complete a “reading form” that will allow you to focus on and apply grammatical concepts learned in class, give your opinion about the readings, and learn new vocabulary.

c) **Diario de aprendizaje.** You will write four narrative texts in first person, reflecting on your writing process, Hispanic cultures and traditions, and your learning process in this course. Each text should be written in a diary-style, 400 words min.

d) **Diccionario para mejorar** (min. 20 frequent inaccuracies). You will collect frequent inaccuracies that you produce while writing in academic Spanish, and based on these you will create a checklist to use when revising your writing. We will discuss this assignment in class. See the ‘plantilla’ for more information.

e) **Proyecto cultural.** You will prepare a final cultural project based on assigned readings and class discussions. The project will include different tasks: research, vocabulary building, reading comprehension, writing and formal final presentation. In addition, projects will be discussed in class as part of your oral skills’ development. For the report you will submit your work in two different formats: first, you will prepare a rough draft and hand it to your instructor for review before writing the final report. Based on the report, you will organize a formal oral presentation which will be scheduled at the end of the semester. This class presentation (about 7 / 8 minutes) should include a complete explanation of selected topic with examples and personal comments.

f) **Presentación global.** The portfolio will be also evaluated according to its presentation. Please, see the rubric for more details.

2. **Exams (20% of the final grade)**

There will be two tests on vocabulary, grammar structures, reading and writing. Tentative dates are indicated in the course schedule and may be changed as needed. Students requiring special testing accommodations must provide documentation to the Instructor during the first week of class.

Absence from tests:
- If you will be absent from an exam or quiz, you must contact your Instructor in advance.
- You must provide written documentation for any absence before a make-up is authorized. No make-ups will be considered without written, justifiable documentation for your absence. Make-ups will be given during the following week of the missed test.
- ‘Preexisting travel plans’ will not be considered a reasonable cause for missing an Exam or Quiz.
- Sickness without a Dr.’s excuse will not be considered reasonable cause for make-up authorization.

**Attendance & Participation**

- **Participation and attendance are fundamental to succeed in this course. Attendance is mandatory.** Students may miss three (3) class sessions for any reason (personal, medical, work, etc.). The fourth (4th) absence and every subsequent absence will cause the loss of two points off the FINAL COURSE GRADE. Even if you are an active participant in the sessions, missing classes will lead to a low-to-zero participation grade. Medical or other type of emergencies may be considered as excused absences after review of justification.

- **Daily homework is a requirement for this class** and your instructor can request it anytime; points from your Participation grade will be deducted if your homework is not completed. Many homework assignments and readings are necessary preparation for activities in subsequent classes; therefore, if you have not prepared the homework you will miss the opportunity to participate and take full advantage of the class.

- **You should arrive on time. Two late arrivals or early departures by more than 10 minutes equal one absence.** If a student arrives late, s/he needs to talk to the professor at the end of class to make sure that a tardy mark was registered in the class book instead of an absence. If a student misses 3 consecutive sessions and does not contact the instructor, s/he may be dropped from class.
If you are enrolled in this class, but do not attend the course you are responsible for following the withdrawing procedures or an “F” will be entered as your final grade for this class.

You should not make travel/family/employment plans that interfere with classes or exams since make up exams cannot be made in order to accommodate such plans.

You are responsible for contacting classmates to obtain any information discussed in the event of class missed.

Student athletes, band members and members of other university sanctions should bring a letter from their supervisor or specific department during the first week of class indicating the dates they will miss class.

Students who require special accommodations for religious holidays should make arrangements with their instructor during the first week of class.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course.

- Internet access/connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)
- Word Processor (i.e. MS Word or Word Perfect)

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

eCollege Access and Log in Information
This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx. You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Every communication with the instructor should occur via e-mail: egironzetti@leomail.tamuc.edu
The instructor will also use eCollege Announcements and Discussions to communicate with students.

eCollege Student Technical Support
Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc.)

### COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

**Course Specific Procedures:**

#### Academic Honesty Policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally-accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. “Academic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another person and passing them off as one’s own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension and expulsion (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b [1, 2, 3]). Cheating, including plagiarizing papers in whole or part, will result in a grade of zero (0) on the assignment for the first offense and failure of the course for any subsequent offenses.

More details regarding academic honesty: Any student who commits plagiarism or violates any other tenet of academic honesty will receive a grade of zero for the first offense; a second violation will result in automatic failure of the course. Upon any infraction of academic honesty, I will provide the student with written notice of the infraction, will require a face-to-face meeting in my office to discuss the matter, and I will also notify the dean of the student’s college.

