**Fall 2018**

**University of Kansas**

**Department of Spanish & Portuguese**

**SPAN 424: Advanced Spanish Composition and Grammar**

SPAN 424 is an intensive writing course designed to help advanced students of Spanish to further develop their academic writing, grammatical proficiency and understanding of the linguistic and cultural subtleties of the Spanish language. Students will also further their understanding of Hispanic cultures through reading and critically analyzing a series of short literary works.

**Co- and Pre-requisites**: SPAN 340. Concurrent enrollment in SPAN 428 is highly encouraged.

**Principal learning Outcomes:**

* To recognize, understand and utilize a variety of formal composition discourses, in particular to construct a well-organized, persuasive paper in Spanish.
* To foster greater understanding of Hispanic cultures through the analysis and critical comparison of literary and cultural artifacts from the Spanish-speaking world.
* To achieve greater mastery of a range of grammatical topics in Spanish, and in so doing incorporate more sophisticated structures and vocabulary in writing
* To improve information literacy and research skills, including the use of academic sources and the application of the MLA style.

**Required Materials:**

Readings and materials will be made available through our course Blackboard page.

A good Spanish-English dictionary, such as the *Concise Oxford Spanish Dictionar*y, 4th edition, stocked at the KU bookstore, is recommended.

**Course evaluation:**

**Attendance, Participation and Preparation – 10%**

All students are allowed two absences before they start to impact your grade. Beginning with the third absence, your final grade will be lowered one percentage point for each missed class. Attending class is not sufficient to earn full points in this category – you are expected to speak Spanish in class, participate fully in class activities (individual, small group and class work), and treat your instructor and classmates with respect. You will be asked to evaluate your own participation 3-4 times during the course of the semester. Your instructor will either accept your assessment as is and record it or alter it and offer a rationale. If you disagree with the evaluation, resolve the disagreement with your instructor within a week.

**Weekly writing assignments – 20%**

Each week you will be asked to write a short analysis or reflection. Some of these will be specific prompts while others will be more open-ended. Still others will serve as steps in composing the *trabajos escritos*. These micro-writings will be due on Sundays by the end of the day (11:59pm). More information will be made available on Blackboard.

**Trabajos escritos – 55%**

Trabajo escrito I (asunto social) – 15%

Trabajo escrito I (análisis literario) – 15%

Trabajo final – 25%

We will approach writing as a process. Both essays will include pre-writing activities and peer revision. The final paper will be a revision and research-based expansion of one of the first two essays and will be supported by a library session in which we will discuss research strategies and annotated bibliographies.

All written assignments and papers must be typed and follow MLA style rules (Times New Roman, 12pt. font, double spaced, 1-inch margins). All papers will be submitted to Blackboard using SafeAssign. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade per day.

**Examen gramatical – 15%**

This exam will focus on grammar topics discussed in class. **There will be no make up.**

**Grading Scale:** A = 93 – 100% B- = 80 – 82% D+ = 67 – 69%

A- = 90 – 92% C+ = 77 – 80% D = 63 – 66%

B+ = 87 – 89% C = 73 – 76% D- = 60 – 62%

B = 83 – 86% C- = 70 – 72% F = 0 – 59%

**Plan de estudio:**

\*The following outline is meant to provide an idea of the various topics we will cover this semester, what we will do in class week-by-week, and when most major assignments will be due. This plan is subject to change. Details and additional information will be made available on the course Blackboard page.

Lunes, 20 de agosto: Introducción al curso

Miércoles, 22 de agosto: Introducción a conceptos básicos: género, campo, tenor y modo (2-6); “Assessing the Writing Situation” y “Writing about texts” de *A Writer’s Reference* – Hacker

**Unidad I: El amor y el género**

L, 27 de agosto: Toni Mendoza, “Cuentos”

M, 29 de agosto: Cristina Peri Rossi, “La naturaleza del amor”; Por vs. para

L, 3 de septiembre: *No hay clase - Día del trabajo*

M, 5 de septiembre: Cervantes, “La cueva de Salamanca”

L, 10 de septiembre: Poesía del siglo de oro (Lee tu poeta asignado): Lope de Vega, Garcilaso de la Vega, Luis de Góngora, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz; Pretérito e imperfecto

M, 12 de septiembre: Voces femeninas en la poesía (Lee tu poeta asignado): Alfonsina Storni, Mayra Santos-Febres y Raquel Salas Rivera

