Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Spanish III (Spanish 2311.001) Syllabus – Fall 2014

Instructor: Prof. Melissa Culver
Office phone number: 825-2580
Email: Melissa.Culver@tamucc.edu
Office number and building: 260 Faculty Center

Office hours: M&W: 12:30-1:30; 4:00-5:00
T: 11:00-12:00
***If you are unable to make these office hours, please contact me (preferably by email) to schedule an appointment.

Class meets: MW: 5:30-6:45 IN CS 112

Course description
Reviews Spanish grammar through oral and written practice with emphasis on language proficiency. Utilizes cultural readings in Spanish to expand vocabulary and knowledge of the Hispanic cultures. Prerequisite: SPAN 1312 or three years of high school Spanish.

Texts:

Student Learning Outcomes
At the end of this course students will demonstrate ability to:
· Communicate in a range of situations at an intermediate level (home, school, work, etc.).
· Understand and use a variety of vocabulary in common usage in different situations at an intermediate level.
· Understand and respond to oral and written material at an intermediate level.
· Show an awareness of elements of the culture and their role in communication at an intermediate level.

Course requirements:
· Attendance:
  Attendance is mandatory. If you are absent you cannot present, participate, or demonstrate any understanding of class material. You may be absent twice without penalty. After the second absence, you will lose 3 points (3% of your final grade) for every class you miss. You are responsible for the material covered in class. If you must be absent more than twice, you will not be excused unless you provide official written documentation. If you have an excused absence, missed assignments will be due the day you return to class. Please remember that if you are late by more than 10 minutes, you will be considered absent, unless you provide official written documentation.
-**Participation 16%:**
Participation is essential in this course. Participation includes being attentive, asking questions, taking part in group activities during class time and completion of your Reading Guides. Reading Guides will be collected twice during the semester (on the day of the midterm exam and on the day of the final exam).

-**Readings from the textbook:**
Your syllabus stipulates the readings you will do for every class. You must read the material in advance thoroughly and be ready to answer questions and make comments about it during class. If you did not read the material before class, you will lose your points for participation that day. With each assigned reading, you will also receive a Reading Guide with questions to help you get the most out of your reading experience.

-**Presentation 10%:**
You will be required to do a group presentation (2 students per group) worth 10% of your final grade. Your grade will be assigned individually and will be based on your work and effort. Presentations will consist of a dialogue (10-15 minutes long) on a variety of cultural topics that we will discuss in class in advance. You may not read your dialogue. Presentations will be held during the weeks of Nov 10th-Nov 20th in my office (if necessary, I will have extended office hours during those weeks). If you miss your presentation, you will lose the points, unless you have a properly documented excuse. If you have a properly documented excuse, your presentation will be postponed until you return to class. Please remember that you are responsible for selecting your presentation partner.

-**Compositions 12%:**
Compositions will help you to reinforce the grammar structures/vocabulary that we have reviewed in class. You should always include in your compositions the more recent structures we have practiced, unless instructed otherwise by me. Composition topics and the number of words required will be determined in class by me. Your compositions must be typewritten (in Spanish), double-spaced, Times New Roman, font 12 and handed to me in class by their due date. There will be 12 compositions, worth 1% each. Please write your compositions yourself: avoid the use of online translators and/or proofreaders.

-**Workbook and Lab Manual 12%:**
You will be required to complete listening and grammar exercises from the workbook on a regular basis. Please remember that workbook/lab manual lessons must be completed by the class period after the corresponding textbook unit has been finished. Your Workbook will be collected twice during the semester, on the date of your Midterm Exam and on the date of your Final Exam. There will be 12 workbook assignments, worth 1% each.

-**Exams:**
There will be two exams: a midterm exam, worth 20% of your final grade and a final exam, worth 30% of your final grade. Both exams are cumulative (they will include all the material covered up to the exam date, unless specified otherwise by me). Attendance to both exams is mandatory. Please review TAMUCC’s guidelines regarding more than two final exams on the same day and come to see me as soon as possible if you have a conflict with the exam dates. I will need at least 30 days advance written notice if you need to reschedule your Final Exam.

**Late work policy:** late work is only accepted if you have a properly documented, official excuse. If you have an excuse, your work will be due the day you return to class.
Should you experience technical difficulties (e.g., you are unable to print your composition by the due date), please email me your assignment immediately (Melissa.Culver@tamucc.edu) so that I can mark it as “on time”, then print your assignment and hand it in to me either in class or during office hours, no later than a day (24 hours) after its due date. Please note that I do not grade work submitted by email. If you submit late work, 0.5 points per day late will be taken off your grade (starting on the due date/time) until the work is submitted.

