

**Department:** MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

**Course number:** SPAN 278W

**Title:** Intermediate Spanish Composition

**Credits:** 3

**Contact Person:** Roger Travis; Miguel Gomes

**Competency Group:** W only

**Catalog Copy:** SPAN 278W. Intermediate Spanish Composition. Either semester. Three credits.

Prerequisite: SPAN 184 or three or more years of Spanish in high school.

This course provides a thorough review of grammar and methodical practice in composition leading to command of practical idioms and vocabulary.

**Course Information:** SPAN 278W is an intermediate writing seminar for Spanish majors that aims primarily to improve the students' command of written Spanish, along with grammar and speaking and listening skills. Reading, writing and revising skills will be fostered through regular practice with short stories and other materials, along with numerous exercises in composition and revision. This course is taught entirely in Spanish.

b. Course requirements: Specify exam formats, nature and scope of weekly reading assignments, nature and scope of writing assignments, problem sets, etc. Evaluation is based on class participation, a midterm and final exam, and particularly on a number of shorter and longer writing assignments that undergo a process of careful revision. Reading, homework and regular compositions are expected to be completed in a timely manner.

c. Major themes, issues, topics, etc., to be covered: Intermediate Spanish grammar. Spanish and Latin American short stories. Writing styles and forms. Strategies for writing and revising.

**W Criteria** : SPAN 278W is an intermediate writing seminar for Spanish majors. The course includes formal academic writing and revision, in Spanish, as a key component and course goal. Writing assignments may include book reviews, short response papers, short textual analyses and commentaries, paper abstracts, and research term papers, as well as other creative writing genres. In total, the page requirements of revised text amounts to well over 15 pages, usually with at least 2 pages per week. In general, the written component requirements amount to 50% or more of the final grade. Writing instruction for drafts and revisions is primarily conducted through written commentary and individual tutorials, along with some in-class formal instruction. Draft revisions are a scheduled component of the course program, with schedule and grading policies an integral part of the course syllabus. The syllabus will also inform students that they must pass the "W" component of the course in order to pass the course.

**Role of Grad Students:** The existing non-W version of this course in recent years has taught by both faculty and experienced graduate assistants under faculty supervision. The graduate assistants assigned to teach this course will attend a graduate-level course in Teaching Methodologies, as well as a yearly week-long orientation program. In addition, they are regularly supervised and trained in a teaching practicum by a dedicated faculty member with a specialization in applied linguistics (Eduardo Urios-Aparisi), who serves as instructor of record for these courses.

**Supplementary Information:** This course proposal is designed to create W-in-the-major offerings for the Spanish major under the new General Education requirements.