#### Attendance Policy

Because your active participation in discussions is expected, attendance is vital for success in this course. Attendance requires more than simply logging on to the course site, and you should begin engaging in discussions each week.

#### Assignment Policy

I will provide specific details during class meetings and possibly by email. Students must stay current with all readings, including the course lectures and discussions. Students must complete and submit all assignments by their respective due dates.

#### Late Work

I will not accept any assignment after its due date. Assignments submitted after the due date may receive a score of zero (0).

#### Drop a Course

A student may drop a course by logging into his/her myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled “Drop a class” from among the choices found under the myLeo section of the Web page.

#### Incompletes
Incompletes (grade of “X”) are granted only under rare and extraordinary circumstances.

Administrative Withdrawal
I reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of student conduct codes.

Advising and tutoring

Your Instructor: I am your first resource and want to make your experience as positive as possible. Please talk to me if you are having any problems in the course and I will do my best to assist you.

Advising: To declare a major, second major, or minor in Spanish, or for more information on our program, please contact Dr. Flavia Belpoliti at flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu or Dr. Inma Lyons at Inma.Lyons@tamuc.edu

Hispanic films showcase
Attendance to the film showings is considered an extra-credit activity; however, Spanish faculty considers this a very important event, and worthy of your presence. Attending the showcase will expand your cultural experience and will provide you different perspectives of the diverse Hispanic cultures. In addition, attendance to this event will help your grade in this Spanish course, as you may earn 2 points per attendance to each of the films. These 2 points will be added to the exams’ grades following each film showing. Your instructor will provide the dates/times for the showings.

Some rules of the class

• Cellular phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off and stored away.
• No food is allowed in class.
• If you have special learning needs, please contact your instructor.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library
Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).
Class-Specific Notes on Student Conduct: I expect all students to treat all members of the class community with respect, including respect to differences of opinion, cultural background, and other matters. Although I encourage students to debate issues, it is important to note that there are effective and logical ways of conducting such debates.
The following course schedule is subject to revisions and other modifications as the instructor deems necessary for the course. Any changes to the course schedule will be announced in class and on the course website in advance of the week in which the change will occur.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semana/Fecha</th>
<th>En clase</th>
<th>Deadlines</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semana 1</td>
<td>Presentación del programa, objetivos y tareas del curso</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>22 de enero</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 2</td>
<td>NM cap. 5</td>
<td>Entrega diario 1 (dropbox)</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 de enero</td>
<td>Gram 10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 3</td>
<td>NM cap. 5</td>
<td>Draft 1 checkpoint</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 de febrero</td>
<td>Gram 10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 4</td>
<td>NM cap. 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 de febrero</td>
<td>Gram 10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 5</td>
<td>NM cap. 6</td>
<td>Diccionario de errores y lista de control, Portfolio (checkpoint)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 de febrero</td>
<td>Gram 9</td>
<td>Draft 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Peer-evaluation draft 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 6</td>
<td>NM cap. 6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>26 de febrero</td>
<td>Gram 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 7</td>
<td>NM cap. 6</td>
<td>Entrega diario 2 (dropbox)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 de marzo</td>
<td>Gram 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 8</td>
<td>Examen 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 de marzo</td>
<td>Redacción en clase: el texto expositivo</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
<td>NO HAY CLASE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 9</td>
<td>NM cap. 7</td>
<td>Entrega report del proyecto cultural (dropbox)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 marzo</td>
<td>Gram 11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 10</td>
<td>NM cap. 7</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 de abril</td>
<td>Gram 11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 11</td>
<td>NM cap. 7</td>
<td>Diccionario y lista de control, Portfolio, draft 2 (checkpoint)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 de abril</td>
<td>Gram 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semana 12</td>
<td>NM cap. 8</td>
<td>Entrega diario 3 (dropbox)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 de abril</td>
<td>Gram 12</td>
<td>Draft 2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peer-evaluation draft 2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Semana 13 | NM cap. 8  
23 de abril  
Gram 12 |
|-----------|------------------|
| Semana 14 | Presentaciones de los proyectos culturales  
30 de abril |
| Semana 15 | Presentaciones de los proyectos culturales  
7 de mayo |
| Semana de finals | Examen II  
14 de mayo |
|           | Redacción en clase: el texto argumentativo |
|           | Entrega del portfolio **completo** 11 de mayo 2015 |