

Cedar Crest College

Spanish 301: Conversation and Composition
Tuesday 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm
Blaney Hall 10
Fall 2009

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 1:00-2:00 pm & by appointment.

Prerequisites:


This three-credit course is designed to meet the needs of advanced Spanish students who have completed two years of college level Spanish or have passed a placement exam and obtained permission from the Department.

Required Texts:

Textbook: J. Febles, C. Harris . Por escrito 2nd Ed. *De la palabra a la composición*

Textbook: Iorillo, Díaz . Conversación y controversia 5th Ed. *Tópicos de hoy y de siempre*

Dictionary: English /Spanish dictionary

 To assist you with this course, you will have access to **eCompanion**, an on-line resource that includes supplementary course material. Here, you will find a copy of the syllabus as well as detailed instructions on how to submit your assignments, review your graded work, and interact with your classmates outside the classroom.

A. Course description:

This course is designed to develop written and oral expression as well as self-confidence in articulating ideas in Spanish. Grammar and practical compositional exercises are included. The course also explores contemporary issues of Hispanic/Latin cultures through readings, presentations, and class discussions via various media and technology.

B. Course objectives:

- The students will enrich their vocabulary through oral and written practice.
- The students will improve their overall fluency in the language using, in proper context, vocabulary and idioms presented.
- The students will write controlled compositions in and outside the classroom, demonstrating their knowledge of grammar structures.

- The students will respond to questions, orally and in writing, concerning the cultural and key contemporary issues of the Hispanic/Latin world.
- The students will comprehend authentic communications via media and technology.
- The students will present to the class an oral report about an aspect of the Hispanic Culture.

C. Required work:

I. Attendance

Attendance is **mandatory**. Missing classes will adversely affect the student's grade as well as his/her ability to keep up with the class. Students should remember that any absences from class might also adversely affect the class participation grade used in determining their final grade.

✍ If you need to miss class due to health, personal, or athletic reasons, **please notify me** in advance (*if possible*) or on the day of class. If an emergency arises, the Dean's Office can provide you with an official excuse note. And remember, if you miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for staying current regarding assignments and announcements.

II. Participation in class and preparation

This class is directed towards the development of oral and written communication. Therefore, a strong emphasis is placed on listening, comprehension and speaking skills. Accordingly, the students are required to be involved in class activities, and they must show their preparation by participating in the discussions and completing all individual and/or group exercises. **Participation is a key factor in the language-learning process.**

✍ It is essential that you study and complete assigned material outside of class.

III. Assignments

There will be no formal exams. Grades will be based on performance in the following assignments with emphasis on fluency, correctness, and content:

- **Grammar exercises.** You will complete Spanish grammar exercises both in and out of class in order to help you master the structures of the language. Please familiarize yourself with the grammar structures prior to each class. Preparation **will** make the difference!
- **Compositions.** Six compositions will be assigned throughout the course of the semester. The compositions must be word-processed, double spaced, using a 12-size font. Accents must be typed into the documents. All compositions must be submitted through the e-Companion site of this course in order to receive a grade.
- **Written comments.** To expand Spanish vocabulary and cultural awareness, particularly in regard to contemporary events and issues in Latin America and Spain, students are required to follow Hispanic/Latino news in Spanish through various media and afterwards write a weekly comment about a relevant event. All commentaries must be submitted through the e-Companion site of this course in order to receive a grade.

- **Class discussions.** Since this is a conversation course, you will be given a chance to converse on various topics each class. You are required to read in advance about each theme and to demonstrate it in class through active oral participation. It is necessary that you take responsibility for the learning process, are prepared to share ideas and opinions, cooperate in groups, and make a consistent effort to communicate entirely in Spanish.
- **Films and cultural activities.** These activities are designed to help you familiarize with the different accents of Spanish as well as gaining knowledge of the culture. You will also participate in a cultural activity!

→ Films are on **reserve** in the **Library**, and you are required to see them outside the classroom and afterwards express your comments in Spanish by the due date.