L, 17 de septiembre: Taller de escritura I; “Draft a working thesis” de *A Writer’s Reference*

M, 19 de septiembre: El subjuntivo y las clausulas con “si”

**Unidad 2: El realismo mágico**

L, 24 de septiembre: Gabriel García Márquez, “La santa”; **Entregar trabajo escrito I**

M, 26 de septiembre: Silvia Rolle, “El realismo mágico” y Arturo Uslar Pietri, “El realismo mágico”

L, 1 de octubre: Jorge Luis Borges, “El milagro secreto”

M, 3 de octubre: Película TBD

L, 8 de octubre: El surrealismo: Julio Cortazar, “Axolotl” y Aimee Bender, “The rememberer”

M, 10 de octubre: Taller de escritura II, *Writing about literature* – Hacker

L, 15 de octubre: **No hay clase – Vacaciones de otoño**

M, 17 de octubre: Selección de *Children of Blood and Bone*

L, 22 de octubre: Usos de “se” y los objetos; **Entregar trabajo escrito II**

M, 24 de octubre: Repaso para examen de gramática

L, 29 de octubre: Examen de gramática

M, 31 de octubre: **Sesión especial en la biblioteca**.

**Unidad 3: La comunidad Latinx**

L, 5 de noviembre: Pre-lectura sobre “Zuit suits”; Los conectores

M, 7 de noviembre: *Zuit suit* (película)

L, 12 de noviembre: Selección de poesía nuyoricana

M, 17 de noviembre: Lectura TBD sobre el ser Latinx hoy en día; Estudiar pronombres y adjetivos demostrativos y posesivos

L, 19 de noviembre: Lectura TBD sobre el ser Latinx hoy en día

M, 21 de noviembre: **No hay clase – Vacaciones del Día de Acción de Gracias**

L, 26 de noviembre: La música

M, 28 de noviembre: Formas nuevas de narrativa – Novelas gráficas, historietas y más; Las cláusulas independientes y dependientes, cláusulas relativas

L, 3 de diciembre: Taller de escritura para trabajo final; La acentuación

M, 5 de diciembre: Conclusiones, evaluaciones del curso

**El trabajo final se entrega el miércoles, 12 de diciembre antes de la 1:00pm**

**Additional course policies**

**Academic Integrity**

All assignments for this course must be your own work. If you have questions about what constitutes “your own work,” consult your instructor *before* turning in an assignment. Academic misconduct is a term for an instance of a breakdown in academic integrity. Incidences of academic misconduct will be penalized according to university policy. It is your responsibility to understand the rules pertaining to academic misconduct (which includes plagiarism) as outlined in the Rules and Regulations of the University Senate. According to [Article II, Section 6](http://policy.ku.edu/governance/USRR#art2sect6) of the Rules and Regulations of the University, Academic Misconduct “shall include, but not be limited to, disruption of classes, giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments, or knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work, falsification or research results, plagiarizing of another's work, violation of regulations or ethical codes for the treatment of human and animal subjects, or otherwise acting dishonestly in research.”

For example, the following are not allowed for work in this course: copying (from someone else's assignments or from another source [a reading in a textbook, the Internet, etc.]) without clear attribution of the source; having another student, a tutor, or a friend suggest changes or correct the work you are to turn in; collaborating with another student (“working together”) on an assignment unless specifically directed to do so by the instructor; translating directly from another source; or using electronic translation programs for more than phrases of a few words. These restrictions apply to any work turned in for credit in this course – even daily homework assignments. *Representing as your own work someone else's work or work where you received unauthorized or unacknowledged assistance is an act of academic misconduct and as such may result in serious academic sanctions, including a grade of F in the course, denial of course credit, expulsion from the course, and reporting to the university units dealing with such violations across campus.*

There may come a time when you feel that you need extra help or clarification on a given matter for the course. Should such a time arise, please speak with your instructor and/or visit them during office hours. Your instructor holds office hours every week and these will be made available during the first week of classes. They will be posted alongside the hours of other instructors of the course in Blackboard. If your instructor’s office hours conflict with your schedule, please speak with them or send an e-mail to set up a time to meet. You can also use the list of instructors in Blackboard to seek help from another instructor during their office hours. We strongly encourage you to use these resources as opposed to seeking an outside tutor who may not understand the material or the purpose it has in our course. We want to evaluate and provide feedback on *your* work, not a tutor’s or friend’s work.

