

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY
Department of World Languages and Cultures



Intermediate Composition and Conversation

SPAN 250-601

CRN: 11772

Fall 2023

TT: 12:30 -1: 45

3-credit hours

Owens 208

Profesora: Valerie Jepson, Ph.D.

E-mail: jepsonv@winthrop.edu

Office: Kinard 224

Office Hours: via Zoom by appointment

Required Materials

- 1) José A. Blanco, Revistas, 6ª edición, Conversación sin barreras, Vista Higher Learning, 2022
- 2) Access to Vista Supersite (<https://www.vhlcentral.com/>)
- 3) Access to Blackboard

Course Description

SPAN 250 focuses on developing intermediate writing and speaking skills through vocabulary and grammar study as well as composition and conversation activities. Selected videos and literary texts from the Spanish-speaking world provide the backdrop for course topics.

Prerequisite

A 5 or higher on the STAMP assessment with no one domain below a 4 OR a 4 or higher on the AP exam.

Course Goals and Student Learning Outcomes

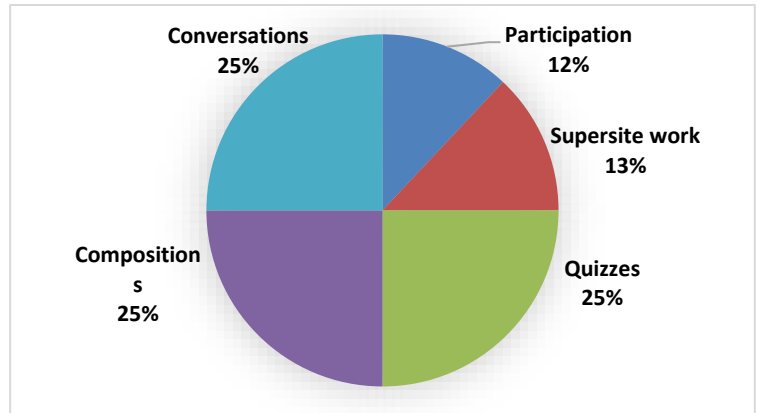
SPAN 250 provides opportunities to:

- Increase vocabulary
- Refine and expand grammatical knowledge
- Participate in informal Spanish conversations on a variety of topics
- Use increased vocabulary and grammar knowledge in intermediate level compositions

Grading

The course grade calculates as follows:

Participation	12%
Supersite work	13%
Quizzes	25%
Compositions	25%
Conversations	25%



Winthrop Grading Scale

A 90-100	B+ 85-89	C+ 75-79	D+ 65-69	F 0-59
	B 80-84	C 70-74	D 60-64	

FYI: **Oct 6th:** Winthrop interim grades post
Oct 19th: RHHS Progress reports are sent
Ongoing: Blackboard contains the most up to date grades

Course Credit

SPAN 250: Intermediate Composition and Conversation is an AP-weighted, dual credit accrual course. Students earn one Carnegie unit of high school credit and three hours of transferrable college credit upon successful completion of the course.

Students at Rock Hill High School receive college credit through Winthrop University. Students complete the Pre-College Application to be registered for the course and will receive a college ID.

The course is a three-hour (credit) course and *may* be transferred to a college or university either in S.C. or out-of-state. Each college and university have a different protocol for how they will determine how many credits will transfer as well as whether they will count toward your major or general education requirements. Please call your prospective school's advising office for more information on not just whether your Winthrop University language credit will transfer, but also how the credits will be measured and translated for your specific major.

Office Hours



Each semester, I have an open door policy during office hours, which means any student can come to seek help and ask questions (no appointment needed). However, since you are on campus during limited hours, if you need help please

- Talk to me before or after class
- Send me an email (jepsonv@winthrop.edu)
- Set up a Zoom meet with me during your Friday class time
- Ask the LLC director for help

Participation and Attendance



Participation and attendance credit will be earned on Tuesday and Thursday when you meet with me and on Monday and Wednesday in the Language Learning Center.

On Tuesday and Thursday, please come **prepared to talk** about current topics using recent grammar and vocabulary. You earn daily participation points by arriving on time, engaging in activities and discussions, (forgoing the use of electronic devices unless specified) and staying until the end of class.

On Monday and Wednesday, please use your Winthrop ID to swipe into to the **Language Learning Center (LLC): Kinard 307**. The LLC is a service offered by the Department of World Languages and Cultures, open to all language students. Every member of the team has high level language skills in French, Spanish or both. On Monday and Wednesday, please use the time in the LLC to

- i. Check your Winthrop email
- ii. Check the syllabus and then complete assigned readings
- iii. Check Supersite and then complete assigned activities NOTE: Supersite activities are due on LLC days and Fridays



Please also complete the preceding activities on Fridays when you will be in the Rock Hill High School lab.

Conversation Hour will be offered on Monday and Wednesday. Requirements for attendance will be posted on Blackboard.

Attendance/ Tardy Policy: The following policies are set forth by Rock Hill High School and Winthrop University. Each will be strictly observed.

