

3DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES  
Western University

INTERMEDIATE SPANISH 2200  
Fall/Winter 2016-2017



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**Antirequisite:** Spanish 2223

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Intermediate Spanish 2200 provides students who already possess knowledge of basic grammatical structures with more advanced training in the Spanish language. The primary emphasis is on effective oral and written expression, so as to permit students who have completed this course to communicate their ideas and opinions with clarity in a variety of academic and social settings. The companion readings and short films are designed to familiarize the students with the Hispanic Culture, the human and intellectual contexts of the Spanish language, and to provide examples of authentic contemporary usage.

**Classes are conducted in Spanish.**

## OBJECTIVES

- To develop the ability to comprehend Spanish in a variety of situations
- To strengthen students' capacity to express themselves in different cultural contexts
- To review grammar structures from SP1030, reinforce students' Spanish knowledge, and expand students' communicative skills
- To build knowledge, skills and attitudes to expand students' intercultural competence
- To provide a strong foundation for further study of Spanish

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ihes.com/bcn/formacion/ele/blog/wordle-tics.jpg>

<sup>2</sup> NB Please note that the information given here is the information about the course supervisor, not the instructor. You will receive information about your instructor in class.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- ❑ Oral comprehension: recognize the main ideas of connected discourse on a variety of topics beyond the immediacy of the situation.
- ❑ Oral production: express themselves clearly and fluently using comprehensible pronunciation and intonation patterns; express likes and dislikes, describe people and places, narrate and describe in the past, express wishes and desires, talk about unrealized and anticipated actions and states, give directions, make suggestions, requests and hypotheses; report speech, express and defend opinions and ideas; hold a meaningful conversation about Hispanic culture.
- ❑ Reading comprehension: comprehend authentic documents such as cultural texts, newspaper articles and fiction.
- ❑ Written expression: produce two-page descriptive, narrative and argumentative pieces of writing; generate coherent form and content; compose complex sentences using proper logical connectors and relative pronouns.
- ❑ Grammar: control the verb and pronoun systems; follow the sequence of tenses; master the rules of gender, number and agreement.
- ❑ Vocabulary: effectively use a more precise and varied vocabulary to communicate fine shades of meaning and details; expand your passive vocabulary.
- ❑ Culture: express yourself according to social circumstances; develop awareness of similarities and differences between your culture and Hispanic worldviews; develop an understanding and appreciation of the wealth of social, intellectual, artistic, historical and political values and manifestations of Hispanic Culture; appreciate and analyze samples of Hispanic literature.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

### Enlaces - Supersite Plus Package

José A. Blanco, C. Cecilia Tocaimaza-Hatch  
Vista Higher Learning (2014)

**Please note:** the online version of the textbook will give you access to a vText, and to all online material. Make sure you buy the Supersite Plus Package.

It is not recommended for students to purchase a used copy of Enlaces. Access to the online material is compulsory for this course and you will need to buy it separately.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING

Community Service Learning aims to connect the classroom with the community in a way that is mutually beneficial to all participants: students, faculty and community partners. The community can contribute in multiple and meaningful ways to student learning objectives. In addition, Western students can contribute knowledge and skills toward developing sustainable solutions for community-identified needs. For more information go to <http://www.success.uwo.ca/experience/>

You can choose the 'Community Service Learning' option in Spanish 2200. Choosing this option is completely voluntary but it is a decision not to be taken lightly.

Community Service learning objectives:

- To understand the socio-cultural setting of the Hispanic community
- To practice what you are learning in class in a real life situation
- To establish friendly relations with members of the Hispanic community
- To identify similarities and differences between Canadian and Hispanic cultures

There are two options available for CSL: London based-CSL and Cuba based-CSL. **Students who choose the Community Service Learning option must commit to it until the end of the course.** Students will have until October 15th to leave the CSL program. After this date, the student will lose 15% of the total grade for the course and will have to complete the activities (assignments, tests, etc.) of the regular stream. See the CSL grading breakdown below (Evaluation).

Note: There will be an orientation session during the first week of classes to explain in full detail CSL.

