SPA334 “Spanish for Heritage Speakers II”
COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer II 2016
(R 9:00a-10:50a - Location: BA338 – CHEC106)

Instructor: Alberto Miras-Fernández
Office Location: Hall of Language 131
Office Hours: M 11am-1pm, W 11am-1pm, or by appointment
University Email Address: alberto.fernandez@tamuc.edu (Important note: I will respond to emails within 24 hours during the work week and by the next business day on weekends and holidays.)

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

• Roca, Ana. Nuevos Mundos, Workbook.

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 at TAMUC is to build upon the language knowledge that students bring to the classroom and advance their proficiency of Spanish for multiple contexts. Special attention is given to building vocabulary, acquiring and effectively using learning strategies, and strengthening composition skills in Spanish. Cultural projects and readings reinforce learners understanding of the multiple issues related to the Hispanic cultures in the USA. Taught exclusively in Spanish, this course is designed for heritage or native speakers only. For students majoring or minoring in Spanish or bilingual education, this course replaces the SPA 331 requirement.
Student Learning Outcomes
Students will be responsible for designing, completing and presenting two multimodal projects on topics related to Hispanics in the US, immigration, identity, multiculturalism and trans-national experiences. Through these projects, students will:
1) Demonstrate advanced writing and oral skills in Spanish in multimodal communication, including interpretative, presentational and interpersonal modes.
2) Demonstrate the ability to identify and analyze educational, social, and ethical issues in the Hispanic communities in the US and abroad.
3) Demonstrate a wider understanding of cultural differences from diverse perspectives by critically analyzing products and practices from the Hispanic communities in the US.
Completion of these projects will give students a wider perspective on the Hispanic cultures and the contact with other communities, and will increase their understanding of global communities in an interconnected and diverse world. Moreover, these projects will allow students to put into practice the skills, contents, and strategies acquired and practiced during the semester. These outcomes will be assessed by the evaluation of the two projects.

Collection of Data for Measuring Institutional Effectiveness:
In order to measure the level of compliance with the university’s Institutional Effectiveness guidelines, I will collect some of the ungraded materials you will produce for the class. These materials will be part of a portfolio created on your behalf and will be measured to ensure that our program “promotes practices that result in higher student academic achievement; an enhanced student experience; aligned and transparent decisions; and readily available information for improvement, accountability, and accreditation” (see “Department of Institutional Effectiveness,” http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutus/institutionalEffectiveness/default.aspx). This is solely an assessment of program effectiveness and in no way affects students’ course grades or GPAs.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance & Participation
Participation and attendance are fundamental to succeed in this course. Attendance is mandatory. After six absences, you may be dropped from the course, depending on circumstances. Absences due to illness or unexpected situations count as absences. The only justified absences are those resulting from mandatory participation in university events, hospitalization, or family emergencies of which the instructor has been notified. Please note that there is no participation grade given in this course; however, after two unexcused absences, your final grade will be reduced by 2 points per absence. Late work is not accepted. Exams and quizzes cannot be made up.

You should arrive on time. Two late arrivals or early departures by more than 10 minutes equal one absence. If a student arrives late, she/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, she/he may be dropped from 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.
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.

2. CULTURAL PROJECTS (60 % of the final grade)
You will complete two individual projects integrating all course material.

Project I (25%) The first project you will complete consists in a “Digital Storytelling” that you will design, record, and present to the class. The DS will allow you to explore in detail relevant issues connected with the Hispanic community in the US. These may include any of the topics explored in class and through the readings. Please refer to Proyecto 1 Instructions and Rubric for more detailed information.

Project II (35%) The second project you will complete is a formal presentation in which you will discuss some issues connected with the Hispanic community in the US. These may include any of the topics explored in class and through the readings. You will be responsible for designing the presentation based on the topics and data collected for the first project, write a written report of your presentation, and then deliver the formal presentation in Spanish. Please, refer to the Proyecto 2 Instructions and Rubric for more detailed information. Due to technology limitations, students who are taking the course at a remote location should make arrangements in order to be at the Commerce campus for the final presentation.

2. FICHAS DE LECTURA (20% of the final grade).
You will complete ‘fichas de lectura’ for the different readings presented this semester; the ‘fichas’ will allow you to focus on linguistic concepts learned in class, acquire new vocabulary, and give your opinion about the content. You will complete one ‘ficha de lectura’ every week (5 fichas in total) and turn it in on the due date class (see Schedule for details). The ‘fichas’ will be evaluated according to completeness (every section must be completed in order to receive full credit), language accuracy, and content. No late assignments will be accepted (they will receive a score of zero).

3. FICHAS DE ESTRATEGIAS (20% of the final grade).
During this course we will learn different strategies that will help you to become an autonomous and independent learner. You will complete a ‘ficha de estrategia’ every week (5 fichas in total) focusing on a particular strategy and task of your choice. The strategy and related task will vary each week (no ‘fichas de estrategias’ focusing on the same strategy or task will be accepted). Each ‘ficha’ will be completed and turned it in on the due date class (see Schedule for details). The ‘ficha’ will be evaluated according to completeness (every section must be completed in order to receive full credit), language accuracy, and content. No late assignments will be accepted (they will receive a score of zero).
4. **Course assignments and activities.**
You should complete all classroom assignments (‘ejercicios’) by the due date. Classroom assignments include any exercise of the *Workbook* assigned in class as well as peer review editions, and grammar / vocabulary practices. For each late or incomplete assignment, your final grade will be reduced by 1 point per assignment.

