

**SPN 464.01 SPANISH-AMERICAN PROSE.  
TENTATIVE SYLLABUS.  
3 CREDIT HOURS  
FALL 2007  
EVANS 315  
TU-THU: 03:30-4:50 P.M.**

**DR. RAFAEL E. SAUMELL**

Evans 313-A

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Office hours: Tu-Th: 1-2 PM. Other days & times by appt.

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:**

Spanish 464 A study of selected authors, short stories, essays, or novels. Emphasis on themes, techniques, and current literary themes. Prerequisite: 361, 368, the equivalent or consent of instructor. Credit 3.

**STYLE**

This course has two delivery methods: an on-line BLACKBOARD for information outside class meetings and a DISCUSSION STUDENT-CENTERED format in class meetings with a minimum of professor lecture. Since language is a social skill and activity, this is the only way to effectively learn. In speaking, mistakes are natural--tolerance and assistance are important. Be flexible--think of another way to send the same message if you have difficulty expressing yourself.

**GENERAL GOALS**

1. Increased AWARENESS of and APPRECIATION for Hispanic language, history, culture and literature.
2. Study of Human Rights issues in Spanish American Literature.
3. Ability to discuss literary and human rights topics.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. To LISTEN to and comprehend standard Spanish spoken at average native speed
2. To SPEAK without notes (or read aloud) standard Spanish with few enough pronunciation errors to be comprehended by a native speaker
3. To READ and comprehend selected Spanish readings
4. To WRITE standard Spanish with few enough grammar errors to be comprehended by a native speaker

**CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT**

Please refer to <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Please refer to Academic Policy Statement 810213.

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

**YOUR ENROLLMENT IN THIS CLASS CONSTITUTES YOUR LEGAL AND MORAL OBLIGATION TO THE HONOR CODE.** Because this course is a listening, speaking, reading, and writing one, I encourage you to work together. **HOWEVER,** plagiarism--copying others' work with out crediting them for it--is legally and ethically unacceptable--AND GROUNDS FOR FAILURE, NOT JUST IN THE ASSIGNMENT, BUT IN THE CLASS. Paraphrases, as well as quotes, must be documented. See the article, *Plagiarism* in the course documents.

## **PHILOSOPHY**

This is an UNIVERSITY-LEVEL ACADEMIC COURSE WITH APPROPRIATE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS. You **earn** your grade on that basis. Academic credit is based upon your intellectual and academic efforts, willingness and ability to reflect upon and respond to requirements of the class.

## **INTERACTION**

RESPECT FOR OTHERS' VIEWS AND SPACE, not necessarily in agreement with one's own, is required on the part of every participant, including what is expressed, shared, etc., in the course of class interaction.

## **CELL PHONES & PAGERS**

Please refer to Section 5.2.22 of the Code of Conduct.

CELL PHONES AND PAGERS must be on vibrate during class time except in pre-arranged-with-the-professor possibility of medical emergency.

## **GENERAL STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL MATERIAL, in books, presented in class, etc.

YOU ARE PERSONALLY & SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ACTIVITIES (ASKING QUESTIONS OR DOING HOMEWORK) IN ORDER TO MEET YOUR PERSONAL EXPECTATIONS AND DESIRE FOR SUCCESS/GRADE. Probable daily time needed for homework outside class will be a minimum of one to two hours per hour spent in class (3-6 hours per week). Homework entails being prepared with what has been assigned for the next class. You are responsible for anything and everything in the

syllabus, book or said in class, etc. You are expected to keep in contact with the professor and other students as personally needed.

### **GENERAL FACULTY RESPONSABILITIES**

I INTEND TO BE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS, ADVISE, ETC., DURING AND OUTSIDE OF CLASS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. Please set prior appointment times. Once in a while I may not be available. If so, I will leave a note as to my return. Please also either honor your appointment or call to cancel. I will afford you the same courtesy if I have an unavoidable conflict. Email is always better than telephoning.

### **INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS**

Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form towards the end of the semester.

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the University. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. The students should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. **NOTE: No accommodation can be made until the student registers with the counseling Center.**

### **RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

“Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

## **VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM**

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons. Obviously, however, the visiting of a particular class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the educational process.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

**ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED.** According to the student code, a student may be absent for 3 hours (1 ½ classes) without penalty. If you are absent without making arrangements, with justification, before or during the absence, with the professor, your final grade will be lowered at least 1 point per occurrence.

