

Fall Semester 2008



Professor: Glenda Y. Nieto Cuebas
Email: gnieto@amherst.edu
Office: Grosvenor House 24
Phone: 542-5354

Office hours: M & W 3:00 – 4:00
or by appointment.

Course description¹:

Spanish 6 is an advanced conversation course designed for students who want to improve their communicative abilities in Spanish. A variety of cultural texts will be the base for classroom activities. This course combines a content-based language instruction with an interactive task-based approach. Students will be expected to actively participate in a variety of interactive small and large group activities. These activities are designed to improve your conversational skills and your practical knowledge about culture and language. You will participate in a variety of communicative activities such as: dialogues, conversations, interviews, film reviews, group discussions and presentations. Your participation in these activities will require you to use Spanish in various situations that reflect normal use of different varieties of Spanish. The class will be conducted in Spanish.

Objectives:

The main goal of this course is the study of the fundamentals of Spanish: conversation, listening and reading comprehension, vocabulary building, grammar and culture. The objectives are to help students to develop skills in the Spanish language at an advance level as well as a basic awareness of the cultural diversity of the Spanish-speaking world. Your ability to understand and communicate will develop along with your knowledge of the vocabulary and grammatical structures of the language.

Upon successful completion of this course, you will:

1. Have improved your communicative abilities (oral and written in Spanish), especially at the presentational mode.
2. Expand your vocabulary in Spanish so as to enable you to understand and read in Spanish accurately a variety of texts: films, articles, interviews, literature pieces, etc.
3. Improve your pronunciation.
4. Expand your cultural knowledge of the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

Methodology:

You are expected to attend class every day, to participate actively and to attempt to speak Spanish as much as possible. Although you will make mistakes when you speak Spanish, keep in mind that the more you speak, the more you will gain in your Spanish ability.

¹ This syllabus, specially the activities outlined in the course calendar, is subject to change at any time to accommodate class activities. Please check often with your instructor for changes in dates, activities and/or requirements.

[Click Here to upgrade to Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

Attendance is indicated in the attached schedule; make sure that you will be required to work in pairs or small groups. Your active participation is essential for you to be successful in class.

Learning a foreign language is a sequential process: it is, therefore, critically important for you to study and review carefully every day throughout this course. In general, your approach should be to preview grammar and vocabulary of each chapter before it is introduced in class so that you are familiar with what is to come. It takes time to process both grammar and vocabulary, so the sooner you begin working with the material in a given chapter, the better.

During class the listening and speaking components will be emphasized; the reading and writing components will be mainly practiced at home. Homework in the online "Revista Supersite" and the written assignments will be helpful in developing these two skills. You should allow two or three hours a day for the study of Spanish (at least two hours outside of class for each hour in class).

Texts:

Required:

- Revista. Conversación sin barreras. 2nd EDITION Blanco, García. Aparisi. Published by Vista Higher Learning
- A bilingual Spanish- English dictionary.

Assessment:

Components of the final grade	Percentage
Participation	15%
Exams, Oral Exams and Quizzes	25%
T.A. Classes	25%
Video Project	25%
"Supersite" Assignments and Additional Homework	10%

Participation:

Includes attendance, preparation for and participation in class, timely completion of Assignments, etc. Class participation is always expected and extremely welcome. Please notice that participating in class does not mean getting all the answers right or speaking proper Spanish, but rather trying to communicate in Spanish. As a reminder, this grade is given only at the end of the semester, and it really makes a difference in the final percentage.

Quizzes and Exams (Midterm and Final):

They are designed to test your knowledge of vocabulary, grammar and reading comprehension. They should compel you to return and repeatedly engage (rather than forget) material studied earlier. There is a quiz every two chapters, a Midterm exam after chapter three and a Final exam after six. The Midterm covers chapters 1-3, and the Final covers chapters 4-6. Furthermore I may give you pop quizzes periodically.

T.A. Classes:

Students meet with the Teaching Assistant once a week. Attendance is strictly enforced, and absences count as part of the total in the course. These classes are extremely important to meet the objectives of the course. The T.A. takes care of the cultural part of each lesson, so it is important you attend. Notice that the

[Click Here to upgrade to
Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

f) than in regular classes. This allows a stronger focus to be on grammar. The T.A. reports your attendance, participation, on a weekly basis to me. At the end of the semester the T.A. will assign you a grade. This grade is at the T.A.'s discretion, although I reserve the right to alter the T.A.'s grade if I consider it necessary.

Video Project:

For the final project you will be asked to create a short documentary video about an issue related to the Spanish-speaking community in the area. As much as possible, this film should incorporate a large amount of the vocabulary and grammar learned in the course. We will discuss the details of this project as the semester progresses.

