Spanish 105 Syllabus
Fall 2006

Spanish 105 is designed for students who have had two years of high school Spanish or the equivalent. The course objectives are to continue to develop speaking and listening proficiency, expand mastery of grammar and vocabulary, introduce reading and writing of various types of texts, and deepen understanding of and appreciation for Hispanic cultures.

Required texts:
* Fuentes: Activities Manual (Workbook and Lab Manual)
* Fuentes Lab Audio CDs

Attendance: Much of your learning in this course will take place in class as you discuss the topics and readings from the textbook, engage in communicative activities, and practice grammar principles. Therefore, attendance in class is essential. You are allowed five absences for whatever reason (excused or otherwise) without any penalty to your grade. Each additional absence beyond five will result in 30 points (out of a total of 1450) being deducted from your final grade. Arriving more than 10 minutes late or leaving more than 10 minutes early constitutes an absence. If you feel you can miss class and still do well in the course, you should consider enrolling in a higher-level course.

Preparation and participation: You are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned material and actively participate. Reading the grammar explanations, articles, and short stories in the textbook prior to class as indicated in the syllabus will allow the majority of class time to be devoted to practice and communicative activities.

Grading: Grades will be based on the following breakdown:

- Workbook and Lab Manual 20%
- Laboratorio de Conversación 10%
- Lecturas 10%
- Redacciones (5) 10%
- Actividades Culturales (2) 7%
- Portafolio 10%
- Exámenes (5) 25%
- Examen Final 8%

Each of these categories is explained below.

Workbook and Lab Manual: Assignments in the workbook provide practice in using the vocabulary and grammar points studied in the textbook and in class. Lab manual activities, which are located in the back of the workbook, are designed to develop listening comprehension skills. Daily homework assignments in the workbook and lab manual are indicated in the syllabus. After completing each assignment you should check your answers in the answer key available on Blackboard. You will report your work to your instructor on a small informe sheet (to be provided) at the time of each exam. Instructors may also periodically ask students to turn in their Workbook and Lab Manual to verify their work.

Laboratorio de Conversación: The Conversation Lab is designed to provide additional opportunities for developing your speaking skills in Spanish. A schedule for the lab will be made available during the second week of the semester. Students are required to attend and participate in
the lab two hours per chapter (which works out to slightly less than one hour per week). The lab attendant will verify your participation by stamping your informe slip.

**Lecturas:** *Fuentes: Lectura y redacción* features three short texts per chapter, which you will read at home and discuss in class. These texts include newspaper and magazine articles, informative cultural texts, short stories, and poems. For each reading assignment you will write a brief (half page) response, typed or neatly handwritten. Some of these response sheets will later become part of your portfolio. Responses should be written in English according to the following format:

- Name of text and author (if listed)
- Type of text (magazine article, informative cultural text, short story, etc.)
- On a scale from 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest, how well did you understand this text?
- On a scale from 1 to 10, how much did you enjoy reading this text?
- In a couple of sentences, summarize the plot or content of the text as you understood it.
- What did you like or dislike about this text?
- Were there parts that were difficult for you to understand? What strategies did you use to increase your understanding?

**Redacciones:** Toward the end of each chapter you will write a short composition. These compositions will include a short story, a film review, a biography, and a summary of an interview with a native speaker. Each composition is due along with your informe at the end of each chapter. Your teacher will provide feedback on the content of your writing and on your use of Spanish. Compositions should be typed, with appropriate accent marks. (A sheet explaining how to type accent marks on a word processor is available on Blackboard). You will later choose two of these compositions to revise and polish for inclusion in your portfolio.

**Actividades Culturales:** During the semester you are required to attend two Hispanic cultural activities outside class. For each activity you should write a one-page summary in English of what you did and what you learned from the experience. The first activity is due at midsemester, and the second is due toward the end of the course. Further information can be found on the *Actividades Culturales* handout.

**Portafolio:** Your portfolio will demonstrate the progress you have made in reading, writing, and cultural understanding during the semester. Part of the purpose for the portfolio is to encourage you to reflect on the areas in which you have grown as well as areas for further improvement. The portfolio will consist of three sections:

- **Lecturas:** This section will consist of a written reflection on your progress in reading comprehension during the semester. It will also include your written responses to three of the readings that you particularly enjoyed or that served as a catalyst for you to learn new cultural insights, reading strategies, or linguistic elements.

- **Redacciones:** From the redacciones that you wrote during the semester, you will choose two to revise and polish for inclusion in your portfolio, along with a statement on why you chose these two compositions and how they demonstrate your progress in developing writing skills in Spanish.

- **Actividades Culturales:** Here you will include the sheets on the two cultural activities in which you participated, along with a written reflection on what you learned about Hispanic cultures from these activities and from the course in general.
Further information on the portfolio can be found in the *Portafolio* handout.

**Exámenes:** Tests at the end of Chapters 1-5 will assess your mastery of the material learned. These tests will be administered in the Testing Lab, B153 JFSB. You may sign up for a time in the lab one week prior to each test. The tests contain sections on listening comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, reading, and writing. Each chapter test will also contain a speaking component, which will consist of a role-play done with a partner. Toward the end of each chapter your teacher will distribute a sheet on which you and a partner may sign up for an oral exam time.

Missed tests may be made up, but with a 10% penalty. In order to take a test late in the Testing Lab, students need a written permission slip from their instructor, and a $5 late fee is assessed by the lab.

**Examen Final:** The final exam will be comprehensive but will focus primarily on material from the latter part of the course. It will be administered in the Testing Lab and may be taken any time beginning on the first reading day through the day scheduled for your section’s final exam. The speaking portion of the exam will consist of a 10-15 minute oral interview, which will given by another instructor. Signup sheets for these interviews will be posted shortly prior to finals week. Failure to show up for the final interview at the time you signed up for will result in a 25% deduction on your score.

**Honor Code Standards**

In keeping with the principles of the BYU Honor Code, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic work. Academic honesty means, most fundamentally, that any work you present as your own must in fact be your own work and not that of another. Violations of this principle may result in a failing grade in the course and additional disciplinary action by the university.

Students are also expected to adhere to the Dress and Grooming Standards. Adherence demonstrates respect for yourself and others and ensures an effective learning and working environment. It is the university’s expectation, and my own expectation in class, that each student will abide by all Honor Code standards. Please call the Honor Code Office at 422-2847 if you have questions about those standards.

**Preventing Sexual Discrimination or Harassment**

Sexual discrimination or harassment (including student-to-student harassment) is prohibited both by the law and by Brigham Young University policy. If you feel you are being subjected to sexual discrimination or harassment, please bring your concerns to the professor. Alternatively, you may lodge a complaint with the Equal Employment Office (D-240C ASB) or with the Honor Code Office (4440).

**Students with Disabilities**

If you have a disability that may affect your performance in this course, you should get in touch with the office of Services for Students with Disabilities (1520 WSC). This office can evaluate your disability and assist the professor in arranging for reasonable accommodations.