

## SPANISH RHETORIC AND STYLE

Spanish 412  
Fall 2015, 62290R  
TTh 11::00-12:20 THH 115

Prof. Mario Saltarelli  
Office. 3:30-4:30 TTh, 156R THH  
x01261, saltarel@usc.edu

**Course objective.** The objective of this course is the acquisition of an advanced level of written (and oral) Spanish communication. The objective is met through rhetorical, grammatical and lexical analysis and composition of functionally diverse written (and oral) texts. These include description, narration, journalistic reporting, argumentation and persuasion, exposition and thesis development, as well as poetic language and translation. The objectives will be approached from the reading to writing vantage point in the context of reading/listening comprehension, speaking as well as translation..

**Textbook and references.** One textbook (\*), one recommended reference grammar, orthography manual, and a bilingual dictionary (\*). Additional material will be distributed during the semester at appropriate times.

-\*Finnemann, M.D. and L.Carbón *De lector a escritor*. Boston, MA: Heinle & Heinle. 2001. F&C].

-\*A bilingual dictionary.

-\* Castillo, *Manual de estilo*.

-\*Grammar units material to be presented and distributed in class.

### **Recommended:**

-Butt, J. and C. Benjamin. 2000. *A new reference grammar of modern Spanish*. McGraw-Hill.

-Real Academia Española. 1999. *Ortografía de la lengua española*. Madrid: Espasa.

<b>Evaluation:</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Points</b>
Compositions (Home, 6 )	30%	300
Compositions (Class, 6)	30%	300
Midterm Exam	10%	100
Final Exam	20%	200
Class Participation	<u>10%</u>	<u>100</u>
	100%	1000

(Letter = % grade scale)

A: 100-93    B: 86-83    C: 76-73    D: 66-63

A-: 92-90    B-: 82-80    C-: 72-70    D-: 62-60

B+: 89-87    C+: 79-77    D+: 69-67

### **Required home and class assignments and activities:**

There will be 12 scheduled and graded compositions/analysis/translation. Six will be written at home and are due in class on the day scheduled in the syllabus

(**Composition/analysis, home 1-6**). Six are scheduled to be written in class

(**Composition/translation, class 1-6**). The written requirements are in parallel with the reading assignment of the five units in [F&C] (description, narrative, reporting, argumentation, exposition). In addition, there will be a **midterm** and a **final** exam as scheduled. Any adjustment to the schedule will be announced in advance.

## Class Schedule, Assignments, and Outline

### Week 1: (August 25, 27)

Unidad Preliminar; Para prepararse a escribir [F&G 1-10]

- T: -Organizational meeting.  
 -Writing for communicating, expressing, proposing, exploring an idea  
 - *descripción, narración, reportaje, argumentación, exposición, poesía.*  
 -Reading and writing Spanish texts in Spanish 412  
 -Rhetoric: (1) invention, (2) arrangement, (3) style, (3) delivery, (4) memory:  
 -“*Invenición*” (<Lat. *invenio* ‘I find’): going about finding what you want to write about: a title (topic, ‘idea’), a subtitle (theme), Introduction (initial statement of the ‘idea’) presenting, developing and arguing the idea (body), re-affirming the idea and summarizing.  
 -**Lectura preliminar:** cien años de soledad (sel.) por el maestro (G.G.M.)  
 -**Write a brief (1 p.) composition in class (not graded): topic/theme is free.**

- Th -From the ‘idea’ to the Spanish text.  
 -Texts, sentences, phrases, and words  
 -Using the dictionary:-Meaning , the sound (and the ‘spelling’) of words.  
*sinónimos, omónimos, antónimos.*  
 -Word classes: Noun and Pronouns, Adjectives, Adverbs, Verbs  
 -Word components:(Prefix)- Root-(Affix)-Inflection  
 -Piecing words into phrases: -Function words: Articles, Prepositions, etc.  
 -Piecing phrases into sentences (*oración*), what is a sentence? Construct one.  
*-análisis lógico de la oración: sujeto y predicado, sujeto/objeto*  
 -The interpretation of sentences: analytical and ambiguous sentences  
 -Interpretation of pronouns: personal, impersonal, reflexive, reciprocal  
 -The role of grammar for writing texts in Spanish 412  
 -Descriptive and prescriptive grammar:  
 -Geographical and social variation in Spanish: what is “correct” written usage

### Week 2: (Sept. 1, 3)

#### Unidad 1: La descripción [F&C 13-37]

- T Lectura 1: “El correo del amor “ por D.Syatt [17]  
 Use of the dictionary: synonyms and antonyms:
- Th -Applied grammar 1: Noun modifiers, copula, comparison,  
 -Variation and acquisition of relative pronouns: *que, cual, quien, cuando, donde*  
 -More on writing conventions.  
 -**Composition (home, 1) on description (due today in class) Use dictionary**

