

**SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

SPANISH GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION
SPN 361 01 – CID: 2612 (Spring 2008)
MWF 1-1:50 EV 320

Instructor: Silvia A. Huntsman
Office: EV 209 **Phone:** 294-1442
E-mail: fol_sja@shsu.edu
Office hours: M, W 2-3 drop-in appointments
or by appointment. Please e-mail for appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This class involves the study of the syntactical and morphological characteristics of the Spanish language with emphasis on developing the ability to write in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPN 264, or equivalent.

GOALS OF THE COURSE: Part of the student's success will depend on arriving at class well prepared and able to respond quickly when called on. SPN 361 is designed to expand the student's proficiency in writing in Spanish by reviewing main grammar points and practicing the different steps in the writing process (pre-writing, drafts/writing, revision, final versions). Four different essay formats will be covered: description, narration, exposition, and argumentation.

Optimal results: elaborate more complex sentences; paragraph organization; enrichment of vocabulary; increased grammar accuracy; organizational skills and selection of content per type of essay.

REQUIRED TEXT: Valdés, Dvorak, Hannum, and Angelelli, Composición: proceso y síntesis, Fourth edition (2004), McGraw Hill. ISBN: 0-07-281889-1.

OPTIONAL TEXTS: English/Spanish/Spanish/English dictionary. Spanish Thesaurus. Grammar Reference (Emily Spinelli. English Grammar for Students of Spanish, 5th. The Olivia and Hill Press, 2003. ISBN: 0-934034-33-8).

COMPUTATION OF YOUR GRADE:

Attendance	10%
5 Essays (5 drafts 10%, 5 final versions 30%)	40%
Homework assignments (HA)	5%
5 Chapter Exams	35%
Grammar Assignments (GA)	10%

COMPONENTS OF ESSAYS: The grade for the final version of each composition will be based on the following profile:

1. **Focus/Content:** Degree in which the reader questions have been anticipated in selecting information. Selection of information: Topic well-thought-out and developed with effective supporting detail. (30%)
2. **Organization:** Clear thesis and flow of ideas fluid and logical. Outline (Plan de Redacción) (20%)
3. **Grammar:** Use of a wide range of structures with few or no significant errors (e.g. sentence structure) (25%)
4. **Vocabulary:** Language choices appropriate for topic, purpose and reader. Richness and accuracy of vocabulary. Amount of evidence of English interference. (20%)
5. **Conventions:** Amount of faults with respect to spelling, accentuation, punctuation, or presentation. (5%)

COMPONENTS OF CHAPTER EXAMS:

Grammar (fill-in the blanks, translation, corrections, explanations)

Conventions (orthography and accent marks)

Text Analysis (critique, editing, content and organization)

Essay type components, theoretical considerations (questions/short paragraph answers)

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS (HA). There will be 5 homework assignments, one per chapter, to turn in for a grade by the due date on the schedule syllabus or earlier. These assignments will concentrate on building of vocabulary for each written task. (Fill in the blanks) Completion of activities.

GRAMMAR REVIEW AND GRAMMAR ASSIGNMENTS (GA): Since the textbook does not have a grammar exercises section, for each chapter a handout with grammar exercises will be made available. Students are strongly encouraged to prepare these activities before they are covered in class. A grammar review for each exam will also be distributed.

At the end of each chapter one grammar assignment (GA) will be required to be turned in for a grade by the due date or earlier. Percentage of correct responses. (Translation English/Spanish, Spanish/English, fill-in the blanks, questions, corrections, conventions)

ESSAYS-DRAFTS AND FINAL VERSIONS. For each chapter the student is required to turn in a DRAFT for instructor's revision on the due date (see syllabus). Students who do not turn these drafts will not receive credit for the draft portion. Late drafts will receive a deducted grade (10 points off per class day late). The final versions are to be turned in by the due date, as with late drafts 10 points will be deducted per class day late.

PLEASE : Drafts and final versions should be double spaced and with wide margins.

Make sure you turn in all assignments on the due dates. There will be 4 basic assignments to be turned in per chapter: **5 Homework Assignments (HA), 5 Grammar assignments (GA), 5 Drafts (D), and 5 Final versions (FV).** Each will be numbered by chapter (i.e. HA1, HA2...GA1, GA2...etc). Additional quizzes and assignments may be required.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Jan 21 – Holiday. MLK

Jan 24 – Last day to add

Feb 1 – 12th class day

March 7 – Last day to drop

March 10-14 – Spring Recess

March 21 – Holiday. Good Friday

Apr 18 – Last day for

resignations

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE.

-Each unexcused absence -1%, each excused absence -0.2%.