### EVALUATION

ALL PROGRAMS	OPTION 1 Regular Program	OPTION 2 CSL London	OPTION 3 CSL Cuba
Participation & Progress 8% Homework 6%			
6 Quizzes (online) (1% x 6 lessons) 6% Video tutorials online (0.5 x 6 lessons) 3% Drop-in sessions (3 per semester) 3%			
4 Tests (grammar, oral comprehension and compositions) 24%			
	2 Compositions (4%) 8% 2 Oral presentations (6% + 6%) 12% Group Project 5%	Blog Post (3 x 3%) 9% Community hours 3% Oral Presentations (3% + 7%) 10% Participation (meetings, preparation, projects) 3%	2 Blog Post (2 x 2%) 4% Daily Trip Blog 10% Oral Presentations (2% + 7%) 9% Participation (meetings, preparation, projects) 2%
Final exam..... 25%			
<b>TOTAL 75%</b>	<b>Regular Program 25%</b>	<b>CSL London 25%</b>	<b>CSL Cuba 25%</b>

### CLASS MANAGEMENT

**Important:** students must attend all evaluations unless exceptional circumstances exist (medical reasons only).

**THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP ASSESSMENTS: QUIZZES, TESTS, COMPOSITIONS OR ORAL PRESENTATIONS IN THIS COURSE.**

If a student misses an assessment and academic consideration is granted, the percentage of the assessment missed will be added to the next assessment percentage of that type. If there are no more assessments, the percentage will be added to the final exam percentage. For example, if a student in the regular program misses the first composition, which would be a 4% of the course, and is granted academic consideration, the second composition is then worth 8%. If, instead, the second composition is missed, and because there are no more assessments of the composition (i.e. there is no third composition), the 4% corresponding to the second composition is assigned to the final exam, which would, in this case, be worth 34%.

### **Participation & Progress (8%):**

Students are expected to come to class regularly and attendance will be strictly monitored. Active participation in class is essential to this course. Grades are not given for mere attendance but for your participation, your contribution to the class, and for showing progress. All absences will affect the participation grade.

- **Students with more than 3 absences per semester without academic consideration will get 0 on the participation grade for that semester (4%).**
- Students must be ready in their seats before the class starts and stay until the end of the class. Arriving late disrupts the class, as well as leaving early. If a student arrives late or leaves early three times, that will be counted as an absence.
- Please advise your instructor in cases of unavoidable absence, and contact your Home Faculty Academic Counsellor for academic consideration. Without academic consideration, your Attendance grade will be affected.
- In case of illness, you should bring with you to your medical appointment the Student Medical Certificate (SMC) that can be found in the Student Center Page.

For **class participation** marking guidelines please refer to the section “SP2200 Marking Guidelines.”

Please be aware of the following university regulation: “Because attendance is so important in language courses, **any student who, in the opinion of the course coordinator, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course (see UWO Academic Calendar)**”.

For a complete and detailed academic policy, please check our Department Academic Policy:

<http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>

### **Weekly Homework (6%):**

Regular completion of homework is expected every week. A list of daily homework will be provided at the beginning of each semester. Most of the homework will be done on Supersite<sup>3</sup>.

### **Quizzes- online (6%):**

There will be 6 online quizzes (lessons 1-6, one per lesson) that will be done on Supersite. Students must do all the online quizzes before the deadline. Students missing an online quiz will receive a 0 on that quiz. Each online quiz counts for 1% of your final grade.

### **Video Tutorial - online (3%):**

In this course all the grammar is presented by video tutorials that are available online. Grades are given for watching the video tutorials online before the deadline. There are a total of 35 video tutorials, each tutorial lasting between 2 and 5 minutes. Watching the tutorials on time will give you 0.085% per tutorial. While you will be allowed (and expected) to ask questions and clarify doubts in class about the video tutorials, watching these videos is absolutely necessary to ensure progress in the class since instructors will not, in any case, explain theory in class.

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<sup>3</sup> Supersite is the web platform associated with the textbook. You are encouraged to use the Supersite as a study resource. Besides online quizzes, your instructor will assign exercises and video tutorials from Supersite that will count towards your homework grade. All exercises should be completed before the deadline.

