

Virginia Tech
Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures
DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS for Upper-Division Courses for Spring 2012

SPANISH

SPAN 3105: Grammar, Composition & Conversation

Caña Jiménez, Dalton

Students will learn to articulate their ideas in writing while developing effective prose through attention to style and grammar. Students will participate in activities created around a variety of contexts, focusing on the grammatical structures and forms that give shape and meaning to their expression. Readings of Hispanic texts and verbal discussion will provide a context for expanding the students' understanding of discourse as well as the basis for furthering proficiency in all four skills, according to the ACTFL guidelines. Pre: 2106. Meets MWF 9:05-9:55 and 1:25-2:15 (3H, 3C)

SPAN 3106: Grammar, Composition & Conversation

Caña Jiménez, Venkatesh, Zimmer

Practice in the four language skills through directed conversations and compositions, inspection of idiomatic idiosyncrasies, grammar review, and readings related to Hispanic life and culture. Students are expected to achieve the Intermediate-High Level in writing and reading proficiency according to the ACTFL guidelines. Compositions, oral practice, midterms, and a final examination. Not recommended for native speakers of Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 2106 or consent of the professor. Meets MWF 9:05-9:55, 10:10-11, 11:15-12:05, 12:20-1:10 and 1:25-2:15. (3H, 3C)

SPAN 3125: Oral Proficiency

Folkart

All SPAN majors are strongly urged to take the entrance exam for SPAN 3125, to see if they need to take this class in order to bring their skill level up so that they can test into SPAN 3126, which is required for the major. For acquisition of measured levels of proficiency in speaking and understanding spoken Spanish. Content-based instruction in small groups. The student will learn to sustain a general conversation using vocabulary and idiomatic expressions in routine situations. Students are expected to be at the Intermediate-Mid Level according to the ACTFL guidelines at the beginning of the semester and achieve an Intermediate-High by the end of the term. Not for native speakers. P/F only, based on oral exit exam and daily in-class participation. Priority granted to majors and minors. Meets MWF 1:25-2:15. **Students cannot pre-enroll, but instead must come to class on the first day and sign up to take the individual oral entrance exam. Admission to the class will be based on that oral exam.** (3H, 3C)

SPAN 3126: Oral Proficiency

Calvera

For acquisition of measured levels of proficiency in speaking and understanding spoken Spanish. Content-based instruction in small groups. The student will learn to initiate and sustain a general conversation using vocabulary and idiomatic expressions in routine and complicated situations. Students will develop confidence with all basic grammatical relations in the three tenses. Students are expected to be at the Intermediate-High Level according to the ACTFL guidelines at the beginning of the semester, and achieve at least the Advanced Low Level by the end of the term. Not for native speakers. P/F only, based on oral exit exam and daily in-class participation. Meets MWF 10:10-11, and 11:15-12:05. **Students cannot pre-enroll, but instead must come to class on the first day and sign up to take the individual oral entrance exam. Admission to the class will be based on that oral exam.** (3H, 3C)

SPAN 3304: Introduction to Hispanic Literature

Hesp, Shooltz

This course is designed to provide a critical background for more advanced literary courses. The course combines theoretical discussions of the major genres—novel, short story, theatre, and poetry—and includes readings from both Spain and Spanish America. The main activities are discussion, close critical analysis of the texts, and short, directed critical essays. Prerequisite: SPAN 3105 is required and 3106 is strongly recommended. Meets MWF 10:10-11, 11:15-12:05, 12:20-1:10, 1:25-2:15 and MW 2:30-3:45. (3H, 3C)

SPAN 3414: Modern Peninsular Culture & Literature**Sierra**

This course examines Spain's efforts to re-construct itself in the years following the waning of its imperial power. Exploring the development of Spanish identity from 1700 to the present, the class examines diverse literary and cultural texts within the historical, political, and social context in which they were created. The course treats canonical as well as non-canonical texts, from both "high" and "popular" culture, and includes narrative, poetry, theatre, film, and art. Prerequisite: SPAN 3304. Meets TR 12:30-1:45 and 2-3:15. (3H, 3C)

SPAN 3444: Early Spanish-American Culture & Literature**Andrango-Walker**

This course is designed to trace the development of Spanish-American culture and literature from pre-Hispanic civilizations to the mid-19th century, including the Conquest, the Colonial period, and Independence from Spain. Students will be introduced to the cultural manifestations of the pre-Hispanic civilization, the writings of Colón, Cortés, Bernal Díaz, Las Casas, Aztec reactions to the Conquest in the early period, Inca Garcilaso de la Vega, Guamán Poma de Ayala, Sor Juana among others in colonial times. After the period of independence from Spain (1810-1824), the main focus will be on prominent themes such as the experience of race in literature, Romanticism, civilization vs. barbarism, the appeal of literature to popular classes, Modernism, the literary representations of the making of the new nations and in shaping national identity. Historical readings are combined with literary writings and videos to provide a panoramic view of culture, religion, society, politics, and the arts, as well as an understanding of basic issues such as slavery, *mestizaje* and other types of ethnicity. This class will be conducted in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 3304. Meets TR 12:30-1:45 and 2-3:15. (3H, 3C)

