GUIDELINES FOR CULTURAL ACTIVITY REPORT

One of the requirements of this course is that you attend a Hispanic cultural event and write a report about the event. The purpose of this activity is to immerse you somewhat in the Hispanic culture and to give you the opportunity to hear at least some Spanish in a real-life setting. By the term Hispanic, I mean that the activity is related to the culture of any country where Spanish is spoken. This naturally includes Mexico, Spain and the Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America. The report should be a minimum of one page, typed and double-spaced. The following is a list of the many different types of events that you can attend:

- any Hispanic cultural event or holiday celebration such as Cinco de mayo, 16 de septiembre, una quinceañera, Dia de los muertos procession, las Posadas (near Christmas), Festival de la Familia, etc.
- a new movie or play that is in Spanish or related to Hispanic culture (check with me in class)
- a concert in Spanish
- Baile Folklórico
- Círculo Hispano meeting
- a Flamenco show, perhaps at Tapa the World

This is just a sample of the types of activity you can attend; there are also other activities, many which take place at CSUS.

When you write the report, you should state where you went, what type of activity it was, what you saw, heard, ate and experienced. You should include any observations you could make about Hispanic culture after attending this event, any words you understood or any new words that you learned, as well as your personal feelings and reaction.

The amount of Spanish in the report depends on the class level you are in:

- Spanish 1A may write the report in English. If you feel ready, you should write a simple, short introduction in Spanish.
- Spanish 1B and 1C should write the opening paragraph in Spanish. More complex details may be given in English.
- Spanish 2A or higher levels should write the entire report in Spanish.

You must not use an electronic translator for this assignment. Students who use these tend to write papers that are almost incomprehensible. I prefer that you write simple sentences using the Spanish that you know, and not try to write things that are too complex for your level of Spanish. Any part of the paper that is written in Spanish should be written in Spanish initially, and not be translated from English. Attempting to write the paper first in English and then translating it to Spanish will produce a paper that is poorly written and difficult to read and
The cultural report is worth 50 points. If you wish to attend additional activities for extra credit, you may attend and turn in a paper for up to two extra credit activities, but may not turn in more than one per month. See the class calendar for due dates. Note that the due date means that the paper is to be turned in during the class meeting for that day. Extra credit activities are worth 20 points each and count first in the category of participation (if you have more than 4 absences or other participation points missing); if you are not missing points in the participation category the points will go into the homework category (so that you have at least 90% of homework points); and if you are not missing more than 10% of homework points the points will count toward exams. If the points do count toward exams, each report is worth 5 extra credit points, since the exam category is heavily weighted. As you can see, the extra credit is extremely valuable especially if you have 100% of your participation and homework points.

Please follow these guidelines carefully and feel free to ask me for any clarifications needed.

¡Que se diviertan!