

Final Project Instructions

For the final Project you will be writing a persuasive essay on one of topics covered either in 212 or 216. You may focus on something we have already talked about in class or you may also look ahead and investigate something we haven't yet covered. Our hope is that you view this project as an opportunity to explore in depth an aspect of Spanish speaking cultures that is of particular interest to *you*.

After choosing a topic, you will be asked to:

- formulate your own opinion/ your own stance on the issue
- find Spanish-language newspaper articles, films, songs, short stories, or poems to support your stance **The primary source MUST come from the Spanish-speaking world
- write an essay in which you try to convince the reader of your position

****Each student will examine *between 1-2 primary sources* in their essay (which might include films, songs, Spanish-language news articles, short stories, or poems). Also, you may use *no more than 3 secondary sources* (only **one** can be in English) to supplement and contextualize your argument.**

Important Dates

9/27 (5%) (Credit/No credit)	Primary Source Handout
10/14 (5%)	First Draft to peers (500 words) (<i>due Friday, 10/14 at midnight</i>)
Wk 8 Hybrid Day	Peer Review (<i>due Monday at midnight, 10/17</i>)
11/1 (30%)	(Second) Draft to instructors for feedback (800 words) The draft should be BOTH peer-edited and SELF-edited. Include a bibliography of the sources you used.
11/29 (60%)	Final Draft of Composition and Virtual Presentation on Voice Thread. Include a bibliography MLA format with the final paper.
Wk 15 Hybrid Day	Peer Review of Virtual Presentations
12/6	In class Presentation Follow-up and group discussion

Structure of your essay

Minimum of 1,000 words

Un título original y preciso

**** Make sure to use double space, 12p Times New Roman font, and a word count in all drafts of your composition ****

Section 1

In your first paragraph you should introduce your topic, explain why you think this topic is important and finally state your *own opinion* on this topic.

Section 2

In the body of your essay, your goal is to convince readers of your opinion on the topic. Provide specific examples from your primary source(s)—poems, films, short stories, news articles—to support your opinion.

Section 3

In the final paragraph you should conclude your thoughts on the issue and reflect about what you learned from this project. What impact has this topic had on the country? Think and comment on the value of learning about a country's history/culture.

Virtual Presentations

Creating an Online Presentation:

You will also virtually present your Final Project through an online site called "VoiceThread." This site allows students to record their PowerPoint presentation and then have other students leave comments and questions for each presentation that they view.

Online

Your instructors will assign small groups of students to whom you will present your Final Project. You will be required to ask questions and make suggestions for each presentation that you view in that same group (online).

In class

After viewing all your group's presentations at home, you will have time in class to discuss and respond to the comments and questions that were virtually submitted about your project by the different group members.

During your Hybrid Day assignment that weekend, you will also self-reflect and talk about what you believe you did best in the presentation—as well as what you would have done differently, if you had the chance (see the document **Presentation Follow-Up**). You will utilize this document during our discussion of the presentations in class.

Potential Topics

Below you will find a list of some of the topics covered in Acceso in 212/216. This list is meant only to give you an idea of what you could base your final project on and is not exhaustive. For some of the topics, potential sides on the issue have been stated to give you an idea of the kind of persuasive statements we are looking for in your essay. Feel free to choose topics not mentioned on this list with the *consultation of your instructor*.

España

- Las regiones autónomas de España
 - Position A: Cataluña **se debe** independizar de España.
 - Position B: Cataluña **no se debe** independizar de España.
- Lidia Falcón
- El feminismo
- La evolución del flamenco
- El matrimonio entre personas del mismo sexo
- Manolito Gafotas
 - Position A: **No es** posible traducir el humor.
 - Position B: **Sí es** posible traducir el humor.

El caribe

- El sistema de salud
 - Position A: **Es bueno** que los Estados Unidos tenga un sistema de salud accesible a todos los ciudadanos como Cuba.
 - Position B: **No es bueno** tener un sistema de salud accesible a todos los ciudadanos.
- El béisbol en el Caribe
- La bachata

México

- Anuncios publicitarios
- Las telenovelas
- Los indígenas en Chiapas, EZL, La iglesia
- El cine mexicano
- La seguridad pública en México

Centroamérica

- Oscar Arias Sánchez
 - Position A: Los países de Latinoamérica **no deben** culpar a los Estados Unidos por sus problemas.

- Position B: La intervención de los Estados Unidos *sí ha* tenido un impacto negativo en Latinoamérica.
- Los murales
- Rigoberta Menchú
 - Position A: El testimonio de Rigoberta Menchú *es válido*.
 - Position B: La crítica de David Stoll *es válida*.

Sudamérica

- El Canal de Panamá
- El Plan Colombia
- Hugo Chávez
 - Position: Aunque Chávez fue una figura polémica, es un buen líder porque ayudó a los más necesitados de su país.
- Evo Morales
- El movimiento cocalero
- El Salar de Uyuni
- El hablador
 - Position A: Los indígenas de las selvas *tienen que aculturarse* para tener una mejor vida como el resto de las personas que viven en la civilización
 - Position B: Los misioneros *no deben* forzar la aculturación de los indígenas.
- Las presidentas de Chile y Argentina
- La yerba mate
- El fútbol
 - Position: El fútbol es parte de la identidad del mundo hispanohablante.

Temas generales

- El alfabetismo
- La inmigración (niños a los Estados Unidos, tensiones entre Nicaragua y Costa Rica, emigración de España hoy en día)
- El impacto de la colonización española en Latinoamérica
- La intervención de los Estados Unidos en Latinoamérica
- La explotación de recursos naturales en Latinoamérica
- Los derechos de los indígenas