

Spanish 206. Spanish in the Media .Summer 2009
Ubeda, Spain Program

¡Viva España y viva el español!

Professor: Marianella Jara
E-Mail: jaram@uncw.edu
Phone: (910) 465-2730
Office Hour: By appointment.
Professor's website: people.uncw.edu/jaram

¡Bienvenidos a la clase de español!

Prerequisite / or co -requisites: SPN 202 (Intermediate Spanish II)

Course Description: Spanish 206 is perhaps the most exciting course you have ever taken in Spanish before. We will watch many wonderful and funny Spanish T.V. series and movies as well as read local magazines and newspapers. The idea and objective of this course is to give you maximum exposure to the language in an everyday context. You will hear native speakers speak at a normal pace the way they speak with friends and family. In other words, you will be exposed to a lot of slang. You will really appreciate it since it will help you gain more fluency and feel and sound more natural. Please know that you are NOT expected to understand every word but encouraged to try your best and let your brain absorb as much as possible. Believe me, the more you hear, the easier it gets. You will be surprised of how much you already know and how much you can understand even without knowing all the words. When watching the videos, sit back and relax. Try not to worry about what you do not understand and try to forget that you are listening a foreign language, treat it as natural as possible. This is how children learn so well because they are hardly ever worried or tense. Try to feel at home ready to enjoy a movie or show you like. A natural and relaxed approach really enhances the experience and therefore, produces better results. Trust your knowledge and intuition. I can honestly tell you that most of the English I know today I learned unconsciously by watching TV series such as “*Different Strokes, Punky Brewster, Bozo the Clown and later Dowson’s Creek*”. I used to enjoy them so much that I would get lost in them and not even noticed at times that I was not hearing Spanish. By watching these shows my mind really opened to a new language as well as the culture. We will also, use the videos to comment on different cultural aspects. I will pause the video when I feel I need to teach an expression or emphasize on a grammar concept although this is not the main purpose of the videos. We will pause every 30 minutes to discuss what we are watching and help you follow the plot. I will give you a work sheet per video to help you look for key ideas, list characters, write about their relationships etc. When reading your articles, treat reading the same way I asked you to watch the videos. Read the entire article first without looking up for words in the dictionary. Looking up every word ruins your reading experience. At this point, I can guarantee you that you understand a lot of what you read. Once again, you do not need to know or look up every word, getting the main idea is more important. Of course there will be times when certain words are crucial so please feel free to get your dictionary out, it is good practice.

Important Info about the content of the videos:s

Be aware that some of the videos we watch contain adult situations, sexual content, nudity and strong language. I will not edit the video or vocabulary to exclude such material because it is a part of your language learning experience.

Required Materials:

- ✓ **Spanish / English Dictionary** (Larousse is highly recommended)
- ✓ **Student Packet** (Provided by Ms. Jara during orientation 1)
- ✓ **Folder to file paperwork**
- ✓ **Loose Paper to write journal entries and compositions**
- ✓ **Money to buy a Spanish local magazine and a local newspaper**

Grade Distribution:

Daily class discussions:	15%
Daily worksheets	10%
Readings assignments & reflection questions on student packet	5%
Weekly article presentation	10%
Weekly TV show presentation and family discussion	10%
Weekly journal entries	10%
Weekly quizzes	10 %
Group led Discussion	5%
Cultural Presentations for conversation partners	5%
Final Group Skit about favorite movie or show episode	5%
Final composition about your favorite movie or show episode	5%
Attendance to outside class cultural activities	5%
Proper behavior:	5%

Grading Scale:

93-100 A	80-82 B-	67-69 D+
90-92 A-	77-79 C+	63-66 D
87-89 B+	73-76 C	60-62 D-
83-86 B	70-72 C-	0-59 F

Important Information:

Course Calendar: It is crucial that you review the course calendar regularly. You are responsible for following all deadlines. The calendar may be subject to changes so pay attention to announcements made in class.

Daily class Discussion: Every day we will have class conversations about the movies or shows we watch. Your participations in these discussions are crucial to do well in the class. Also, they will help you improve your vocabulary and ability to communicate in Spanish about general topics. Keep in mind

that some of the topics will be controversial as they touch on violence, relationships, friendship, sex, drugs etc.

Daily Worksheets: You will be given a work sheet per show or movie. You are required to fill it to the best of your ability. Please do your best effort as this would be an indication of the progress you are making with your listening skills. I will not grade grammar on these sheets. I just want you to jot down as much information as possible so you can participate actively in class discussions.

Reading assignments on student packet and Reflection questions: During orientation one, students are provided with a packet containing several readings about Spain and Spanish culture. Students need to read and answer the questions on Spain prior to departure. Assignments will be checked at the airport. The rest of the assignments are reflections about your experience while in Spain please answer the questions during your stay.

Weekly TV show presentation and family discussion: You will be required to watch 30- 60 minutes of TV with your host family weekly. Whatever they usually watch or they want to watch it could be a show, movie, soap opera or the news. This could be done at home or at the movies. Let the family pick. Soon after watching the show or over lunch or dinner discuss the show with them. Ask them why they chose what you watched as well as what they enjoy or dislike about it. Remember to disagree respectfully if you need to do so. We will dedicate Tuesdays to present.