SPAN 3454 Modern Spanish-American Culture & Literature (Carib.)**Ulloa**

Exploration of the civilization, culture, and literature of the Spanish Caribbean, spanning the 19th century post-independence period to the present; examination of literary and cultural texts within the historical, political, and social context in which they were created; study of canonical as well as non-canonical texts, from both "high" and "popular" culture, including historical texts, narrative, poetry, drama, film, art, architecture, and music. Prerequisite: SPAN 3304. Meets TR 9:30-10:45 and 11-12:15 (3H, 3C)

SPAN 4324/5324: Special Topics: Studies in Twentieth Century Literature**Austin**

This course explores the multiplicity of aesthetic, political, and social texts that are gathered under the rubric of the Latin American Avant-Garde [*las vanguardias latinoamericanas*] in the early 20th century. We will read essays, poetry, and aesthetic and political manifestos, and we will also watch short films and discuss graphic arts in order to examine the aesthetic ruptures and political engagement of avant-garde movements that developed throughout both Europe and Latin America, including Futurism, Expressionism, and Surrealism, as well as other movements that are unique to Latin America such as *ultraismo*, *estridentismo*, and the Brazilian *antropofagia* [cannibal] movement. Throughout the semester we will consider the political and aesthetic relationship between Latin America and Europe and the shifts that take place during this postwar period (1914-35). Class discussion will touch on the anxieties of modernization, postcoloniality, and the politics of aesthetics (as well as the aesthetics of politics), among other themes. Students will write several short papers and a longer final paper. Prerequisite: Span 3444 or 3454, or consent of the instructor. Meets R 4-7 (3H, 3C)

SPAN 4104: Advanced Grammar & Style**Panford**

This course looks at Spanish grammar and style in detail, with particular emphasis on those aspects that are most problematic to the non-native speaker. There is also a focus on grammatical language use, including writing and editing for grammatical and semantic correction. Meets MW 4-5:15 (3H, 3C)

SPAN 4334: Special Topics: Representations of the Latin American City**Venkatesh**

This course is designed to introduce students to the textual study of the Latin American city. We will read various theoretical and critical texts that will permit an active discussion on the trope of the city in contemporary fiction. Students are encouraged to pay attention to how and why space is created, and to what extent the urban influences current realities and cultures. Looking at ideas from critics such as

Edward Soja, Henri Lefebvre and Giles Deleuze, we will examine the role of the Latin American city in the 21st century. We will begin the semester in Mexico City, paying particular attention to the forces of globalization and urban sprawl in the continent's premier megacity. We will then embark on a journey eastwards to Central America, where the impact of revolution and urban warfare will influence our study of Managua and Guatemala City. The topic of social unrest will provide a transition to the inspection of oligarchies and race dynamics in Lima, Peru. Looking at texts by a variety of authors, students will study the role of space and the city vis-à-vis ethnic identities and cultures. A quick plane ride to the southern cone will then follow, as students will find themselves in the booming economy of Santiago de Chile, where we will look at questions of class demographics and topographies in the city's *barrio alto*. Students will develop a critical understanding of the connection between representation, space, and the vicissitudes of local and global culture, in addition to extrapolating class dialogues to their own experiences of the urban. Meets: MW 1:25-2:15. (3H, 3C).

SPAN 4984: VT in Spain Online

Panford

This one-credit online course attempts to build up linguistic competence and cultural understanding and sensitivity for Virginia Tech in Spain summer participants. Its Web-based course modules are designed to take students through a variety of simulated day-to-day activities that will help them feel confident in using the Spanish language and living in Spain for six weeks during the summer. (1H, 1C)

FOREIGN LANGUAGES 5114: Applied Linguistics

Gudmestad

This graduate course provides an introduction to the field of applied linguistics, with specific attention given to sociolinguistics and second-language acquisition, focusing on language issues across the French- and Spanish-speaking worlds. After a general introduction to the scope of applied linguistics and to research methods utilized in the field, the course addresses a range of subtopics, including interlanguage development, bilingualism and language variation. Readings include textbook chapters that introduce sub-areas of applied linguistics, as well as recent, empirical articles on French and Spanish. Students will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge of applied linguistics to practical activities and to the exploration of a linguistic topic of their choice. Class will be taught in English. Does not count toward the undergraduate Spanish major or minor. Prerequisite: Graduate standing required. Meets: T 6:00-9:00pm. (3H, 3C)

**SPAN 5334: Special Topics - Phantasms in Spanish Film and Fiction:
Traces of Memory in Contemporary Spain**

Folkart

This graduate course will examine the contemporary Spanish obsession with memory and forgetting, to explore how Spain has been haunted by the horrors and compromises made during the Spanish Civil War (1936-39), the ensuing dictatorship of General Francisco Franco (1939-75), and the post-totalitarian, democratic government. In studying how culture responds to history, we will examine theoretical, fictional, and cinematographic representations of phantasms, as tropes that straddle the realms of memory/oblivion, present/past, and presence/absence. Learning and applying classic strategies of interpreting fiction and film, students will conduct detailed analyses of narrative and filmic texts dating from these time periods. Literary texts, films, discussions, exams, and written work will be entirely in Spanish. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the FLCL MA or consent of the professor. Meets: MW 4:00-5:15. (3H, 3C)