**Grading policy:**
- 20% Midterm Exam
- 30% Final Exam
- 16% Participation (8% before the Midterm; 8% after the Midterm)
- 12% Workbook assignments 1% each
- 12% Compositions (redacciones) 1% each
- 10% Presentation
- **Total: 100%**

**Grade distribution:**
- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- 59 and below F

**Miscellaneous.** Please reduce unnecessary distractions to the minimum. **Cell phones must be set on vibration mode; laptop users must sit in the front row.** Visitors are not allowed in class, unless permitted by the professor in advance. Students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct as described by the University Student Handbook and to have an amicable and respectful attitude towards their instructor, language lab staff and fellow students.

**DATES TO REMEMBER: FALL 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 18</td>
<td>Faculty Start Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 27</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday (CLOSED)</td>
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<td>September 3</td>
<td>Last day to late register or add a class</td>
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<td>September 11</td>
<td>Census date</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class</td>
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<td>November 27-28</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holidays (CLOSED)</td>
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<td>December 1</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from the University</td>
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<td>December 2</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
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<td>December 3</td>
<td>Reading Day</td>
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<td>December 4-5,</td>
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<td>December 8-10</td>
<td>Final examinations</td>
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<td>December 9</td>
<td>Last day to apply for Fall (December) 2014 graduation</td>
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<td>December 11-12</td>
<td>Grading days</td>
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<td>December 13</td>
<td>Fall Commencement</td>
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<td>December 15</td>
<td>Deadline for faculty to submit fall grades</td>
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<td>December 24-January 2</td>
<td>Winter Break (CLOSED)</td>
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**Academic Advising:**

Academic advisers are available to assist students with course selection, degree plans, and other academic matters. Each college has an academic advising center, staffed by full-time, professional advisors. It is imperative that all students visit regularly with an academic adviser. In our college the undergraduate adviser is Linda Miller (825-3466, Linda.miller@tamucc.edu). The graduate adviser is Rachelle Stanley (825-3466, Rachelle.stanley@tamucc.edu). Both are located on the second floor of Driftwood. Students who have yet to declare a major are advised by the Academic Advising Transition Center. FMI - please call (361) 825-5931 or log on to http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Grade Appeal Process:**

Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

**In the event of a hurricane, I will follow the published policies of TAMU-CC. If the campus remains officially open during the time that our class normally meets then class will proceed as scheduled (including all graded events). If the university closes campus we will push the course requirements to the next official class meeting. If an exam date is cancelled, the exam will be held during the next official class meeting.**
**COURSE OUTLINE (TENTATIVE)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semana</th>
<th>Lección</th>
<th>Contenidos</th>
<th>Lectura</th>
<th>Tareas/Fechas importantes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Ago. 27-28</td>
<td>Introducción al curso</td>
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<td>Comp. 1: <em>Mi vida</em>. Present tense, nouns and articles.</td>
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| 2. Sep. 1-4 | 1 | 1.1. Nouns and articles.  
Comp.2. Correct/add to comp.1 |
| 3. Sep. 8-11 | 1 | 1.2. The present indicative: Regular verbs.  
1.3. Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns. | “Del montón” (fragmento), Mervin Román | Comp.3. Correct/add to comp.1 |
2.2. Present Indicative: Verbs with spelling changes and irregular verbs. | “El arrebato”, Rosa Montero | Comp.4: *Una historia/una biografía* (en el presente). Present tense, including irregular, stem-changing verbs, ser vs. estar, etc. |
2.3. Descriptive adjectives.  
2.4. Uses of the verbs ser y estar. | “Tiempo libre”, Guillermo Samperio | Comp. 5. Correct/add to comp. 4 |
3.2. Gustar and similar constructions. | “El canalla sentimental” (fragmento), Jaime Bayly Letts | Comp. 6. *Lo que me gusta, lo que me encanta, lo que me fascina*. Direct and indirect objects, gustar and similar constructions, comparatives and superlatives. |
| 7. Oct. 6-9 | 3 | 3.2. Gustar and similar constructions.  
4.4. Comparatives and superlatives. (p.192). | “La frontera”, José Edmundo Paz Soldán | Comp.7. Correct/add to comp.6 |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>8. Oct. 13-16</td>
<td>REVIEW MIDTERM EXAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Nov. 3-6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.1. Imperfect. 4.2. Preterite and Imperfect: Completed and background actions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Dec 8</td>
<td>EXAMEN FINAL Lunes, 8 de diciembre de 2014 4:30pm-7:00pm</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
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*Minor assignments (homework, etc.) are not listed here and will be assigned in class by me, on a course needs basis.
*Please remember that if you are absent, you are responsible for assignments/due dates.
*Some assignment dates may be subject to change (e.g, compositions) on a course needs basis.