SPANISH 213: Spanish Conversation
FALL 2006
Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays 1:00 - 1:50 in DeFrancesco 200
Dr. K. Rauch
Office: 104 DeFrancesco
rauch@kutztown.edu
610.683.4433
Office hours: Wednesdays/Fridays 11-12,
Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays 3-4,
Or by appointment.

Course Description. This course is designed for students who have successfully completed the intermediate level of Spanish (104 or the equivalent) and who are not "native" speaker of Spanish. The focus is on oral communication in Spanish. The course will be conducted in Spanish and oral projects will be used for purposes of grade assessment.

Required Texts:

Suggested Texts: a good Spanish/English dictionary such as Vox.

Your final grade will be calculated using the following percentages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escenas/Conexión Internet</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversaciones creadoras (6)</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of a scene</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocabulary quizzes (best of 6)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale:
100-90..........A
89-80..........B
79-70..........C
69-60..........D
below 60......F

Exams: Given that this is a conversation class, the exams are all oral. Make-up exams may be scheduled if you inform me prior to the exam date. Any make-up exam must be taken before the next class period.
Conversaciones creadoras: Each of the chapters in the text revolves around the section called "Conversaciones creadoras". For each of these conversations, a group of students will present the scene as it appears in the book (See below for details) and then in groups the students will create their own ending to be presented to the class for feedback and grading the following class. For the first two chapters, students may use a large index card for cues; for Chapters 3 and 4, only small index cards are allowed; and for the final two chapters, no written cues are permitted. See grading rubric for further details.

Presentation of a scene: In order to provide models of the Conversaciones Creadoras and to practice further their presentational abilities, a group of students will be chosen randomly to perform the scene as it appears in the book on the first day that we work on this section in the chapter. The text may be used. See grading rubric for further details.

Quizzes: There will be six vocabulary quizzes given throughout the semester, one per chapter. The quizzes are based on the terms listed under "Vocabulario básico," not on the list at the end of each chapter. Although there are no make-up quizzes for any reason, the lowest quiz grade will be dropped when calculating the final quiz average.

Homework: For the Comprensión y comparación exercises after each cultural reading, students may use one large index card (one-side only) to participate in the discussion for Chapters 1-3. During the second half of the semester (Ch. 4-6), students must discuss their answers without any written cues.

Although the study of grammar per se is not a focus of this course, each chapter includes a grammatical topic that may still be a particularly thorny issue for students at the advanced level. Therefore, there will be a grammar assignment for each chapter. The topic will not be covered in class, but rather you will be required to read the section on your own and to complete all the exercises on the topic for submission to the professor on the due date. If you have any questions about the lesson, I encourage you to ask them at the beginning of class, so that the matter may be clarified for everyone.

For potential full credit, students must submit homework at the beginning of class on the due date. A late assignment may be accepted if you have received prior permission. Absence is not an excuse for failing to turn in homework. I always accept e-mail submissions.

Participation: Participation is absolutely fundamental in a language class, particularly in a conversation course. In general, a good participation grade comes from volunteering answers and always speaking in Spanish. Excellent participation also means executing any assignments on time, preparing conscientiously for class, focusing on the task at hand during class and taking responsibility for your own learning. If you do this, your overall performance will be enhanced, e.g. you will earn better grades.

Your attendance forms the base number for your participation grade. I begin with the percentage of classes attended. If you miss 20 of 40 classes, for instance, your base participation grade (your highest possible grade) would be 50% (20/40). Only medical excuses and emergencies constitute
valid reasons to miss class. I may ask you to provide an excuse written and signed by the proper authority. Please be aware that frequent tardy arrivals eventually become a class missed.

It is also expected that you contribute to an environment that is conducive to learning for all members of the class. If you are disruptive and inconsiderate of others (myself included), I reserve the right not only to take the appropriate official action, but also to give you a 0 (zero) for this portion of your grade.

**Plagiarism and cheating:** In cases of cheating, plagiarism, or other acts of academic dishonesty, either I, any other academic officer of this University, or another student may initiate the informal resolution process, which may result in failure of this course, or the formal resolution process through the Office of Judicial Services, which may result in university suspension or dismissal. Please refer to the KU Undergraduate Catalog for a full explanation of the Academic Honesty policy.

Please be careful when you work with a Spanish-speaking friend or a tutor. These assistants may not give you the correct answers or rewrite your speeches (not even a sentence). To have someone else "provide" the correct Spanish for you is plagiarism, and is very obvious to your teachers who are familiar with your level of proficiency.

**Final Note:** If you have any particular needs regarding note taking, sitting for exams, etc, please speak to me in private as soon as possible so that I may do my part to ensure your success in this