-Be present in class, having previously prepared each assignment on the schedule portion of the syllabus before coming to class when that assignment will be discussed. You may study the assignments as much as you wish or have time for, incidentally.

-Suggestions: Reflect afterwards and make notes of questions/observations.

-Regardless of the reason for your absence, you are required to complete any in-class work, and be informed of any due assignments.

BLACKBOARD: Blackboard will be used to post your grades, course documents, assignments, and give important reminders from your instructor. Don't forget to check it periodically.

STUDENT SYLLABUS GUIDELINES: Please read the document posted on Blackboard (Course Information) with a detailed description of the **General College of Humanities & Social Sciences and Department of Foreign Languages Policies.**

TERMS USED IN THE DAY-TO-DAY CHAPTER PLAN (follows):

Ensayo / Escrito (essay)

Redacción (writing)

Plan de Redacción (outline)

Borrador (Draft)

HA (Homework Assignment)

GA (Grammar Assignment)

W Jan 16	Introducción, Capítulo preliminar, p. 3-7; Identificación del lector: Actividad A y B, p. 3-5. Enfoque y organización p. 5-7. Homework: Read p. 1-3 Conventions handout (Blackboard/Course Documents): prepare exercises 1, 2, 3.
F Jan 18	Capítulo preliminar: Proceso: pre-redacción, redacción y revisión p. 8-13. Convenciones. Homework: Read textbook p. 15-22. Convenciones p. 4-6 (ex. 4-7).
M Jan 21	Holiday. Martin Luther King Day.
W Jan 23	Capítulo 1. La Descripción , p. 15-22. (Orientación y ejercicios de pre-redacción). Convenciones, p. 4-6. Homework: Prepare list of topics for Essay 1. Read, p. 26-28.
F Jan 25	C-1 Organización y el Plan de Redacción , p. 26-28. Redacción Borrador (draft) . Homework: Prepare draft 1. Work on <i>HA 1</i> (vocabulario). Convenciones, p. 6-8, ex. 8-10.
M Jan 28	Convenciones, p. 6-8 (ex. 8-10). C-1 La revisión, p. 29-32. TURN IN DRAFT 1 . Homework: Conventions, ex.11. Read and study textbook p. 33-36.
W Jan 30	C-1 Aspectos gramaticales, p. 33-36 (SER/ESTAR). Grammar exercises handout. Homework: Conventions, ex. 12. Revise and improve your Draft 1.
F Feb 1	C-1 Aspectos gramaticales (cont.). Turn in <i>HAI</i> . Homework: Revise your Draft, and prepare final version. Grammar exercises.
M Feb 4	C-1 Aspectos gramaticales (cont). Work on <i>Grammar Assignment (GAI)</i> . Do review of grammar exercises. Homework: Study for Exam.
W Feb 6	EXAMEN 1. TURN IN FINAL VERSION C-1, Due GAI, HAI.
F Feb 8	Homework: Read and prepare Actividad A from handout 'La estructura de la oración'. La estructura de la oración. Capítulo 2. La Narración , p. 38-42. (Orientación) Convenciones p. 9 (ex. 13, 14) Homework: Read p. 42-49.
M Feb 11	C-2. Pre-redacción, p. 42-49. Work on <i>Homework Assignment 2</i> (vocabulary). Homework: Prepare list of topics for C-2 (See C, p.44 and D, p. 46). Punto de vista, p. 51-53.
W Feb 13	C-2. Organización y el Plan de Redacción , p. 55-57. El Borrador 2 (Draft) Homework: Prepare draft 2. Read p. 57-60
F Feb 15	TURN IN DRAFT 2. C-2 La revisión de textos, p. 57-60. Homework: Read and Study textbook, p.61-64.
M Feb 18	C-2 Aspectos gramaticales, p. 61-64 (Los tiempos pasados). Grammar exercises handout. Homework: Prepare grammar exercises. Revise Draft 2.
W Feb 20	C-2 Aspectos gramaticales (cont.). Grammar exercises handout. Work on <i>GA 2</i> . Homework: Revise Draft 2, and prepare final version. Do review grammar exercises.
F Feb 22	C-2 Aspectos gramaticales (cont.). Work on <i>GA 2</i> . Homework: Revise Draft 2, and prepare final version. Study for Exam.
M Feb 25	EXAMEN 2. TURN IN FINAL VERSION C-2, Due GA2, HA2.
W Feb 27	Homework: Read p. 66-74 Capítulo 3. La Exposición (Parte 1 Análisis y Clasificación) , p.66-74. Homework: Read p. 79-81, 86.
F Feb 29	C-3. Pre-Redacción, p. 79-81. Enfoque, p. 86. 'Técnicas y estrategias: El párrafo' (handout) Homework: Work on <i>HA 3</i> . Prepare list of topics for C-3. Análisis de texto, p. 90-91.
M Mar 3	C-3 Organización, p. 86-88. Análisis de texto , p. 90-91. Plan de Redacción , p. 94-96. Homework: Prepare Draft 3. Read p. 96-100.
W Mar 5	C-3 La revisión, p. 96-100. TURN IN DRAFT 3. Homework: Read and Study p. 100-105.
F Mar 7	C-3 Aspectos gramaticales, p. 100-105 (La voz pasiva). Grammar exercises handout. Homework: Prepare grammar exercises.
M-F Mar 10-14 SPRING RECESS	
M Mar 17	C-3 Aspectos gramaticales (cont.). Grammar exercises handout. Text analysis: 'La orca' Homework: Revise Draft 3. Work on <i>GA3</i> .
W Mar 19	C-3. Turn in <i>HA3</i> . Do grammar review exercises. Homework: Prepare final version 3. Study for Exam.

