

# Sul Ross State University

## Course Syllabus

Spanish 3302

### Advanced Spanish Composition

Spring 2016

Wednesday- Wed 6-8:45pm

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**Instructor: Dr. Ana Sylvia Acevedo**

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**Eagle Pass: MW 1:00-2:00**

Facebook TT 3:00-4:00 or by appointment

#### Course Description:

The main objective of this course is the development and practice of advanced writing skills in Spanish. The course is intended to foster the ability to write coherent and meaningful essays in Spanish. The instructional method used in this course follows the “writing as process” approach in which the instructor monitors each stage of the writing process, giving individual feedback to students.

#### Course text:

**Colombi, Pelletieri, and Rodriguez. *Palabra abierta*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.** Boston:Houghton- Mifflin. ISBN 9780618527748

A good Spanish-English, English-Spanish dictionary is highly recommended. Among the best are the Oxford, Collins, or Larousse College dictionaries. Not as useful are Vox, Velázquez, or Webster's.

#### Expected Learning Outcome:

- Students will apply knowledge of conventions of written communication, including the use of formal and informal vocabulary, following written instructions, and identifying formats and styles for written essays.
- Students will apply knowledge of sentence construction, including identification of correct word order, and combining and expanding sentences.
- Students will apply knowledge of the major grammatical structures of Spanish, including the components of the noun phrase and the verb phrase.
- Students will apply knowledge of the different purposes of writing, including description, narration, reporting, argumentation, and exposition.
- Students will apply knowledge of the conventions of Spanish orthography, including spelling, written accents, rules of capitalization, and punctuation.

#### Program Learning

##### Objectives:

**PLO 2: The graduating student will demonstrate advanced level proficiency in writing Spanish.**

#### Grading Policies:

The expected learning outcomes for the course will be determined through a series of assessment tools. In order to assess your grammatical skills, reading comprehension and language ability you will take two written exams during the course and a final written exam at the end of the course. During the semester you will also take quizzes and two short exams (*pruebas*) that will test the uses of verb forms and grammar rules. Your writing ability will be assessed by two compositions. Your oral ability will be assessed through your participation (assessment of this area is based on you attending class on time, doing all work, speaking only in Spanish, and participating actively in ALL activities). Your reading comprehension will be assessed through reading assignments. Finally, your personal work will be assessed through homework assignments

Your final grade will be determined as follow:

1. Attendance and participation	= 10
2. Homework	= 10
3. Journal	= 10
4. Essays	=30
5. Exams (2)	=20
6. Final Projects	=20
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\*Note: Todas las tareas se entregan a principiar la clase. No aceptan tarde.

### **Class Attendance & Participation**

\*\*Regular attendance, punctual arrival, and good participation in class are expected.

#### **Attendance:**

Acceptable excuses for missing class:

**Illness:** Verification of illness is required for an absence to be excused. Documentation must be a note on letterhead indicating a time visit to a physician and must be presented upon your return to class.

**Absence Due to Religious Observance:** A student who intends to observe religious Holy day should **make that intention know in writing to the instructor prio to the absence.** A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a holy day shall be allowed to make an examination or complete an assignment schedule for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Absence Due to University Approved Trips:** Department chairpersons, directors, or others responsible for a student representing the university on officially approved trips should notify the student's instructors of the departure and return schedules **in advance of the trip.** The instructor so notified must not penalize the student, although the student is responsible for material missed. Students absent because of university business must be given the same privileges as other students (e.g., if other students are given the choice of dropping one of four tests, then students with excused absences must be given the same privilege).

\*\* The attendance policy as published in the Bulletin of Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College will be adhered to in this course. All students are expected to be familiar with that policy.

#### **Make-up policy**

\*\*No make-ups are allowed except for excused absences

#### **Academic Honesty**

Academic integrity is taking responsibility for one's own work, being individually accountable, and demonstrating intellectual honesty and ethical behavior. Ethical behavior and independent thought are essential for the highest level of academic achievement. It is the aim of the faculty of Sul Ross State University – Rio Grande College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work that they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

“Scholastic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

#### **Civility in the classroom**

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning.

Help maintain a positive learning environment by arriving on time, **turning off cellular phones and all other electronic devices before arriving in class, (this includes not checking for text messages during class)**, and avoiding distracting behaviors, **such as talking with others**, speaking out of turn, using offensive or insulting language, **eating**, sleeping, completing homework, reading the newspaper, etc.. Any student whose behavior disturbs our learning environment will lose participation points and may be asked to leave the classroom.