## **DEADLINES**

Syllabus assignments will be performed or handed in at the corresponding class. In case of serious illness or death in the family, advance or concurrent notice of your absence is required. Call or email and leave a message and, if possible, send your corresponding assignment with another student.

**NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WITHOUT WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION. WORK MUST BE MADE UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER ABSENCE.**

**REQUIRED TEXTS:** *Writing Toward Hope. The Literature of Human Rights in Latin America.* Edited by Marjorie Agosín. New Haven and London: Yale UP, 2007. ISBN: 10 0-300-10942-3 and 13-978-0-300-10942-9.

-*Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos* (Naciones Unidas). Disponible en Blackboard.

-*Constituciones de las Américas y de los países del Caribe.* Disponible en Blackboard.

-*Diccionario bilingüe español-inglés/inglés-español.*

**PRUEBAS Y EXÁMENES:** Cierto o Falso, Identificación de autores, Interpretación y análisis de textos.

**PARTICIPACIÓN:** El estudiante hará investigaciones sobre los autores y los temas estudiados que entregará al profesor en las fechas indicadas. La nota de participación tomará en cuenta la calidad del trabajo y el cumplimiento de los plazos establecidos.

**GRADES**

3 Pruebas	20%
4 Exámenes	40%
Participación	15%
Examen Final	25%
Total	100%

TU	21 Agosto	Presentación del curso
TH	23 Agosto	Los derechos humanos (I)
TU	28 Agosto	Los derechos humanos (II)
TH	30 Agosto	Introduction. Writing Toward Hope: XV-XXI. <i>Bearing Witness in the Dark</i> : 1-3.
TU	04 Septiembre	Jacobo Timerman: 9-25.
TH	06 Septiembre	Jacobo Timerman: 9-25.
TU	11 Septiembre	Reinaldo Arenas: 82-93.
TH	13 Septiembre	Gladys Díaz Armijo: 48-55.
TU	18 Septiembre	<b>Prueba 1.</b> Angelina Muñiz-Huberman: 94-98.
TH	20 Septiembre	Gladys Díaz Armijo: 48-55.
TU	25 Septiembre	<b>Examen I</b> (Derechos humanos, Timerman, Arenas, Muñiz-Huberman y Díaz Armijo).
TH	27 Septiembre	<i>Where Fear Nests</i> : 359-361. Luisa Valenzuela: 373-376.
TU	02 Octubre	Rigoberta Menchú: 383-402.
TH	04 Octubre	Rocío Quispe-Agnoli: 403-411.
TU	09 Octubre	<b>Prueba 2.</b> Marta Traba: 377-382.
TH	11 Octubre	Lourdes Vázquez: 412-418.
TU	16 Octubre	Elena Poniatowska: 437-439.
TH	18 Octubre	<b>Examen II.</b> (Valenzuela, Menchú, Quispe-Agnoli, Traba, Vázquez, Poniatowska).
TU	23 Octubre	<i>Exile</i> : 505-507. Carlos Eire: 500-556.
TH	25 Octubre	Diana Anhalt: 557-567.
TU	30 Octubre	Ivonne Lamazares: 545-549.
TH	01 Noviembre	Alicia Kozameh: 537-544.
TU	06 Noviembre:	<i>Memory and History</i> : 449-450. Gabriela Mistral: 500-504.
TH	08 Noviembre	Anabel Torres: 488-494.
TU	13 Noviembre	<b>Prueba 3.</b> <i>Voices and Silenced Memory</i> : 285-286. Rosario Castellanos: 289-293.
TH	15 Noviembre	Claudia Bernardi: 304-330.
TU	20 Noviembre	<b>Examen III</b> (Eire, Anhalt, Lamazares, Kozameh, Mistral, Torres, Castellanos).

<b>TH</b>	<b>22 Noviembre</b>	<b>Thanksgiving.</b>
TU	27 Noviembre	<i>Guardians and the Guarded</i> : 99-100. Mario Benedetti: 101-111.
TH	29 Noviembre	Ariel Dorfman: 248-284.
TU	04 Diciembre	<b><i>Examen IV</i></b> (Bernardi, Benedetti, Dorfman)
TH	06 Diciembre	Conclusiones

Exámenes Finales: 10 al 13 de diciembre.