F Mar 21	Holiday. Good Friday.
M Mar 24	EXAMEN 3. TURN IN FINAL VERSION C-3. Turn in <i>GA3, HA3.</i> <i>Homework:</i> Read p. 108-113.
W Mar 26	Capítulo 4. La Exposición (Parte 2 Comparación/Contraste, Causa/Efecto). Orientación p.108-113. <i>Homework:</i> Read p. 118-124. Handout 'Técnicas y estrategias: la tesis'
F Mar 28	C-4. Antes de Redactar, p. 118-124. <i>Homework:</i> Work on list of topics for essay 4. Read p.127, 128-130.
M Mar 31	C-4 Enfoque, p. 127. Organización, p. 128-130. Vocabulary: Introducciones y Conclusiones. <i>Homework:</i> Work on topic for essay (Thesis and outline of evidence)
W Apr 2	C-4. Plan de Redacción , p.136-138. Borrador. <i>Homework:</i> Work on Draft 4. Read p. 139-142.
F Apr 4	C-4 La revisión, p. 139-142. Work on <i>Homework Assignment 4.</i> <i>Homework:</i> Prepare Draft 4. Read and study textbook, p. 143-152.
M Apr 7	C-4 TURN IN DRAFT 4. Aspectos gramaticales, p. 143-152 (El subjuntivo). Grammar exercises handout. <i>Homework:</i> <i>Homework assignment 4</i> (Vocabulario). Prepare grammar Ex.
W Apr 9	C-4 Aspectos gramaticales (cont.). Grammar exercises handout. <i>Homework:</i> Revise Draft 4. Work on GA4.
F Apr 11	C-4 Aspectos gramaticales (cont.). Work on GA4 and Grammar review exercises. <i>Homework:</i>
M Apr 14	C-4 Aspectos gramaticales (cont.). Work on GA4 and Grammar review exercises. <i>Homework:</i> Study for Exam. Prepare final version 4.
W Apr 16	EXAMEN 4. TURN IN FINAL VERSION C-4, GA 4 and HA4 due. <i>Homework:</i> Read p. 155-164.
F Apr 18	Capítulo 5. La Argumentación (Parte 1). Orientación, p.155-159. <i>Homework:</i> Read p. 164-169
M Apr 21	C-5. Pre-Redacción, p.164-169. Las preposiciones 'a, en, con' handout. <i>Homework:</i> Prepare a list of topics for C-5. Read p. 169-174.
W Apr 23	C-5 Análisis de textos , p.169-171. La 'voz creíble' p. 171-174. Plan de Redacción , p.179-181. <i>Homework:</i> Work on Draft 5. Read p. 182-186.
F Apr 25	C-5. La revisión, p. 182-188. Work on HA5 'Aspectos Estilísticos'. <i>Homework:</i> Prepare Draft 5.
M Apr 28	C-5. TURN IN DRAFT 5. Work on HA5 'Aspectos estilísticos'. Read and study p. 188-193.
W Apr 30	C-5. Aspectos gramaticales, p. 188-193 (Los pronombres relativos). Grammar exercises handout. <i>Homework:</i> Prepare grammar exercises. Revise your Draft 5.
F May 2	C-5. Aspectos gramaticales (cont.). Grammar exercises handout. <i>Homework:</i> Revise Draft 5. Work on GA5.
M May 5	C-5. Aspectos gramaticales (cont.). Grammar review exercises. <i>Homework:</i> Study for Exam, prepare final version C-5.
W May 7	Last class day. EXAMEN 5. HA5 and GA5 due. Final version essay 5 due or by the official date of the final exam for the class.
May 12-15	FINAL EXAMS (For 361 optional Final Exam)