TITLE: “*Mar Adentro*” → must be seen by **Nov. 17th**

TITLE: “*Celebrating the Day of the Dead*” → must be seen by **Oct. 27th**

CULTURAL ACTIVITY: “*Building an Altar de Muertos*” → **Date TBA**

Any work that will receive a grade must be individual and independent work.

IMPORTANT ► Homework and other assignments are due on the day specified in the calendar. **No credit for late work.**

- **Oral presentation.** Each student needs to do a 7-8 minute cultural presentation completely in Spanish in the semester. The students will select the topic (with Instructor’s approval). The main purpose of the presentations is for you to find out more about an aspect of Hispanic/Latin culture(s) that interests you and then to teach your classmates what you learned.

Following the presentation, your classmates will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide commentary. Students will be expected to prepare and to practice before performing in class. Guideline cards in English/Spanish are allowed. (But not reading from a script!)

Aspects to be graded are organization, vocabulary, correctness of the language, and performance.

➤ Oral Presentation Date: → **Dec. 1st**

D. Grading Criteria

I. The CCC grading scale is as follows:

93-100%	A	80-82%	B-	69-60%	D
90-92%	A-	77-79%	C+	Below 60%	F
86-89%	B+	72-76%	C		
83-85%	B	70-71%	C-		

II. The grade breakdown by percentages is as follows:

Class discussions (in Spanish) & preparation	20%
Grammar exercises	10%
Films & Cultural Activities	10%
Compositions (6)	30%
Oral Presentation	12%
Written commentaries	18%

E. Class Policies

I. Make-up

There will be **no make-up assignments**. There will be no **make-up day for the Oral Presentation**. Assignments must be completed and turned in on days specified by the instructor unless there is an excused absence. (Otherwise the student will receive a 0).

II. Plagiarism

Copying from other students or providing other classmates with answers to assignments, all constitute plagiarism and will result in an immediate F for the course. Second offenses are dealt with in the CCC student handbook and usually involve suspension.

III. Classroom Protocol

Besides completing all assignments, the student is required to read the assigned pages and prepare the material for the class in advance. During class we will practice using the textbook exercises; however, I strongly recommend completing additional textbook exercises after class. I encourage the use of Spanish forms of courtesy to interact with other students and with the instructor. In class the student is required to maintain a polite behavior in every moment. In order to preserve an environment free of distractions, **please avoid late arrivals or early departures. No food in the classroom.**

IV. Disabilities


Students with documented learning disabilities who may need academic accommodation should discuss these needs with their instructor as soon as possible. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Academic Services Office.



V. Honor Code

I fully support the Cedar Crest College Honor Code and the Classroom Protocol code as stated in the Customs Book.

F. Tentative Calendar (Note: This calendar is subject to change depending on class needs.)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Main topics</i>	<i>Tarea</i> <i>(Due before the following class)</i>
Aug. 25 SEMANA 1	Course introduction Por escrito: P. 2-8 La oración y sus partes La ortografía El diccionario	1. Register for the e-Companion course and review Webliografía 2. Por escrito: Completar Ejercicio 4 pp. 8-9 3. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>BBC Mundo</i>
Sep. 1 SEMANA 2	Por escrito: P. 10-18 La oración simple y su estructura La concordancia (1) Conversación y controversia: P. 2 Gente importante del siglo XX Desafío de palabras	1. Por escrito: Composición # 1 Primera entrada del cuaderno pp. 18-19 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>BBC Mundo</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 3-4 y preparar opinión.
Sep. 8 SEMANA 3	Conversación y controversia: P. 3 El científico y el artista Por escrito: P. 19-22 La concordancia (2)	1. Por escrito: Completar Ejercicio 7f pp. 23 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>BBC Mundo</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 12-13 y preparar opinión. 4. Conversación: Completar <i>Desafío de palabras</i> pp. 21
Sep. 15 SEMANA 4	Conversación y controversia: P. 11 El año 2100 Por escrito: P. 24-27 La concordancia (2)	1. Por escrito: Completar Ejercicio 9b pp. 27 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>Puerta del Sol</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 23-24 y preparar opinión.
Sep. 22 SEMANA 5	Conversación y controversia: P. 22 El matrimonio Por escrito: P. 28-31 La concordancia (2) La descripción (1) El presente del indicativo	1. Por escrito: Completar Ejercicio 14 pp. 37 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>BBC Mundo</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 34-35 y preparar opinión. 4. Conversación: Completar <i>Desafío de palabras</i> pp. 30