### Week 3: (Sept. 8, 10)

- T Lectura 2: “Preámbulo a las instrucciones para dar la cuerda al reloj” por J. Cortazar [p. 23]  
 Rhetorical figures: metaphorical use of language
- Th Restrictive and non-restrictive relative clauses  
 Lectura 3: “Canning y Rivera” por A. Arlt [p. 30]

**-Composition (class, 1) on description (to be written in class. Dictionary O.K.**

**Week 4:** (Sept,15,17)

**Unidad 2: La narración [F&C 38-62]**

- T Introduction: structure and examples  
Lectura 1: “El humor y los chistes [p. 40]  
Lectura 2: “Una carta de Túnez [p.41]
- Th Canons of rhetorical discourse  
Applied grammar 2: Temporality and narration  
**-Composition (home, 2) on narration (due today in class)**

**Week 5:** (Sept. 22, 24)

- T Lectura 3: El cuento “Génesis” por M. Denevi [p. 47], Writing [50-52]  
Expressing time and aspect:  
Lectura 4: “Teruel y sus amantes” [p.53]
- Th Preterite/imperfect contrast  
**Composition (class, 2) on narration (today in class)**

**Week 6:** (Sept. 29, Oct. 1)

**Unidad 3: el reportaje [p. 61-91]**

- T Introduction  
Lectura 1: “El audaz lechero de minivacas” [p.67]  
Lectura 2: “La ciudad del “razor” y el guardia. [p.73]
- Th Applied Grammar 3: pronominals  
**Composition (home, 3) due in class today**

**Week 7:** (Oct. 6, 8)

El reportaje (cont.)

- T Lectura 3: “ ‘Inventor’ de la guitarra” por A.M.F.  
Lectura 4: TBD
- Th The grammar of SE  
**Composition (class, 3) on reporting (in class today)**

**Week 8:**(Oct. 15,17)

- T Review for Midterm  
**Midterm Exam (3/3)**

**Week 9:**(Oct. 20, 22))

**Unidad 4: La argumentación [92-121]**

- T Introduction  
The structure of persuasion  
Lectura 1: “La historia oficial “ [p. 95]
- Th Lectura :: “El lector tiene la palabra [p. 101]  
Applied Grammar 4: Mood and conditionals  
**Composition (home, 4) due today in class**

**Week 10:** (Oct. 27, 29 )

(Unidad 4, cont.)

T Lectura 3: “Los hispánicos” por Frank del Olmo [p. 11]

Persuasive appeals: Logos, Pathos, Ethos

Lectura 4: “Irongate” TBD

Th Negative conjunctions and participles

**Composition (class, 4)****Week 11:** (Nov. 3, 5))**Unidad 5: La exposición {122-171}**

T Introduction Unit 5: La exposición

Features of the expository essay (academic writing)

Lectura 1: “A la Malinchi, discreta, pero sincera devoción.” Por R. Sosa [p125]

Th Lexical recognition, Anglicismos, falsos amigos

Future and conditional of probability

“Passives” in English and Spanish

Complex clauses, dependent clauses. Subjunctive/Indicative/Infinitive/Participle

**Composition (home, 5) due today in class.****Week 12:** (Nov. 10, 12)

(Unidad 5, Lexposición cont.)

Tu Lectura y análisis de la exposición

El Populismo en América Latina: Chile y Latinoamérica en siglo XX

Human Rights by Richard Falk. *Foreign Policy*, March-April 2004 (handout)Th **Composition (class 5) today:****El ensayo expositor:** Any topic. Preferably Human Rights, Personal Statement (Graduate School or Open Job Application)**Week 13:** (Nov. 17, 19): **Translation: to what extent it is possible?**

T Theory and practice of translation

Lectura 3: “Todas somos Ramonas” Por E. Calmus [141],

Traducción del español al inglés. Problemas contrastivos

Th Lectura 4: “The Hispanic Challenge” by S. P. Huntington, *FP* March-April 2004

Discussion and Translation: English to Spanish

**(Composition 6a, home. A 1 page selection from Huntington’s essay)****Week 14:** Nov. 24, 26 **Thanksgiving)****The language of poetry**

T -Introduction to the conventions of Spanish poetry

-Approximation to verbal art

-Metrical verse and ‘free’ verse (pages from Navarro Tomás)

Th -Definition and examples of rhetorical figures in Spanish poetry

-Reading and analysis of selected poems

**-(Composition 6b, home. Analysis of a selected (favorite) poem. To be briefly presented in class). 1 page.**

**Week 15:** (Dec. 1, 3)

T General review of rhetorical issues

Th General review of grammatical issues  
Study guide for final exam.

**Our Last day of class:** Dec. 3

**FINAL EXAM (cf. official schedule)**