- If you miss **any** class, your participation grade decreases by approximate 3.5%.
- For documented excused absences, participation points may be made up. Please ask me how when you provide me with documentation.
- Late arrivals and early departures lower your participation grade by approximately 1%.
- Missing **any 6 days (M-F)** will result in an FA and neither high school nor college credit can be earned.
- Please note there are time restrictions at the collegiate level for dropping this class.
 - **August 25: Last day to drop a Winthrop class**
 - **October 25th at 5:00 pm: Last day to withdraw from a Winthrop class**

Late work: All work is due on the date and time indicated, regardless if you are in class, or not.



- Supersite activities are accepted late with a 20% penalty **per day**.
- If you are not in class, please email me the assignment **before** class starts.
- If you miss a graded in class activity, please provide documentation of your absence and ask me about make-up options.
- Compositions, oral exams, and quizzes must be taken on the day listed on the calendar.

Supersite: Supersite contains a variety of different activities.

- Comprehension activities help ensure that you understand the readings/videos.
- Vocabulary activities encourage interaction with the vocabulary before using it in class.
- Grammar activities help ensure that you apply the grammar concept correctly.



All Supersite work is computer graded for correctness. Computer graded work include immediate feedback. However, we all know that computers make mistakes. As such, approximately 5% of the required points will be dropped to compensate for computer error.

Quizzes

You will take approximately four quizzes that focus on recent vocabulary words, grammar concepts, and the *lecturas*. You will have approximately twenty minutes for each quiz.

Demonstrating your mastery of vocabulary and grammar concepts on quizzes will facility the use of the same information in compositions and conversations. As such, any time a quiz grade is below an 80% you will correct the quiz with the LLC director and turn corrections in to me.

Compositions



You will write three ‘short’ in-class compositions. Each composition will be 1 ½ to 2 pages, approx. 400 words, and take 25 minute to write. Because you only have 25 minutes, prompts will be provided beforehand to allow you to prepare well to address the topic and follow basic practices to produce a professional piece of written work.

Additionally, you will write two ‘long’ compositions. Each long composition consists of 700-1000 words in MLA format. All compositions will be based on a topic discussed in class. Sample topics and rubrics will be provided on Blackboard.

Conversations (oral exams)

Pensamientos y palabras: Most classes start with a conversation based on current topics using assigned vocabulary words and grammar concepts. You will work a variety of partners.



El día de aplicación: is a 70 minute oral exam. You have multiple conversations using the assigned prompts and current vocabulary and grammar concepts. Be prepared to speak with multiple peers.

Los exámenes orales: There are two traditional oral exams. The first oral exam will be an interview. I ask questions based on the current class topics and you answer the questions. Your answers should demonstrate your ability to speak causally using new vocabulary terms and grammar principals. Please include details. The longer your answers, the less questions I ask 😊.

The second **oral exam** will be a conversation between you and a classmate. Once again, please use recent vocabulary terms and grammar concepts.

Please see Blackboard for detailed instructions, sample prompts, rubrics, and other helpful information pertaining to oral exams.

Other important information**Winthrop Classroom Policies**

1. Before class:
 - a. Finish all food and drinks
 - b. Use the facilities (restroom, drinking fountain, etc.)
 - c. Place your phone inside your zipped up backpack*
 - d. Talk to your professor in English, if needed
2. During class:
 - a. Use the target language at all times!
 - b. Participate, learn, have fun!
3. After class / Language Learning Center days:
 - a. Review concepts
 - b. Complete any homework assignments

*** Removing your phone from your backpack during class, will result in being marked absent.**

Academic Success Center

“Winthrop University’s Academic Success Center is a free resource for all undergraduate students seeking to perform their best academically. The ASC offers a variety of personalized and structured resources, such as peer tutoring and academic coaching, that help students achieve academic excellence. During the 2022-2023 academic year, students will not need to attend an ASC Tutee Seminar to utilize in-person or remote tutoring services. Please contact the ASC at 803-323-3929 /success@winthrop.edu. For more information on ASC services, please visit www.winthrop.edu/success.”

Students with Disabilities/Need of Accommodations for Access

“Winthrop University is committed to providing accessible learning experiences and equal access to education for all students. The syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. If you are a student with a disability (including mental health concerns, chronic or temporary medical conditions, learning disabilities, etc.) and you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to the condition, please contact The Office of Accessibility (OA) for information on accommodations, registration, and procedures. After receiving approval for accommodations through OA, please make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely manner.”

Academic Conduct

As noted in the Student Conduct Code: *“Responsibility for good conduct rests with students as adult individuals.”* Cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the test/quiz/assignment and may result in a failing grade for the course. Some instances of academic misconduct include but are not limited to providing/receiving unauthorized assistance in academic work and presenting someone else’s work as your own. The complete policy on student academic misconduct is outlined in the *“Student Conduct Code Academic Misconduct Policy”* in the online Student Handbook.” (<http://www2.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/handbook/StudentHandbook.pdf>).

