

SAN JOAQUÍN DE FLORES INSTITUTE

COURSE	Spanish Composition
CREDITS	3
CLASS HOURS	3 (2:30) (48 total -16 weeks-)
CLASS SCHEDULE	
PERIOD	
COURSE START AND END DATE	
PROFESSOR (include email address)	
OFFICE HOURS	

DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this course is that students improve their skills in the use of the Spanish language, specifically when it comes to writing. Students will receive composition and writing guidelines that will be combined to different in-class and out-of-class exercises and practices to optimize their use of the language.

This is a theoretical-practical course. Theory will include general subjects such as the use of accent marks, punctuation and spelling. Practices will include short compositions written in class, as well as longer compositions assigned as out-of-class exercises.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Practice oral production in the Spanish language.
2. Develop Spanish composition exercises.
3. Learn to write different types of texts, including descriptive, narrative and expository texts.
4. Correct spelling vagueness and linguistic inadequacy.
5. Learn the proper use of punctuation marks.
6. Place accent marks accordingly.

CONTENTS:

1. Some punctuation marks and use of capitalization.
2. Sentences and paragraphs: cohesion and coherence.

3. Agreement.
4. Variety in vocabulary use.
5. Discourse transitions: connectors, coordinating and subordinating conjunctions.
6. Techniques for developing descriptive, narrative and expository texts.
7. Composition of these types of texts.
8. Synonyms and antonyms.

EVALUATION:

Homework and short tests	30%
Exams	45%
Diary	15%
Class Participation	10%
TOTAL	100%

METHODOLOGY:

This course will be imparted in two weekly sessions of ninety minutes each. Presentations and practices guided by the professor will be combined with individual readings, group discussions and writing exercises. Instruction and practice are balanced to ensure students can apply what they learned in class on their compositions.

It is extremely important that students express their wishes and interests in regards to the subjects used for the different composition exercises.

Basic concepts and guidelines will be studied in class, where students will complete their short compositions and longer exercises individually or in groups. The professor will return all compositions with comments and notes on what must be corrected. Students will hand out their compositions once all corrections are made so they can receive their corresponding grades.

CHRONOGRAM OF EVALUATIONS:

QUIZ I	
PRESENTATION I	
QUIZ II	
QUIZ III	
PRESENTATION II	
QUIZ IV	
FINAL EXAM	

CHRONOGRAM OF ACTIVITIES:

SESSION NUMBER	DATE	SUBJECT	CONTENT	ACTIVITY

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

This is a minimum bibliography that might be expanded along the course.

Müller Delgado, Marta Virginia. 1999. *Curso básico de redacción*. San José: Editorial de Costa Rica.

Pazos, Ethel. 1988. *Acentuación y ortografía*. San José: Publitex S.A.

Prado, Marcial. 2001. *Diccionario de falsos amigos inglés – español*. Madrid: Editorial Gredos.

Real Academia Española. *Diccionario Panhispánico de Dudas*. Madrid: 22ª edición.

Valdés, Guadalupe et al. 1999. *Composición: proceso y síntesis*. EE. UU.: The McGraw-Hill Companies Inc.

Valdés, Guadalupe et al. 1999. *Cuaderno de práctica. Composición: proceso y síntesis*. EE. UU.: The McGraw-Hill Companies Inc.

Villar, Celia. 2001. *Guía de verbos españoles*. Madrid: Editorial Espasa-Calpe.