

## Span 7, Spanish Reading Proficiency, 3 units

### Instructor and Course Information:

Dr. Joseph A. Klucas, Professor of Spanish

Span 7, spring 2014, meets MW 130-245 pm, in MRP 2005, Sec 03, Class Number: 31107

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Office Hours: MTW 11:00-12:00 noon, or by appointment

Department of Foreign Languages Webpage: [www.csus.edu/fl](http://www.csus.edu/fl). Click on Faculty Webpages for syllabus.

Catalog Description: Designed to improve reading proficiency, will give students the opportunity to develop high-intermediate to advanced-level competency in Spanish. They will acquire the ability to understand main ideas and facts in description and narration of news items, personal correspondence, technical material written for general readers, simple short stories; follow essential points in ideas of special interest or knowledge. Students will demonstrate general comprehension of a text and will be able to answer content questions in English. **Note:** Students must take the SPAN 7 Diagnostic Exam the first day of class. Meets Foreign Language Graduation Proficiency Requirement. **Prerequisite:** SPAN 1B or SPAN 1C or two years of high school Spanish. **Graded:** Graded Student. **Units:** 3.0.

Expanded Course Description: The main goal of the authors of both textbooks is to teach students how to read in Spanish. The Easy Spanish Reader is described in the preface as a “multilevel Spanish reader that provides an introduction to the culture, history and literature of regions of the Spanish-speaking world as well as extensive reading practice in Spanish.” Section one of this book describes the personal lives of Enrique and María, their high school, families, backgrounds, and interests. Section two contains selections that cover aspects of Mexican history, and section three provides an adaptation of the famous work of Spanish literature, Lazarillo de Tormes. The textbook, Spanish for Reading and Translation, contains a variety of reading selections of increasing difficulty of authentic materials taken from Hispanic publications: newspapers, magazines and professional journals. The authors indicate in the preface that as the students start reading a passage, they will need to “rely on their ability to infer meaning and draw conclusions” from what they read.

Method of Instruction: This course will be conducted in Spanish and English. Overall, while using both textbooks, students will be asked to skim passages for general impressions and information, scan for specific terms, summarize the passages in their own words, answer content questions on the text, and translate some parts of the reading selection. The course quizzes and exams will require, in addition to demonstrating knowledge of lesson vocabulary and grammar, that students answer content questions about a passage and/or provide an English translation. The proposed reading strategies, as indicated in the Preliminary lesson of Spanish for Reading and Translation, include the following:

Pre-Reading Exercises: 1) Examine the title of the passage for clues to the topic, vocabulary, and meaning, 2) Skim the passage for an overall impression of the text content, including pictures, graphs, tables, familiar words, 3) Scan the passage for specific information in order to complete the post-reading content questions.

Reading of the Text: 1) Begin reading paragraph by paragraph and underline the topic sentence in each paragraph, 2) Write down the main ideas of the paragraph, and 3) Re-read the paragraph again, underlining unknown words, and try to infer their meaning from the content. If you are unable to guess the meaning, then look up the word or idiomatic expression in a dictionary.

Post-Reading Exercises: Answer the follow-up content questions, including any translation exercises, in order to more fully understand the text’s meaning.

Required Texts:

- 1) Easy Spanish Reader by William T. Tardy (Second Edition, McGraw-Hill, 2004). ISBN: 0-07-142806-2
- 2) Spanish for Reading and Translation by Annette Cash and James Murray (First Edition, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006). ISBN: 0-13-191648-3
- 3) Recommended: paperback Spanish-English/English-Spanish dictionary such as Oxford or Larousse.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course students will demonstrate that they are able to:

- 1) Demonstrate pre-reading skills by identifying topic and organization of authentic material.
- 2) Use pre-reading applications and identify probable content: skimming and scanning.
- 3) Decode for main ideas, with skill-building activities, decode for details.
- 4) Demonstrate comprehension of point-of-view, tone of material.
- 5) Write brief summaries of reading passages.
- 6) Respond to context and content.
- 7) Recognize basic grammatical structures and use this knowledge to decode authentic material.
- 8) Demonstrate knowledge of the National Standards' 5 C's: Communities, Connections, Cultures, Comparison, and Communication.

Method of Evaluation:

3 Quizzes	30%	(Format: similar to text exercises)
3 Reading, Vocabulary, and Grammar Exams	70%	(Format: similar to text exercises)

Numerical percentages scale: 94-100%=A, 90-93%=A-, 87-89%=B+, 84-86%=B, 80=83%=B-, 77-79%=C+, 74-76%=C, 70-73%=C-, 67-69%=D+, 64-66%=D, 60-63%=D-, 59% or less=F

Assigned letter grades scale: A=96%, A-=93%, B+=89%, B=86%, B-=83%, C+=79%, C=76%, C-=73%, D+=69%, D=66%, D-=63%, F=56%

Classroom Policies:

Attendance: Regular class attendance, coming to class on time, taking careful notes, and turning in assignments when they are due will greatly enhance your chances of success in this course. Please notify me in advance of a missed class or immediately afterwards, prior to the next class meeting. Phone: 278-6652 ([klucajsa@csus.edu](mailto:klucajsa@csus.edu)). If you do not notify me promptly, you may forfeit an opportunity to make up a missed exam or turn in a missed homework assignment. There will be no make-up quizzes or exams except in cases of extreme emergency.

Avoid all forms of Academic Dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism. For definitions/sanctions see University Manual (<http://www.csus.edu/umannual/student/UMA00150.htm>). For examples of how to avoid plagiarism and properly quote sources, see (<http://library.csus.edu/content2.asp?pageID=353>).

Electronic devices: please turn off all phones, iPods and other devices. These are distracting and disruptive. Students are not permitted to make audio or video recordings, or take photos in the classroom.

Special Accommodations: If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008, (916-278-6955). Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours early in the semester.