SPA 221
SPANISH CONVERSATION I

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: ENG 090 and RED 090 or DRE 098; or satisfactory score on placement test, SPA 212
Corequisites: None

This course provides an opportunity for intensive communication in spoken Spanish. Emphasis is on vocabulary acquisition and interactive communication through the discussion of media materials and authentic texts. Upon completion, students should be able to discuss selected topics, express ideas and opinions clearly, and engage in formal and informal conversations.
Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

I. Students will be able to interact orally, in Spanish, on a variety of topics covered in class. Students will display proficiency by demonstrating the following competencies:
   a. Relate information about themselves and others
   b. Use a variety of phrasing and speaking strategies (e.g. circumlocution, simplification) to express ideas
   c. Dialogue in ways appropriate to setting and audience
   d. Debate social and political issues as covered in the course

II. Students will be able to comprehend audio and video texts in Spanish which use a variety of native accents, related to topics covered in class. Students will display proficiency by demonstrating the following competencies:
   a. Discuss information presented in audio texts such as textbook exercises, newscasts, podcasts, etc
   b. Interpret short films by contemporary Hispanic filmmakers
   c. Distinguish accents from different Spanish-speaking areas

III. Students will be able to understand authentic written texts in a variety of formats from Hispanic authors. Students will display proficiency by demonstrating the following competencies:
   a. Read brief articles, essays, short stories, and theatrical works by Hispanic authors
   b. Interpret themes from written texts, orally and in writing

IV. Students will be able to communicate with increased grammatical accuracy. Students will display proficiency by demonstrating the following competencies:
   a. Accurately use the verbs ser and estar
   b. Choose between preterit and imperfect verb tenses to discuss the past
   c. Use prepositions appropriately

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d. Distinguish between uses of the subjunctive and indicative moods  
e. Construct conditional clauses appropriately  
f. Use structures previously studied, including indicative verb tenses, imperative mood, gender and number agreement, and pronouns  

V. Students will be able to demonstrate an expanded vocabulary. Students will display proficiency by demonstrating the following competencies:  
a. Apply new vocabulary terms to oral and written discourse  

VI. Students will be able to demonstrate increased cultural awareness. Students will display awareness by demonstrating the following competencies:  
a. Debate political and social issues related to the Spanish-speaking areas and themes studied  
b. Compare and contrast ways of life in Hispanic and non-Hispanic cultures  

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:  

I. Discussion of the imagination and the role of science fiction and fantasy  
a. Short film Viaje a Marte  
b. Readings related to fantasy, science fiction and reality  
c. Review of the verbs ser and estar  
d. Debate positive and negative consequences of scientific advances  

II. Discussion of personality and human relations  
a. Short film Diez minutos  
b. Readings related to personality, personal happiness and relationships  
c. Review of the preterit and imperfect verbs tenses  
d. Debate the effects of nature versus nurture in determining personality  

III. Discussion of pop culture and the power of media and communication  
a. Short film Nada que perder  
b. Readings related to cinema, the influence of mass media and the effect on individual thought  
c. Review of the prepositions por and para  
d. Debate the concept of “telebasura” (“trash TV”)  

IV. Discussion of political power and civic responsibility  
a. Short film El ojo en la nuca  
b. Readings related to political and social unrest and forms of power  
c. Review of the use of the subjunctive mood and tenses  
d. Debate the concept of globalization  

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V. Discussion of the arts and their connection to daily life
   a. Short film *Dime lo que sientes*
   b. Readings related to the arts and love
   c. Continued review of the subjunctive mood and tenses
   d. Debate views on love

VI. Discussion of ways of life
   a. Short film *My Backyard Was a Mountain*
   b. Readings related to ways of life, its effects on the environment and immigration
   c. Review of conditional phrases and if clauses
   d. Debate effects of immigration

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS:

Textbooks will be chosen by instructor and listed on the syllabus. Textbook titles will be available in the college's bookstore.

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling (919) 536-7207, ext. 1413 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1209.