

SAN JOAQUIN DE FLORES INSTITUTE

COURSE	CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH
CREDITS	3
CLASS HOURS	45
CLASS SCHEDULE	
PERIOD	
COURSE START AND END DATE	
PROFESSOR (include email address)	
OFFICE HOURS	

DESCRIPTION

This course is intended to improve the students' oral production in the Spanish language. At the end of the course, students will not only be able to request basic information, but will also maintain conversations beyond a simple level and control some oral registers of the language. Since the main objective is to improve oral skills, the course will be based on conversations, debates and discussions of current readings and controversial subjects from books and newspapers, as well as literary readings from poems and short stories. Some movies from the United States and Latin America will also be watched and debated. Students will have oral presentations on different subjects.

OBJECTIVES

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

- 1) Improve their fluency in the oral production of the Spanish language.
- 2) Master different oral linguistic registers.
- 3) Acquire more vocabulary.
- 4) Maintain a conversation and discuss several subjects in Spanish.
- 5) Improve their use and proficiency in Spanish grammar.
- 6) Learn and discuss contemporary aspects and cultural differences between the United States and Latin America.

CONTENTS

1. Types of communication: distinctive features of oral communication.
2. Short speech variations: introductions, appreciations, congratulations, toasts, etc.
3. Development of fundamental communicative techniques: oral account and commentary.
4. Structure and practice of academic communication. Dissertations: introduction, development and conclusion.
5. Latin America and the United States: proximity and cultural differences.
6. Analysis and discussion of several subjects through movies, songs, short literary texts, magazine and newspaper articles, etc.

EVALUATION:

Homework	
Short presentations	
Participation in class activities	
Final group project	
Final presentation	

METHODOLOGY AND CHRONOGRAM OF EVALUATIONS

The course is organized in weekly units focused on specific communicative situations. Before each conversational practice, the group will discuss and memorize the vocabulary that will be used on each lesson, with or without assistance from the professor. These presentations will allow an exchange where doubts and reactions will come up.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Davis, Robert y Losada, Maria. 2001. *Tertulia. Advanced Oral Skills in Spanish*. Orlando: Harcourt Collage Publishers.

Iorillo, Nino R y Díaz, Andrés C. 1996. *Conversación y controversia. Tópicos de hoy y de siempre*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Láscaris, Constantino. 1980. *El costarricense*. San José: EDUCA.

Lee, James F. y Vanpatten, Hill. 1995. *Making communicative language teaching happen*. EE. UU.: McGraw-Hill.

Müller Delgado, Marta Virginia. 1993. *Técnicas de comunicación oral*. San José: Editorial de la Universidad de Costa Rica.

Omaggio Hadley, Alice. 2001. *Teaching language in context*. EE.UU.: Thomson Heinle.

Ponce de León, José Luis. 1987. *El arte de la conversación. El arte de la composición*. New York: Harper y Row Publishers.

Segoviano, Carlos (ed.). 1996. *La enseñanza del léxico español como lengua extranjera*. Madrid: Iberoamericana.

CHRONOGRAM OF ACTIVITIES: (example)

SESSION NUMBER	DATE	SUBJECT	CONTENT	ACTIVITY
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Descriptions 2. Narrative 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verbs "ser and estar", adjectives. 2. Discursive connectors, verbs in past tense. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Descriptions. 2. Telling short stories.
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Imperative 2. House-related vocabulary 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food related vocabulary (Costa Rican typical dishes) 2. Parts of the house 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation about typical dishes from Costa Rica.
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interactions with Costa Ricans at the market 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food related vocabulary (fruits and vegetables) 2. Expressions used to request price information 3. Review of numbers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interviewing salespeople at the Central Market in Heredia.
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Narrative 2. Review of everyday situations vocabulary 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of verbs in past tense 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. My favorite book: describing the argument of the student's favorite book.
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Routines 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Customs in different cultures 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation about daily routines in different cultures.

		1. Analysis of conversation	1. Word associated to a successful conversation in Spanish	1. Analyzing videos. 2. Creating dialogues. 3. Interviews.
		1. Costa Rican myths and legends	1. Verbs in past tense: building stories 2. Culture and its relation to myths and legends	1. Telling legends. 2. Interviews.
		1. Particular situations	1. Vocabulary and expressions adapted to different circumstances: interaction with native speakers in real contexts	1. Dramatizations. 2. Creating dialogues. 3. Analyzing videos.
		1. Readings about current subjects 2. The news	1. Reinforcing vocabulary: specificity	1. Specific readings and text commentaries. 1. Presenting a news show.
		1. Group discussions: debates, panels and movie discussions.	1. Reinforcing subject specific vocabulary	1. Different types of group presentations.
FINAL SHORT PRESENTATIONS				
FINAL PRESENTATION				