<p>Sep. 29 SEMANA 6</p>	<p>Conversación y controversia: P. 31 La popularidad: Hombres y mujeres</p> <p>Por escrito: P. 38-41 El reflexivo con el presente Estrategias de la comunicación escrita</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Por escrito: Composición # 2 Segunda entrada del cuaderno pp. 42 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>BBC Mundo</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 43-45 y preparar opinión.
<p>Oct. 6 SEMANA 7</p>	<p>Conversación y controversia: P. 43 El terrorismo</p> <p>Por escrito: P. 42-45 La descripción (3)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Por escrito: Composición # 3 Pre-composición descriptiva pp. 45 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>BBC Mundo</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 49-50 y preparar opinión. 4. Conversación: Completar <i>Desafío de palabras</i> pp. 56
<p>Oct. 13 SEMANA 8</p>	<p align="center">** NO CLASS - Fall Break **</p>	
<p>Oct. 20 SEMANA 9</p>	<p>Conversación y controversia: P. 47 El ser supremo</p> <p>Por escrito: P. 48-56 Introducción a la oración compleja</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Por escrito: Completar Ejercicio 4 pp. 56-57 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>Puerta del Sol</i> 3.  Film: Ver la película <i>Celebrating Day of the Dead</i> y preparar opinión.
<p>Oct. 27 SEMANA 10</p>	<p>Comentario de la Celebración del Día de Muertos.</p> <p>Por escrito: P. 56-66 El complemento directo Los relacionantes <i>que</i> y <i>quien</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Por escrito: Composición # 4 Tercera entrada del cuaderno pp. 66-67 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>BBC Mundo</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 59-61 y preparar opinión.
<p>Nov. 3 SEMANA 11</p>	<p>Conversación y controversia: P. 57 Pasado, presente y futuro</p> <p>Por escrito: P. 67-74 Ser y Estar</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Por escrito: Composición # 5 Cuarta entrada del cuaderno pp. 75-77 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>BBC Mundo</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 70-71 y preparar opinión. 4. Conversación: Completar <i>Desafío de palabras</i> pp. 78-79

<p>Nov. 10</p> <p>SEMANA 12</p>	<p>Conversación y controversia: P. 69 El aborto</p> <p>Por escrito: P. 77-84 La se impersonal</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Por escrito: Completar Ejercicio 12b pp. 84-85 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>BBC Mundo</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 82-83 4.  Film: Ver la película <i>Mar adentro</i> y preparar opinión.
<p>Nov. 17</p> <p>SEMANA 13</p>	<p>Conversación y controversia: P. 80 La eutanasia</p> <p>Por escrito: P. 86-88 Estrategias de la comunicación escrita (2)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Por escrito: Completar Primer paso de la composición descriptiva. pp. 88 2. E-Companion: Escribir comentario <i>Puerta del Sol</i> 3. Conversación: Leer pp. 91-92 y preparar opinión.
<p>Nov. 24</p> <p>SEMANA 14</p>	<p>Conversación y controversia: P. 90 La migración</p> <p>General review</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Por escrito: Composición # 6 Completar Segundo paso de la composición descriptiva. pp. 89 (Esta es la versión final) <p>➤ Preparar la presentación oral</p>
<p>Dic. 1</p> <p>SEMANA 15</p>	<p> PRESENTACIONES ORALES</p>	