

Guidelines for SPAN 275: Spanish Skills Review

Approved 3/15/16

Objectives: Students will review relevant grammar points and practice all four skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) necessary to perform in upper-level Spanish courses. Students will also refine and expand upon their knowledge of more advanced grammar structures and vocabulary.

In order to maximize skills review, the course should include the following:

Reading:

It is highly recommended that instructors utilize the chapter readings of their prospective textbooks, or assign other short readings for every chapter which highlight various cultural topics related to Spain and Spanish America. Evaluation can be in the form of homework questions, either graded or discussed in class.

Writing:

It is highly recommended that the course include a minimum of three compositions in which the topics cover different and increasingly complex grammar structures.

Composition 1 - Summarize and describe in the present tense

Composition 2 - Narrate and describe in the past tenses

Composition 3 - Present an opinion or argument and defend it with clear examples to illustrate the point of view expressed.

In their writing, students should be encouraged to include new vocabulary and refine their usage of grammar structures. It is also recommended that the compositions include a revision component to help students become more aware of frequent errors and incorporate the conventions of written discourse.

Listening:

The course should expose students to a range of spoken Spanish and cultural topics through the listening components provided in textbooks, videos, and *cortometrajes* to improve comprehension of narrative and descriptive speech. It is highly recommended that instructors use textbooks that include films, telenovelas, and *cortometrajes* for each chapter covered and/or supplement their texts with other auditory realia for each unit covered.

Speaking:

It is highly recommended that students be assigned at least one graded presentation or oral exam in addition to daily speaking activities in class which require them to converse in pairs and/or small groups. Students should demonstrate the ability to narrate and describe in the major time frames in paragraph-length discourse with some control of aspect. SPAN 275-C should also be heavily encouraged and recommended to all students wanting to major or minor in Spanish.

Guidelines for SPAN 344

Objectives: Students will review certain grammar points and then be expected to identify their different uses. In addition, lexical issues that present problems for second language learners will be addressed.

Grammar points to be studied:

- the use of articles
- adjective placement
- prepositions
- *hacer* + time expressions
- the subjunctive in relative and adverbial clauses
- in depth study of sequence of tenses
- relative pronouns
- the passive voice with *ser* and *se*
- *se* impersonal
- pronouns

Lexicon:

- *pero/sino/salvo/excepto/sino que/ sino que... también*
- *pedir/preguntar/hacer una pregunta/pedir prestado*
- “back”
- “to become”
- “to take”
- “to get”
- “to run”
- “to grow/raise”