“SuperSite” Assignments:

These assignments are important to practice reading comprehension, grammar structure, and spelling. They will also help you learn to organize and exposed your ideas in Spanish. You will see a list of the task as they are assigned on the “SuperSite” Web site: <http://revista.vhlcentral.com>

Course Policies:

Attendance:

Due to the emphasis on oral practice and pair work, attendance is mandatory and will be checked daily. Should you miss more than three class sessions for any reason; one point will be deducted from your final course grade for each additional session missed. Leaving class prior to class dismissal will be counted as an absence. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed when you are absent and to come to the next class prepared to take any quizzes or turn in any homework assigned for that day. If you know you will be absent on a given date, you must communicate to me or the TA before the absence to make arrangements for making up missed work. There will be no make-ups for missed quizzes or tests. Athletes, musicians, and other students involved in school clubs or organizations that require travel should consult with me at the beginning of the semester regarding their absences.

Please note: I understand that some absences are unavoidable and because of that I reserve the right to determine on a case by case whether any circumstances make it appropriate to waive provisionally the policy described herein. Please try to speak with me in person rather than leaving emails or phone messages.

Late work policy:

All work is due on the date indicated on the course syllabus during the scheduled class meeting time. Late work will be marked down 5% for each calendar day (including weekends) that the work is turned in after the due date. After two weeks (fourteen days) has passed the work will no longer be accepted and the grade will remain a zero. Early work is always accepted.

Honor code:

While you are encouraged to work and study together with other students, academic work submitted by students shall be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. Academic work is defined as, but not limited to tests, quizzes, projects, either individual or group, classroom presentations and homework.

Violation of the Honor Code include, but are not limited to using translators, either electronic or more proficient speakers, copying homework assignments from other students, copying ideas or facts from another's paper during a test situation, giving or receiving facts or ideas verbally or in writing during a test situation, and using notes, textbooks, or reference materials on test, daily quiz, or examination unless the use of such material is specifically permitted by the instructor.

[Click Here to upgrade to Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

In the learning experience, all cell phones and pagers must be turned off before entering any class room, lab or formal academic performance or event.

Freedom of Expression:

Each student is strongly encouraged to participate in class. In any classroom situation that includes discussion and critical thinking, there are bound to be many different viewpoints. These differences enhance the learning experience and create an atmosphere where students and instructor alike will be encouraged to think and learn. On sensitive and volatile topics, students may sometimes disagree not only with each other but also with the instructor. It is expected that faculty and students will respect the views of others when expressed in classroom discussions.

Extra credit:

There will be no extra credit assignments for this class.

Calendario del curso Español 01²

FECHA		ANTES DE CLASE	EN CLASE	TAREA
X	3 de septiembre (Monday Classes held)		Presentación del curso y del syllabus.	
Lección 1: ¿Realidad o fantasía?				
V	5 de septiembre	Leer : Págs. 10-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducción: Cómo hacer tareas y ver videos a través del SuperSite • Estructuras: Los verbos Ser y Estar Págs. 10-11 	Estudiar : Págs. 10-11
L	8 de septiembre		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estructuras: Los verbos Ser y Estar Págs. 10-11 	SuperSite: Estructuras
M O J	Sesión de TA	Ver Cortometraje Leer: Vocabulario del corto, Pág. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cortometraje: "Viaje a Marte" Págs. 6-9 	Ver Cortometraje Estudiar: Vocabulario del corto. Pág.4 SuperSite: "Viaje a Marte"

² Please be aware that the calendar is subject to change based on the needs and interest of each section. Sign-up sheets for presentation and schedules for other class assignments will be distributed in class.

[Click Here to upgrade to Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensayo: "Celebración de la fantasía." Págs. 12-15 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario Pág. 12 Ensayo Pág.13</p> <p>SuperSite: "Celebración de la fantasía."</p>
V	12 de Septiembre (Last day for Five College registration and Add/Drop)	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 16 Opinión, Pág. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opinión: "La ciencia ficción clásica perdurará." Págs. 16-18 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario Pág. 16 Opinión: Pág. 17</p> <p>SuperSite: "La ciencia ficción clásica perdurará."</p>
L	15 de septiembre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 19 Cuento, Págs. 20-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cuento: "El otro círculo." Págs. 19-25 <p>Proyecto de video: Temas y división en grupos</p>	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario Pág. 19 Cuento: Págs. 20-23</p> <p>SuperSite: "El otro círculo."</p>
M O J	Sesión de TA	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tira cómica / Tertulia Págs. 26-29 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 26</p> <p>Entregar Composición 1ª "Escribe un relato fantástico" Pág. 28</p>
X	17 de septiembre	Estudiar Lección 1	Quiz Unidad 1	
Lección 2			"Historia de dos"	
V	19 de septiembre	Leer: Págs. 38-39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estructuras: El pretérito y el imperfecto 	<p>Estudiar: Págs. 38-39</p> <p>SuperSite: Estructuras</p>
L	22 de septiembre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 40 Artículo, Págs. 41-42	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Artículo: "Las cuatro fórmulas científicas de la felicidad" Págs. 40-44 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 40 Artículo, Págs. 41-42</p> <p>SuperSite: "Las cuatro fórmulas científicas de la felicidad"</p>

