



## SPA-320 Advanced Spanish Structure

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Prof. William Keeth  
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Office: Belknap 110-C  
Hours: MWF (11:00 - 11:50 AM), MW (2:00 - 2:50 PM), or by appointment.

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### **Required material:**

#### Textbooks:

- Valdés, Guadalupe et al. *Composición: Proceso y síntesis*. Tercera edición. New York: McGraw Hill, 1999.  
Valdés, Guadalupe et al. *Workbook to Accompany Composición*. New York: McGraw Hill, 1999.

#### Dictionaries:

- Galimberti Jarman, Beatriz, et. al. *The Oxford Spanish Dictionary*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2001.  
García-Pelayo, Ramón. *Diccionario Larousse del español moderno*. New York: New American Library, 1983.

#### Miscellaneous:

- A spiral notebook (class journal)

### **Suggested Material:**

#### Texts:

- Lacasa, Jaime. *The Complete Handbook of Spanish Verbs*. Lincolnwood, Ill.: Passport Books, 1984.  
Keenan, John. *Breaking Out of Beginner's Spanish*. Austin: U of Texas P, 1994.  
Butt, John. *Spanish Grammar*. New York : Oxford University Press, 1996.

### **Overview of course:**

In this composition-based course, we will begin an intensive study and application of Spanish, emphasizing different discourse patterns used in writing (for instance: description, narration, definition, comparison and contrast, argumentation, analysis, and documentation). Besides discussing various models of writing, we will also explore the processes of writing (for instance: brainstorming, focus, organization, and expression), so as later to apply our knowledge of them to our writing. Throughout the semester one can expect to work as peer readers/editors, constructively criticizing and learning from the work of others. In addition to this focus, we will also review spelling and grammar, so as to strengthen our writing skills (ie.: compound verbs, the subjunctive, and relative clauses). During this course, we may also use a textbook reading, class conversation, a news article, a radio program, an Internet page, a movie, a documentary, or even a guest-speaker, as a springboard to meaningful thought, discussion, or production of writing. The prerequisite for this course is SPA 202 or equivalent.

## Evaluation Scale:



Performance Description	Grade	Percentage
Excellent	A	93 > 100 %
	A-	90 > 92 %
	B+	87 > 89 %
Good	B	83 > 86 %
	B-	80 > 82 %
	C+	77 > 79 %
Satisfactory	C	73 > 76 %
	C-	70 > 72 %
	D+	67 > 69 %
Marginal	D	63 > 66 %
	D-	60 > 62 %
Failing	F	0 > 59 %

## System of Evaluation:

Written Compositions:	
2 In-Class	15%
2 Typed	15%
Class Journals	15%
Class Participation / Homework	15%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Oral Presentation	5%
Final Written Project	20%

## Format of Class

Class participation...	...will be determined by student attendance and the quality of class contributions.
Journals...	...will be kept daily during this class. They must be written in Spanish and should include academic, emotional, creative, and intellectual comments. The format for the journal will be explained by the instructor and the journal will be turned in periodically.
Written compositions...	...will be completed at home and in class. These compositions shall reflect subject-matters treated in class; therefore, follow the instructor's lectures and textbook guidelines closely. All compositions written at home must be neatly typed. Materials used in the preparation of these compositions, for example, outlines, etc., may be collected. We will follow the MLA guidelines for writing.
The Oral presentation...	...will be based on guidelines given by the instructor at least one week in advance, so that you will have enough time to prepare for the situation and the corresponding vocabulary and structures. The oral presentations may include the description of personal experiences and anecdotes, as well as, an expository speech related to one of the Hispanic cultures.
Grammar reinforcement...	...will periodically be scheduled. The selection of reinforcement exercises will be based on the written work students complete throughout the course.
Make-up exams...	...will be given only when a student is able to show the instructor written proof of a medical problem or has arranged a make-up date with the instructor prior to the absence.
Academic honesty...	...the submission of original work, and student interaction is expected in this class. Any form of cheating may result in failure of the course. Additional information concerning academic honesty can be found in the <i>Password</i> .
Oversee your grade...	...by monitoring your progress and maintaining contact with your instructor. Any student material or record that has been returned to the student becomes the student's responsibility to maintain as a permanent record for the course. Students are responsible for picking up any materials that are made available to them or are returned in class. If a student loses these records and the professor does not have a copy of the material available, the student will receive a failing grade for the particular activity.
This syllabus...	...serves as a contractual agreement. Presence in this class means that you agree to the items stipulated in the syllabus and are aware of any modifications made throughout the semester. One should periodically check the course web site for any updates to the syllabus and/or class calendar.