Courses in the Department of World Language and Cultures

Courses in the Department of World Languages and Cultures are based on the conceptual framework of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages:

Communication: Communicate in Languages Other Than English

Cultures: Gain Knowledge and Understanding of Other Cultures

Connections: Connect with Other Disciplines and Acquire Information

Comparisons: Develop Insight into the Nature of Languages and Culture

Communities: Participate in Multilingual Communities at Home & Around the World

Communicative skills are paramount in the language learning process. See actfl.org. for more information

¡BIENVENIDOS A ESPAÑOL 250!
Horario Tentativo:

DÍA	Tema de clase	Para preparar
21 de agosto	Introducción a Winthrop y la vida universitaria con Mrs. Erica Patton	
22 de agosto	Introducción a la clase y al LLC	
24 de agosto	Viaje a Martes	
29 de agosto	<i>Celebración de la fantasía</i> (los animales) Ser y estar	Lee: pg. 15 Estudia: pg. 10-11
31 de agosto	<i>El otro círculo</i> Preposiciones	Lee: pg. 19-22 Estudia: pg. 12-13
5 de septiembre	<i>Los suyos</i>	Estudia: 25 Lee: 27
7 de septiembre	Creadores de realidad Una prueba gramatical (1)	Estudia
12 de septiembre	Una composición breve (1) Diez minutos	Mira: Diez minutos
14 de septiembre	<i>La felicidad</i>	Lee: pg. 47-48
19 de septiembre	<i>Micro cuentos</i> Narración en el pasado	Lee: pg. 52-53 Estudia: pg. 42-43
21 de septiembre	<i>La intrusa</i> Narración en el pasado	Lee: pg. 57 Estudia: pg. 44-45
26 de septiembre	¿Crees en los astros?	
28 de septiembre	Examen oral: La entrevista o Una prueba gramatical (2) / Una composición breve (2)	
3 de octubre	Examen oral: La entrevista o Una prueba gramatical (2) / Una composición breve (2)	
5 de octubre	Namnala	Mira: Namnala
10 de octubre	<i>Emociones en Twitter</i> Pronombres	Lee: pg. 82-83 Estudia: pg. 72-73
12 de octubre	<i>Me agregás como amiga</i> Adjetivos	Lee: pg. 87-89 Estudia: pg. 74-75

17 de octubre	No hay clase: El descanso de otoño	
19 de octubre	Día de aplicación (1)	
24 de octubre	Forastero	Mira: Forastero
26 de octubre	<i>La tortilla</i> El subjuntivo	Lee: pg. 109 Estudia: pg. 104-105
31 de octubre	<i>Una carta abierta a mi nieto / nieta</i>	Lee: pg. 113-114
2 de noviembre	Las empresas multinacionales Una prueba gramatical (3)	
7 de noviembre	La primera composición profunda	
9 de noviembre	<i>Oda a un millonario muerto</i> Pronombres relativos	Lee: pg. 119 Estudia: pg. 106-107
14 de noviembre	Porsiemprejamón	Mira: Porsiemprejamón
16 de noviembre	<i>¿Existe aún el amor verdadero?</i> El subjuntivo II	Lee: pg. 139 Estudia: pg. 134-135
21 de noviembre	<i>Lo que dure el amor</i> Una prueba gramatical (4)	Lee: pg. 143
23 de noviembre	No hay clase: El día de acción de gracias	
28 de noviembre	<i>Soufflé de castañas</i> Una composición breve (3)	Lee: pg. 149
30 de noviembre	Día de aplicación (2)	
TBA	Examen Oral: Una conversación con un compañero La segunda composición profunda https://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/acadschedule/Exams-Fall.pdf	

Syllabus change policy: Although I reserve the right to amend and change the syllabus as I determine necessary to increase student learning, I will not do so without informing you. This course calendar is a working document and is the part most likely to change to meet your needs (as students) or to accommodate for the impact of external factors.

Instruction to enroll into Supersite (to access homework and an electronic book):

https://www.vhlcentral.com/section/b777a59f-1fef-45f5-bbf9-49da6d092a09/student_instructions

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

INSTRUCTOR	COURSE	SECTION
Jepson, Valerie	SPAN 250	SPAN 250-601

RETURNING STUDENT

If you have an existing vhlcentral account, complete these steps:

- Log in at www.vhlcentral.com
- Select "Enroll in a Course" from the Home page and move on to Step 3 below

NEW STUDENT

1. Create Account: Navigate to www.vhlcentral.com/register and create an account.
2. Select School; Search for, and join, your school: Winthrop University Rock Hill, SC.
3. Enroll: Refer to the information at the top of this page to locate and enroll in the correct course and section.
4. Access: Redeem a code only if prompted to do so, to gain access to your course materials.

I acknowledge that I

- received a copy of the SPAN 250-601 syllabus
- know the syllabus is posted on Blackboard
- should read the syllabus carefully so I am not surprised about any assignments
- understand that I can ask questions about unclear items on the syllabus
- know what I need to do to earn the grade I want
- have all the due dates for the entire semester

student signature

printed name

I understand that my student will be held accountable for the information found in this syllabus which includes but is not limited to classroom behavior expectations as well as academic work.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian printed name: _____ Date: _____

Contact information

Best contact phone number: _____

Email Addresses: _____