**Participation in a research project.** The completion of anonymous online survey during the first weeks of the semester will result in two (2) extra points in your final grade.

**GRADING**

Proyecto I (25%)
- Borrador (texto e imágenes, justificación) 10%
- Trabajo final y presentación 15%

Proyecto II (36%)
- Justificación y tema 5%
- Reporte escrito 15%
- Presentación oral 16%

Fichas de lectura 20% (4x5%)
Fichas de estrategias 20% (4x5%)

**Total 100%**

**Grade Scale:** A=100-90  B=89-80  C=79-70  D=69-60  F= 59>

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

- To fully participate in online courses, you will need to use a current, Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Internet Explorer 9.0 or 10. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are: o 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred  
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive  
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a: o sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer  
  - speakers or headphones.

- Depending on your course, you might also need a:  
  - webcam  
  - microphone
• Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. Java can be downloaded at: http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp
• Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
• You will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  o Adobe Reader
  o Adobe Flash Player
• At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

• For additional information about system requirements, please see: https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information
This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.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.
It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support
Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio. Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

If at any time you experience technical problems (e.g., you can’t log in to the course, you can’t see certain material, etc.) please contact the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

• Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
• Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.
• Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.
Accessing Help from within Your Course: Click on the 'Tech Support' icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You will then be able to get assistance via online chat, email or by phone by calling the Help Desk number noted below.

Note: Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio
Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure MUST be followed?
1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at helpdesk@online.tamuc.org or 1-866-656-5511
2. Students MUST file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and to provide me with the helpdesk ticket number
4. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser BEFORE the course begins and to take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. ONLY Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

Internet Access
An Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor. View the requirements as outlined in Technology Requirements above for more information.

myLeo Support
Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-4686000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at https://leo.tamuc.edu.

Learner Support
Go to the following link One Stop Shop- created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location.
Go to the following link Academic Success Center- focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES

Course Specific Procedures
1. **Late work.** This is an intense course with no extended deadlines. No late work will be accepted in this course, without exceptions. Online homework should be submitted by midnight (CT) on the due date provided in the class schedule. Failure to submit an assignment on time will result in a zero (F) grade. In the case of an emergency or other reasonable situation which may affect your submissions, please contact me immediately.

2. **Academic Dishonesty.** *Plagiarism* is borrowing (stealing) the work of others and not giving credit where credit is due. It is unethical and reflects very poorly on a person's character. Copying someone else's work, or asking a friend or tutor to write the student’s work constitutes a violation of the TAMUC Academic Honesty Policy. Likewise, the use of electronic media to translate work to Spanish is also unacceptable. Graduate students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. Faculty and staff are expected to uphold and support student integrity and honesty by maintaining conditions that encourage and enforce academic honesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. In addition, F-1 and J-1 international students must comply with the Student Exchange Visitor Program regulation related to their visa status. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion (Texas A&M University-Commerce Regulation 13.99.99.R0.10, “Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty”). For further information please see the Academic Honesty statement of the Department of Literature and Languages below.

3. **Withdraws & Incomplete grade.** 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. I reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of the Code of Student Conduct. Incomplete grades (grade of “X”) are granted only under rare and extraordinary circumstances which are fully documented.

4. **Grievance procedures.** Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Director of the Spanish Program, Dr. Flavia Belpoliti (flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu). If there are still unresolved issues, students need to schedule an appointment with the Department Head, Dr. Hunter Hayes, or Assistant Department Head, Dr. Susan Stewart, by completing a Student Grievance Form (available in the Main Office, HL 141). In the event that the instructor is the Department Head, the student should schedule a meeting with the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Humanities after following the steps outlined above; if the instructor is the Assistant Department Head, students should schedule a meeting with the Department Head. Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 (“Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation”).

5. **Tutoring and Advising.**
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.

Tutors: Spanish tutoring is available in HL 119. This service is free of charge and is offered daily. Sign up is on the door. Please note that there is a maximum time limit you can sign up for per day, 20 minutes. The Trio Program is also a TAMUC source for tutoring.

Advising: Dr. Flavia Belpoliti is the Spanish Programs adviser. To declare a major, second major, or minor in Spanish, or to get further information on the Spanish program, please make an appointment with Dr. Belpoliti (flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu).

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). Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR
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.
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<td><strong>Presentación</strong> del curso: objetivos, contenidos, tareas (proyecto I y II), evaluación, syllabus.</td>
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Vocabulario 2 | **Fecha límite mañana 12pm** |
| Mi | 20 | **Taller de edición**  
- corrección prácticas de edición en grupo  
**Taller de lengua 2**  
*Recursos y justificación Proyecto I (entregar en DropBox Recursos Proyecto I)* |   |
| Ju | 21 | **Taller de lengua**  
- corrección prácticas de lengua en grupo  
**Vídeo en clase**  
Vocabulario 3 | **Fecha límite sábado 12pm** |
| Lu | 25 | **Lectura y vocabulario**  
- Cap. 6  
**Estrategias 3** |   |
| Ma | 26 | **Taller de edición 2**  
**Vídeo en clase** | **Fecha límite mañana 12pm** |
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