Español 4133: expresión oral avanzada
Dra. Montoya
Oficina: BW 100
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Pre-requisite: 3333 Conversation and composition

Objectives and Methodology: This class is an interactive course in which oral participation and writing are required. Different formats of formal and informal speech and writing will be practiced in the Spanish Language, providing the student with new vocabulary and grammatical structures according to different social settings. The main objective of the course is to provide the student the opportunity to improve his/her communicative abilities through the oral and written practice in order to become proficient in Spanish. This course will also be a useful tool for the student if he or she decides to take the Languages Other Than English (LOTE) Spanish certification exam.

POLICIES

1. The use of electronic devices is not allowed, i.e. cell phones, computers, ipods. To avoid sanctions, please turn them off and put them away. Every time one of these devices is on your desk points will be deducted from your participation.

2. Attendance: please arrive on time, if you arrive ten minutes late you will be counted absent. There are no excused absences, you have the right to miss three classes, use this right wisely because you will be dropped from the class without further notification at the occurrence of the fourth absence. When the professor drops you from a class you will receive a grade of “F.”

3. Food or drinks are not allowed in the classroom.

GRADING COMPONENTS:

Participación en clase ................................. 40%
Entrevistas.................................................. 15%
Presentaciones Orales................................. 10%
Pruebitas de vocabulario ............................ 5%
Debates....................................................... 10%
Exámenes orales........................................ 20%

PARTICIPACION: Besides the presentations and debates you will be given plenty of opportunities to participate. Remember, presentations, debates and oral exams are not considered as participation. Different opportunities to participate are, for example:

1. Stating an opinion about a specific topic: this is an advanced class and you are in College, simple opinions like “está muy bien”, “no me gusta”, “no es mi favorito” definitely won’t count as participation. In order to have your opinion counted be sure to make an argument and elaborate around your first statement, example: “está muy bien porque pienso que todos los estudiantes que quieren aprender otro idioma deben hacer un esfuerzo por expresarse oralmente”.

2. Questions addressed to the professor and other classmates. The complexity of the question will be considered in order to be counted as participation. Questions like “¿Por qué te gusta la película?” or “¿Cuál es tu favorito?” won’t count. The student needs to elaborate around the question, example: “Tú dijiste que la telenovela Rosario Tijeras promueve la violencia y yo no estoy de acuerdo con eso ¿por qué piensas así?”. Simple questions like “¿por qué? ¿cuándo? ¿quién?” won’t be considered participation.

3. Participation in mini-dramas, in class interviews, group work, reports to the class, etc. Almost every day you will be asked to do something in class that will require you to speak to the class or to another classmate in Spanish.

4. Vocabulary contributions: for this section you will need a good dictionary (no I-phones nor the use of other electronic devices will be allowed in class). Each time you contribute to the class with a new word related to the topic of that day you will earn credit towards participation depending on how often or how ‘new’ the word is. In other words, if we are talking about “animales domesticados” and you give the word “perro” you won’t receive credit, but if you provide the word “correa” your participation will count.
INTERVIEWS: Every week you will be given a topic for which you will write a minimum of 10 questions, then, you will use those questions to interview a member of the Hispanic community in Wichita Falls. Remember, you need to have a different person for each interview. Some places where you can look for Hispanics are: La Victoria, La Michoacana, Restaurante La Vaca Loca, La iglesia de Guadalupe, Restaurante Jefes etc. Also consider interviewing somebody on campus, you will find lots of people working and/or studying here. By the end of the semester you have to have a total of 9 interviews and one of them will be dropped.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS: By the middle of the semester you will have to memorize a poem and recite it. Also, towards the end of the semester you will present a topic of your interest in Spanish, it would be a “discurso oratorio” in which you will have to prepare an specific topic to talk about, without reading, give information and express your opinion about it as well.

VOCABULARY QUIZZES: almost every class you will have a vocabulary quiz. We are not using a text-book for this class, the students will build up the vocabulary needed for each topic, the professor will contribute as well. Remember a good dictionary will be needed, not for the quiz but to study for it. There are no make-up quizzes.

DEBATES: There will be four different debates in class, each student should participate twice. The grade will be based on the level of preparedness each student shows to defend the topic and how well the student can formulate his or her arguments.

EXAMENES ORALES: During the semester two oral exams will be given at the Language Lab (Moffet 101). There are no make-up exams.

EXAMEN FINAL: The final exam is on Monday, December 10 at 5pm

PROGRAMA

Agosto
27 Introducción / Lectura - Reporte

Septiembre
3 Labor Day
10 Lectura – Reporte / Entrevista: Los deportes
17 Escuchar - Reporte
24 Escuchar – Reporte / Entrevista: Las relaciones interpersonales

Octubre
1 Escritura - Reporte
8 Escritura – Reporte / Entrevista: La contaminación
15 Presentación de poema
22 Examen Oral I /
29 Puntos de vista / Entrevista: El arte

Noviembre
5 Cortos: opiniones y cambios
12 Mini dramas y diálogos
19 TBA
26 Discurso

Diciembre
3 Discurso
10 Examen Oral II