

Westfield State University
Department of World Language Studies
LSPA 0205: Spanish Composition

Dr. Enrique Morales-Díaz
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The focus of the course is to help students develop writing ability in Spanish. Another goal of the course is to develop students' understanding of the terminology and rules of grammar so they can better understand how the language functions and be better prepared for the possibility of teaching it in the future. The course will focus on writing, vocabulary development and an exposure to culture. Reading selections will be taken from online newspaper articles. Selected readings will enable students to increase their vocabulary while continuing to develop skills in the correct use of the grammar, as to organize their ideas in writing in Spanish.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Write a well-organized composition in Spanish about your own experiences or opinions, with clear themes and thesis using appropriate grammar, vocabulary, expressions, and structures.
 - Demonstrate control of writing skills in Spanish
 - Use, in proper context, vocabulary and idioms presented
 - Use and explain grammatical rules and structures
 - Write compositions demonstrating ability with style in Spanish prose
 - Respond to questions in writing concerning the content of assigned readings

REQUIRED MATERIALS

The following links are to the materials you will need for this course:

Diccionario del estudiante <http://www.rae.es/rae.html>

Libro digital *Herramientas de español* <http://www.bowdoin.edu/~eyepes/newgr/ats/index.html>

<http://www.spanishdict.com/>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Postings (Discusiones) 25%

- Because of the nature of the course, you will be expected to practice your writing skills constantly. This will be done through postings in response to a question. Each posting **MUST** be a minimum of 400 words. Before posting your response to the question, it will be your responsibility to write out your answer which will also require you place appropriate accent marks where necessary.
- You will also be responsible for replying to at least **THREE** postings by your fellow classmates. In order to ensure clarity as well as accuracy in your responses, you **MUST** follow the same format required for your own initial posting.
- The responses to postings by fellow classmates **MUST** be a minimum of 200 words.

Journal (Diario) 25%

- You will be responsible for writing a daily entry in your diarios. These entries **MUST** be a minimum of 400 words.
- What you write about in these diarios is completely up to you.
- Know that I will be the only person that will have access to these diarios.

- I will provide you with feedback on both grammar and may also ask questions for clarification. It is important that if I ask questions specific to a particular entry that you reply back to me. This will be done through PLATO email.

Composition (Composiciones y errores razonados) 25%

- All compositions will be based on a specific topic or question. They MUST be typed, doubled spaced and submitted as .doc or .rtf attachments.

Final Evaluation (Evaluación final) 25%

- On the last day of class you will be required to submit an evaluation both of the course and your role in the class. This will be done in the form of an essay and will constitute your final exam.