



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH, ITALIAN AND SPANISH

CONTEMPORARY HISPANIC CULTURES, SPAN 321 L01
Location: EDC 172 Days: MWF 11:00

INSTRUCTOR 'S NAME and E-MAIL: Mrs. Ana Val; val@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE LOCATION and HOURS : CHC 312; MW 14:00 – 15:00 or by appointment
TELEPHONE NUMBER : (403) 220-6738

DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is to raise learners' level of language proficiency and expand their knowledge of the Hispanic world by integrating language and content instruction.

Spanish 321 will study some of the main current issues in the Hispanic world in their historical, cultural and social context. It will review the most relevant features of each country, including its geographical characteristics, recent historical events, economic resources, social traits and artistic achievements.

The course involves extensive reading, comprehension, written activities and active participation. To take full advantage of the course it is essential that students arrive at each class properly prepared, having done the tasks assigned for each class.

This course is not a conversation course. However students are expected to participate actively in class discussions. Classes will be conducted in Spanish.

PREREQUISITES: Span 203 (with a grade of at least C-) or consent of the Department.
Not open to students with credit in 400-level courses.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Exams (3) 30%
Written Assignments (2) 20%
Poster Presentation 10%
Class Performance 10%
Final Exam 30%

GRADING SCALE

A+ =100 Outstanding; A =94-100; A- =90-93; B+ = 86-89; B = 82-85; B- = 78-81; C+ = 74-77; C = 70-73; C- =64-69; D+ = 58-63; D = 50-57
The official grading system (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0) will be applied for the calculation of the final mark.

REQUIRED TEXTS

O'Donnell, Cathryn Collopy & Kelly, Kathryn. *Portales, comunidad y cultura*. Prentice Hall, 2003. (Photocopies sold at the bookstore.)
O'Donnell, Cathryn Collopy & Kelly, Kathryn. *Portales, comunidad y cultura. Manual de actividades*. Prentice Hall, 2003. (Photocopies sold at the bookstore.)
Readings from the WWW. Consult my Web page for this class.
<http://fis.ucalgary.ca/aval/321/F08Homepage.html>

RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

A good medium size Spanish-English/English-Spanish dictionary, such as Collins or Larousse.

COURSE NOTES

1. The information on the course outline handed with this Course Information Sheet or posted on the Webpage is not binding and can change according to the needs of the class.
2. 5% of the grade will be deducted for each day a written assignment (activity or composition) is late if there is no written document to justify the absence or the failure to complete it.
3. No make up tests will be given. Instead the percentage assigned to a specific test will be added to the next test the student has to take.
4. Lack of attendance may adversely affect your overall performance and may have a negative impact on your final grade.
5. The mark for class performance includes attendance and an active and positive contribution to classes. The grade for this section will be granted as follows:
 - Student participates regularly and always comes to class well prepared: 10%
 - Generally student participates and generally comes to class well prepared: 8%
 - Sometimes student participates and comes to class prepared: 7%
 - Student seldom participates and comes to class prepared: 4%
 - Student never participates and never comes to class prepared: 0%

Well prepared means that, before coming to class, the student has done the homework assigned by the instructor (which can include learning some vocabulary and grammatical structures, reading and preparing specific texts, completing certain activities) so he/she can participate intelligently during the class period.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that "plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted." Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.