Weekly Journal Entries: Every week you will be required to write 2 journal entries. You will be given a topic for one of the entries and the other will be your choice. You may choose to write about anything you like such as your experiences in Ubeda, your host family, a friend you met, etc. I will check the entries weekly on Thursdays. I will not check grammar on your entries, I want you to write freely and let your writing skills develop. I would definitely appreciate good handwriting and some structure to be able to understand what you say. If unable to understand due to bad handwriting, I will not grade. **No actual notebooks or journals, please, they will be too heavy to carry. I need loose paper!**

Weekly quizzes: You will be quizzed weekly on new vocabulary learned. You will be asked to put the words into context by being able to write full sentences. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Weekly article presentation: You will be required to buy a local magazine and newspaper while we are in Ubeda. I expect you to read two magazine articles and 2 newspaper articles during the term and summarize them for the class. We will dedicate Thursdays to present on articles. Please bring your article to class so we can see it.

Group led Discussions: In groups, students will be in charge of leading the class discussion about one of the movies or TV shows we watch in class.

Cultural Presentations for Conversation Partners: In pairs students **will present in English** on different cultural aspects of the USA for their conversation partners. Presentations must be prepared prior to departure and should include a power point and as many pretty, significant pictures as possible. Please save your presentations to a memory stick or flash drive so you can access it in Ubeda. Presentations made with a Mac must be saved to a PC format since Macs are not popular in Spain. **Also, if you used Office 2007, please save your files as a 97-2003 document because they have not updated their office**

software at SAFA. You may do so by saying” save document as” and scrolling at the bottom to that option.

Final Group Skit about Favorite Movie: Students will prepare a skit in groups representing 3 scenes from their favorite TV Show or movie. They must include as much vocabulary as possible from that particular show. The class has to guess what movie or show it is.

Final Composition about your favorite movie or show: You need to write a 1 ½ - 2 pages composition talking about favorite movie or show. You must discuss one particular aspect you enjoyed about the movie and should include enough information to back up your argument. Remember to start with a brief introduction, develop your idea in the body and have a final conclusion.

Attendance Policy: Students will only be allowed one free absence which I highly encourage to use only in case of illness. If you are sick I ask that you call me to let me know. Please do not just stay home without calling me, otherwise it will worry me and the group a lot. Be considerate.

Punctuality: Arriving late or leaving early more than once will count as an absence. The classroom door will be shut 2 minutes after the scheduled meeting time. Take care of personal business before arriving to class. Please do not leave early unless you truly have an emergency. If you have perfect attendance at the end of the semester, meaning not missing any classes, cultural activities and not arriving late or leaving early ever you will be entitled to an extra point on your final grade. We will meet for SPN 206 after taking a 20 minute break mid morning. Remember to ask your family to pack you a snack so you would not be hungry during class. There is a school cafeteria but they only have “*bocadillos*” (sandwiches) and delicious, fattening chocolate croissants.

Classroom policies: Students in this course are expected to behave as professional, courteous adults. Disruptive behavior and disrespect toward fellow students, host families, SA.FA personnel, conversation partners or anyone else will not be accepted.

- You are expected to be fully dedicated to the class and the discussions that take place.
- Students are expected to arrive in time to class and stay the entire time.
- Bring your dictionary daily.
- Be prepared to be corrected and feel fine with it. It is my responsibility to provide you with plenty of opportunities to practice in class and give you as much feedback as possible. It is natural to make mistakes while learning a language so please do not feel bad about it. Learn from your mistakes and laugh at them so you will never make them again. Do not take personal offense if your professor corrects you; however, try your best each and every time.
- When working in groups you may help and correct your classmates but please do so in a respectfully manner.
- If working on assignments with someone else outside of class, remember to do your own work and never turn in the same answers. You may help each other but never copy from each other.
- The use of online translators is strictly prohibited. All work must be original and you may use a paper dictionary and your textbook to help yourself.
- All assignments, including tests, should be clear, clean, neat and stapled together. If I cannot read your work, I cannot assess it, and therefore, you will not receive credit for it.
- **Finally, bring a smile and yourself with a positive attitude!! Believe me, it truly makes a difference!**

Access to the instructor: It is very important to me that you know that you can count on me to give you my very best each and every class. As time allows I make myself available to the students as much as possible. Feel free to talk to me if needed and DO NOT wait until it is late in the term to discuss an issue that could and should have been handled earlier. I only discuss personal questions, grades, assignment issues and other matters in my office. I will have a small shared office in SAFA. If you need to meet with me please tell me during class or break that you need to see me and I will make sure to meet with you after lunch and siesta time . Do not try to speak to me in the classroom about any of these matters as they are confidential.

Academic Honor Code: Students in this course are expected to abide by the Academic Honor Code.

Please read the Code of Student Life available at

(<http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/doso/documents/Code.Of.Student.Life.pdf>). Dishonest behavior will carry severe consequences.

Make-up Policy: Will only be considered when a student has been sick and has communicated with me ahead of time. No others will be considered so please do not ask. All work approved for makeup needs to be turn in within two days of the original due date. If you have a roommate and have your work ready please be considerate and send it with your roommates if you cannot come to class.

I am glad to have you as my student, I am sure we will have a wonderful summer. Sit back, relax and enjoy the shows! ☺