[Click Here to upgrade to Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

		Vocabulario, Pág. 32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cortometraje: "Diez minutos" Págs. 32-37 	Ver Cortometraje Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 32 SuperSite: "Diez minutos"
X	24 de septiembre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 45 Ensayo, Pág. 46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensayo: "Borges y yo" Págs. 45-47 	Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 45 Ensayo, Pág. 46 SuperSite: "Borges y yo"
V	26 de septiembre		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensayo: Pág. 48 	
L	29 de septiembre		Presentaciones orales: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propuestas – Proyectos de video 	
M O J	Sesión de TA	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 54	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tira cómica/Tertulia: Págs. 54 -57 	Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 54 Entregar Composición 2ª "Describe tu personalidad" Pág. 56
X	1 de octubre		Presentaciones orales: Propuestas – Proyectos de video	
V	3 de octubre	Estudiar Lección 2	Quiz Lección 2	
Lección 3			"Prohibido pensar"	
L	6 de octubre	Leer: Págs. 66-67	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estructuras: Las preposiciones Págs. 66-67 	Estudiar: Págs. 66-67 SuperSite Estructuras
M O J	Sesión de TA	Ver Cortometraje Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cortometraje: "Nada que perder." Págs. 60-65 	Ver Cortometraje Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 60 SuperSite: "Nada que perder"

[Click Here to upgrade to Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entrevista: “Benicio del Toro: ‘Soy un vago, pero asumo bien mis fracasos y rechazos’.” Págs. 68-72 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 68 Entrevista, Pág. 69-70</p> <p>SuperSite: “Benicio del Toro: ‘Soy un vago, pero asumo bien mis fracasos y rechazos’.”</p>
V	10 de octubre		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proyectos de video – Trabajo en grupos 	
L	13 de octubre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 73 Opinión, Pág. 75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opinión: “Pocholo es virtual.” Pág. 74-77 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 73 Opinión, Pág. 75</p> <p>Entregar el primer borrador del guión de proyecto de vídeo.</p>
M O J	Sesión de TA	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 84	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tira cómica/Tertulia Págs. 84-87 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 84</p> <p>Entregar Composición 3^a “Escribe una crítica de cine.” Pág. 86</p>
X	15 de octubre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 78 Cuento, Págs. 79-81	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cuento: “Cine Prado.” Págs. 78-83 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 78 Cuento, Págs. 79-81</p> <p>SuperSite: “Cine Prado.”</p>
V	17 de octubre	Estudiar Lección 3	Quiz Lección 3	
Lección 4			“Poder, quiero más poder”	

Click Here to upgrade to
Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estructuras: El subjuntivo Págs. 96-97 	<p>Estudiar: Págs. 96-97</p> <p>SuperSite: Estructuras</p> <p>Devolución del guión corregido.</p>
M O J	Sesión de TA	Ver Cortometraje Leer: Vocabulario, Págs. 90	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cortometraje: "El ojo en la nuca." Págs. 90-95 	<p>Ver Cortometraje Estudiar: Vocabulario, Págs. 90</p> <p>SuperSite: "El ojo en la nuca"</p>
X	22 de octubre		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repaso para examen 	Estudiar para examen
V	24 de octubre	Estudiar Lecciones 1, 2,3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examen parcial: Lecciones 1 - 3 	
L	27 de octubre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 98 Opinión, Pág. 99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opinión: "La tortilla." Págs. 98-101 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 98 Opinión, Pág. 99</p> <p>SuperSite: "La tortilla"</p> <p>Entrega del Segundo borrador del guión</p>
M O J	Sesión de TA	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 112	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tira cómica/ Tertulia Págs. 112-115 	Entregar Composición 4 ^a "Escribe una carta al Presidente." Pág. 114
X	29 de octubre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 102 Experiencias, Págs. 103-104	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiencias: "Carta abierta a mi nieto." Págs. 103-105 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pag. 102 Experiencias, Págs. 103-104</p> <p>SuperSite: "Carta abierta a mi nieto"</p>
V	31 de octubre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 107 Poema, Pág. 109	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poema: "Yo misma fui mi ruta." Págs. 107-111 	<p>Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 107 Poema, Pág. 109</p> <p>SuperSite: "Yo misma fui mi ruta"</p>

