

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES, LITERATURES,
AND CULTURES
ADVANCED SPANISH COMPOSITION AND ORAL PRACTICE

Instructor: Steve Sheppard
Office: LANG 403 L
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REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Blanco. *Revista: Conversación sin barreras*, 4th ed. ISBN 978-1-61-857-148-9

Note: New copies of the textbook include an access code to required online resources for the course. Students may also purchase a code separately from the publisher here:

<http://vistahigherlearning.com/store>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed for students who have completed SPAN 2050 or its equivalent. Students will have the opportunity to improve writing skills and oral proficiency through the study of select grammar topics, short films and readings, and the completion of compositions, activities and projects. Students will also increase their awareness of social, cultural, historical, and political aspects of the Spanish-speaking world.

ASSESSMENT

Participation	10%	Exams (3)	30%
Homework/Quizzes	15%	Compositions (2)	15%
Research Paper	15%	Oral Presentation	15%

GRADE SCALE: A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F = Below 60

HOMEWORK/QUIZZES

Homework will be completed according to the due dates listed on the Vista Supersite at <https://www.vhlcentral.com/home>. All homework assignments are due on Friday night at 11:59 pm the week for which they are assigned. Quizzes will be unannounced, and may cover any material previously studied. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. No make-up work will be allowed for homework or quizzes in the case of unexcused absence.

RESEARCH PAPER

Students will prepare a research paper of 4-6 pages on specific topic (TBA). Research papers must be documented with 3-5 sources of information (electronic and print) using the MLA style. Rough and final drafts will be written at home, but there will be an in-class peer review of the rough draft.

ORAL PRESENTATION

Students will prepare an oral presentation to be presented during class time the last two weeks of class.

COMPOSITIONS

Students will write two compositions during the first half of the semester. Composition #1 will focus on description and composition #2 will be a movie review. Students will write the first draft of compositions in class, and the final draft as homework. Students will complete an in-class peer edit of each composition. Unexcused absences for the first draft and peer review will result in a zero or reduced credit for that portion of the composition.

ATTENDANCE

Students are allowed three unexcused absences without penalty. Any unexcused absence beyond three will result in a 2% reduction of the final grade. In the case of unexcused absence, students are responsible for any assignments due that day. No make-up work for unexcused absences (see attendance policy).

PARTICIPATION

Students must perform all five tasks listed on the classroom tasks rubric to receive participation points each day. Students not meeting or exceeding expectations for all five tasks will receive a zero.

Classroom Tasks	Exceeds / Meets Expectations	Does Not Meet Expectations
Speaks in Spanish and participates actively as directed for the entire class period.		
Works well with a partner/classmates (e.g. is an active listener, is respectful, helpful, and supportive of classmates, etc.).		
Stays on task during class.		
Comes prepared to class (e.g. completed assigned homework, brings required materials, etc.)		
Arrives on time to class.		

COURSE POLICIES

On student behavior in the classroom:

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether

the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.

Outside help/academic integrity:

All assignments should be the student's work only, and should reflect the student's level of proficiency. The use of translation technology (any digital translation tool or app) is prohibited for all assignments, and will be considered academic misconduct. Information "cut and pasted" or otherwise copied from other sources and used as answers in assignments will be considered plagiarism. Cheating, plagiarism, and other examples of academic misconduct will result in a zero on the assignment in question, and may be reported to the Dean of Students.

Attendance:

No make-up work will be allowed for unexcused absences. Only those individuals whose absences are authorized by the instructor will be eligible to make up any assessment or assignment missed. Excused absences include the following: illness with a written excuse from a medical professional, death in the family, religious holidays, military training, transportation incidents, and university-sponsored activities. Documentation must be provided (physician's statement, obituary, accident report, etc.) the first day upon returning to class in order for the absence to be excused. Absences in observance of religious holidays are authorized only if students have notified the instructor in writing within the first 15 days of the semester. For absences due to military training students must present their paperwork to the instructor prior to absence. For absences due to transportation incidents students must provide documentation of an occurrence preventing class attendance, and should contact the instructor as soon as possible. If it is not possible to document a transportation incident (such as being in a traffic jam due to an accident on the freeway), students should contact the instructor as soon as possible following the incident, and absences will be excused on a case-by-case basis. For absences due to university-sponsored activities students must obtain authorized absence cards from the Dean of Students and present them to the instructor in order for absences to be excused. **Students with 12 unexcused absences will be administratively dropped from the class by the instructor.**

Food and beverages in the classroom:

Food is not allowed in the classroom. Students are allowed to consume appropriate beverages during class periods only if their instructor gives his or her approval for doing so.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that

students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).

Syllabus is subject to change. This class may be video recorded for pedagogical purposes.

Wk. 1 Jan. 18 - 22	Introduction to course
	Lección 1 p. 2-11 see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 2 Jan. 25 – Jan. 29	p. 12-18
	p. 19-29 see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 3 Feb. 1 - 5	p. 30-33 Composition #1 (1st draft, written in-class last 50 min.)
	Composition #1 in-class peer edit Lección 2 p. 34-41 see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 4 Feb. 8 - 12	p. 42-50
	p. 51-59 see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 5 Feb. 15 - 19	Composition #1 final draft due p. 55-63
	Exam #1
Wk. 6 Feb. 22 – 26	Lección 3 p. 64-73
	p. 74-80 Composition #2 (1st draft, written in-class last 50 min.) see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 7 Feb. 29 – Mar. 4	Composition #2 in-class peer edit p. 81-85
	p. 86-95 see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 8 Mar. 7 - 11	Lección 4 p. 96-105
	Composition #2 final draft due p. 106-111

	see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 9 Mar. 14 – 18	Spring Break
Wk. 10 Mar. 21 – 25	p. 112-121
	p. 122-125
	see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 11 Mar. 28 – Apr. 1	Exam #2
	Lección 5 p. 126-135 see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 12 Apr. 4 – 8	p. 136-141
	Research paper rough draft due
	p. 142-151 Research paper in-class peer edit see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 13 Apr. 11 – 15	p. 152-155
	Lección 6 p. 156-165 see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 14 Apr. 18 – 22	Research paper final draft due p. 166-172
	p. 173-186 see online calendar for Supersite activities
Wk. 15 Apr. 25 – 29	Oral Presentations
	Oral Presentations
Wk. 16 May – 6	Oral Presentations
	Oral Presentations
Wk. 17 May 9 – 13	Exam #3 (final exam). Check final exam schedule http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring for day and time.