### **Drop-in sessions (3%):**

Drop-in sessions are seminars designed to develop your Spanish skills. They will focus primarily on oral skills, to give you an opportunity to practice in a different environment everything you have learnt in class. Along the year there will be weekly drop-in sessions scheduled for you to attend. There will be few options available each week. You are required to attend 3 sessions per semester, although you are encouraged to attend as many as possible. Attendance will be monitored in each session, as well as your participation. If you do not attend 3 sessions per semester, you will lose the percentage assigned for this part of the course. If you attend the 3 sessions, your grade will be based on your participation during the session. Grades will not be given only for attendance; active participation in the sessions is required.

### **Tests (24%):**

There are four in-class tests in the year. Tests will focus on the most recent covered material but they are cumulative, which means material from past lessons can be tested. All students have to write the four tests. Students who miss a test without a valid reason (academic consideration is needed) will receive a 0, which will count towards the final grade.

### **Compositions (8%):**

There will be 2 in-class compositions, and its subject will be announced the day of the composition. Students doing Community Service Learning will not have to write compositions; they will write 3 blog posts instead. Detailed information about the blogs will be given at the beginning of the course. Compositions and blogs are corrected by the instructor, who will simply indicate where an error has been committed. Students must correct the errors in the compositions or blogs, and the composition or blog must be recopied and re-submitted to the instructor, within a week. If a student resubmits the composition or the blog once it has been corrected, the composition or blog grade will increase between 0%-20%. The instructor will determine the percentage in each individual case.

### **Oral presentations (12%):**

There will be 2 group oral presentations in the form of a video, one per semester. The subject will be announced at the beginning of each semester. Each group will work together during the course, and a sense of cooperation and responsibility is essential. The oral presentations must include the vocabulary and the grammar learned in class. Students cannot read in the presentation; they are expected to talk naturally. If a student reads, she or he will receive a 0. Students in Community Service Learning will have to do oral presentations related to their placement in the community. Also, students in CSL will have a different percentage for their oral presentations, please see Evaluation.

### **Group project (5%) - for regular program:**

There will be 1 group project in the course, only for those students in the regular program. Groups will be organized and the type of project (Community Spanish Experts, Gather Stories from Spanish speaking people, My Spanish Hero, etc.) will be decided with your instructor. Each group will work together during the course, and a sense of cooperation and responsibility is essential. Each group, together with their instructor, will decide a day during the second semester to present the project in class. That day cannot be after the deadline for project presentation established on the Course Plan.

### **Final Exam (25%):**

There will be a written final exam in the April 2017 exam period. This exam is cumulative and will include everything studied on the course.

### **MISSED ASSIGNMENTS or ASSESSMENTS:**

Students must attend all evaluations unless exceptional circumstances exist. If a problem arises, students are expected to contact their instructor before the exam or assignment is due. Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed test, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counseling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. The instructor or department cannot grant academic accommodation.

Faculty of Arts and Humanities Medical Accommodation:

[http://uwo.ca/arts/counselling/procedures/medical\\_accomodation.html](http://uwo.ca/arts/counselling/procedures/medical_accomodation.html)

**IMPORTANT:** Documentation is required for either medical or non-medical academic accommodation. Students must submit such documentation directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean's office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

If no official accommodation request is provided to the professor, late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of "0."

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: <http://uwo.ca/ombuds/student/cheating.html>

The **Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies** which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Modern Languages and Literatures (MLL) courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of MLL website at:

<http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>

It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

**SDC's Learning Skills Services**, Rm 4100 WSS, [www.sdc.uwo.ca/learning](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/learning)

LS counsellors are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

### **Cell phones, tablets and Laptops in the classroom:**

- The **use of laptops and tablets is not allowed** in the classroom unless specified by the instructor or for valid, documented medical reasons.
- Please remember to always **switch off your cell phone** before entering any classroom, and please, **no texting or cell phone activity** during class. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.
- Using your cell phone, tablet or laptop for purposes other than taking notes will be considered disruptive behaviour and liable for prosecution under the Student Code of Conduct and you could be expelled from class. The instructor reserves the right to disallow the use of cell phones, tablets and laptops in the classroom (except for those under special circumstances with written permission).

### **EMAILS:**

A certain email etiquette is expected from your emails. Include a courteous greeting and closing. Make sure that the answer to your questions is not contained in your syllabus. Your emails will be answered as soon as possible (normally, within 24 hours) but allow for a longer time if you email your instructor on the weekends.