**Attendance and Participation:**

Attendance is mandatory. Daily attendance is essential for successful completion of this course. Only by attending both class sessions every week will you have the opportunity for maximum points in your Preparation & Participation grade. It is the instructor’s responsibility to begin class on time and you are expected to be in class on time. Failure to arrive on time will affect your participation grade.

Please notify your instructor immediately (in the first full week of the semester) if you will be absent for a mandated religious observance. Only if you take these steps can you be assured that that absence can be excused. Only absences due to mandated religious observances or a serious medical condition (with proper documentation) will be excused. The first two absences (regardless of cause) entail no grade penalty; after 2 absences, 1% will be deducted from your final grade for each subsequent absence. This 2-absence allowance is equal to a full week of class. Please understand that these 2 allotted absences should not be viewed as “free” days, but rather as necessary absences for illness or personal obligations.

An on-going situation (medical or personal) that affects your attendance will necessarily affect your participation grade, and will most likely affect your performance in other aspects of coursework. Students with more than 5 absences in a 400-level course should consider withdrawing from the course and taking it during a semester when they are able to attend class regularly. If you anticipate such attendance problems at any point during the semester, please see your instructor immediately.

Presence in class in and of itself does not constitute **participation**. Students should *prepare the assigned text or activity* before class and *participate actively while in class*. Participation will be graded throughout the semester using the criteria posted on Blackboard.

**Cell Phones, Tablets and Laptop Computers in Class**

Cell phones should be shut off or “silent” during class time, and they should not be used in class unless explicitly encouraged by your instructor. You are welcome to work with a laptop or tablet, provided that its use enhances (rather than distracts from) in-class work. If your Instructor suspects that you are using such devices for non-class purposes or that your use of the device is otherwise distracting you and/or your classmates from the work being done, you will be asked to put the device away immediately. If you are asked to put away your device on two or more occasions, you will be asked to leave them at home for the rest of the semester. Please also note that such distractions will necessarily have a negative impact on your participation grade.

**Communication**

Your instructor will use KU’s e-mail and Blackboard to communicate with you outside of class. Please develop the habit of checking both of these online resources between all class meetings. Furthermore, we ask that you, the student, also use KU’s email when communicating with your instructor. Additional course material will also be posted to the course’s Blackboard page.

**Concealed Carry**

Individuals who choose to carry concealed handguns **are solely responsible to do so in a safe and secure manner in strict conformity with** [**state and federal laws**](http://concealedcarry.ku.edu/information) **and** [**KU weapons policy**](http://policy.ku.edu/university-kansas-policy-weapons-including-firearms-effective-july-1-2017)**.** Safety measures outlined in the KU weapons policy specify that a concealed handgun:

* Must be under the constant control of the carrier.
* Must be out of view, concealed either on the body of the carrier, or backpack, purse, or bag that remains under the carrier’s custody and control.
* Must be in a holster that covers the trigger area and secures any external hammer in an un-cocked position
* Must have the safety on, and have no round in the chamber.

**Statement on Diversity, Inclusivity and Civility**

The University of Kansas supports an inclusive learning environment in which diversity and individual differences are understood, respected, and appreciated. We believe that all students benefit from training and experiences that will help them to learn, lead, and serve in an increasingly diverse society. All members of our campus community must accept the responsibility to demonstrate civility and respect for the dignity of others. It is likely that you will not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom. Courteous behavior and responses are expected at all times. When you disagree with someone, be sure that you make a distinction between criticizing an idea and criticizing the person. Expressions or actions that disparage a person’s race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, gender, gender identity / expression, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability, or marital, parental, or veteran status are contrary to the mission of this course and will not be tolerated. (Adapted from the Center for Teaching Excellence at the University of Kansas)

**Student Access Services**

The Academic Achievement and Access Center (AAAC) coordinates academic accommodations and services for all eligible KU students with disabilities. If you have a disability for which you wish to request accommodations and have not contacted the AAAC, please do so as soon as possible. They are located in 22 Strong Hall and can be reached at 785-864-4064 (V/TTY). Information about their services can be found at [http://www.access.ku.edu](http://www.access.ku.edu/). Please contact your instructor privately in regard to your needs in this course within the first week of classes. Accommodations cannot be made retroactively.