[Click Here to upgrade to
Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

Quiz Lección 4

Lección 5			"El laboratorio de la literatura"	
M O J	Sesión de TA	Ver Cortometraje Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 118	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cortometraje: "Un día con Ángela." Págs. 118-123 	Ver Cortometraje Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 118 SuperSite: "Un día con Ángela"
X	5 de noviembre	Leer: Págs. 124-125	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estructuras: El Subjuntivo 	Estudiar: Págs. 124-125 SuperSite: Estructuras
V	7 de noviembre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 126 Experiencias, Pág. 127	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiencias: "Drácula y los niños." Págs. 126-129 	Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 126 Experiencias, Pág. 127 SuperSite: "Drácula y los niños."
L	10 de noviembre		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proyectos de video – Trabajo en grupos 	
M O J	Sesión de TA		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tira cómica/Tertulia Págs. 142-143 	Entregar Composición 5ª "Narra una experiencia personal." Pág. 142
X	12 de noviembre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 135 Cuento, Págs. 136- 137	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cuento: "El mono que quiso ser escritor satírico." Págs. 135-139 	Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 135 Cuento, Págs. 136-137 SuperSite: "El mono que quiso ser escritor satírico."

[Click Here to upgrade to
Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

Quiz Lección 5

Unidad 6			"Modos de vivir"	
L	17 de noviembre	Leer: Págs. 152-153	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estructuras: Oraciones condicionales con si 	Estudiar: Págs. 152-153 SuperSite: Estructuras
M O J	Sesión de TA	Ver Cortometraje Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 146	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cortometraje: "Bajo la sombrilla." Págs. 146-151 	Ver Cortometraje Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 146 SuperSite: "Bajo la s sombrilla"
X	19 de noviembre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 158 Opinión, Pág. 159	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opinión: "¿Cuáles son las prioridades de la humanidad para las próximas décadas?" Págs. 158-161 	Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 158 Opinión, Pág. 159 SuperSite: "¿Cuáles son las prioridades de la humanidad para las próximas décadas?"
V	21 de noviembre	Leer: Vocabulario, Pág. 163 Microcuentos, Pág. 164-165	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microcuentos Págs. 163-167 	Estudiar: Vocabulario, Pág. 163 Microcuentos, Pág. 164-165
L	24 de noviembre	¡Vacaciones!		
X	26 de noviembre			
V	28 de noviembre			

[Click Here to upgrade to Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

			Presentaciones de proyectos de vídeo.	
M O J	Sesión de TA		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tertulia y Repaso Pág. 171 	Entregar Composición 6ª "Escribe un artículo de opinión." Pág. 170
X	3 de diciembre		Presentaciones de proyectos de vídeo.	
V	5 de diciembre		Presentaciones de proyectos de vídeo.	
L	8 de diciembre	Estudiar Lección 6	QUIZ Lección 6	
M O J	Sesión de TA		Repaso	
X	10 de diciembre (Last day of fall semester classes)		Examen Final	

General Guidelines for Essays

FORMAT:

Write a 1 page essay using font **Times New Roman** size 12. Double space all the lines except the header. Margins should be 1 inch on each side. Write your name and last name, class title, professor name, date and whether this is the First or Second Draft. Skip one line and then write a title for your essay and center it. Follow the example below. Remember that in Spanish only the first letter of a sentence or of proper names is capitalized and titles do not require a period.

Nombre y Apellido	Amherst College
Prof. _____	Fall 2008
Español 6	Composición #1
20 de octubre de 2008	

Viaje a Marte

The writing assignments should be double-spaced with **one-inch margins on all sides**. Use a **12-point Font in Times New Roman**.

Follow standard rules for Spanish grammar.

Organize your ideas in a coherent essay form. Remember to use transitional words or phrases. Make sure that each paragraph has a concrete main idea and that the essay as a whole has an identifiable main point. Recheck vocabulary, verb conjugation and subject-verb-adjective agreement. You may refer to your grammar textbook if any questions arise. Also, make sure you spell-check using the Spanish dictionary option in your word processor of choice. Under no circumstance should a composition should be written first in English and then translated into Spanish. This is a horrible habit that limits your ability to think in Spanish and thus to improve. Beware of online English-Spanish translators. Since they translate in a vacuum (with no context) oftentimes they suggest the wrong word. Do not forget accents (stress marks). Please print on both sides of the sheet.