



Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures—Hispanic Studies

HISP 220 Spanish Language Intermediate Course

Section: 3 Zoom Meetings: M-W-F From 10:35 - 11:25

At times, Zoom meetings will not be held on Wednesdays in order to allow students to review material or complete course work.

This is a full-year 6 credit course and switching section in the Winter term is not permitted.

September 2020-April 2021	Instructors: Alejandra Barriaes Bouche alejandra.barriaesbouche@mcgill.ca Lucia Chamanadjian lucia.chamanadjian@mcgill.ca Patricio Kobek patricio.kobek@mcgill.ca Timothy Ostrom timothy.ostrom@mcgill.ca
COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR	<p>The Instructor will try to respond on the same day emails that arrive before 5:00 PM, Monday to Friday. Emails that are sent after 5:00 PM will be answered on the next day. Responses will take longer on weekends, but every attempt will be made to respond within 24 hours.</p> <p>, but</p>

COURSE CONTENT

This course provides students who already possess knowledge of basic grammatical structures with more advanced training in the uses of the Spanish language. The primary emphasis is on effective oral and written expression, so as to allow students who have completed this course to communicate their ideas and opinions with clarity in a variety of academic and social settings. The readings, which range from literature to newspaper articles on varied topics, are designed to familiarize the students with the language and to provide examples of authentic contemporary usage. Zoom meetings and communications are conducted entirely in Spanish.

Prerequisites:

Upon beginning this course you should:

- Oral comprehension: Understand basic Spanish spoken at normal speed.
- Oral Productions: Be able to talk about common subjects dealing with everyday life.
- Reading Comprehension: Be able to read short texts related to daily topics.
- Written Production: Be able to write about everyday events with a certain degree of clarity and organization.
- Grammar Knowledge: Have a good solid base of the verb past forms in the indicative (present, imperfect and preterit), the present subjunctive, the future and the formal command. Master the gender and number forms, pronouns, and the structure of reflexive verbs and of verbs like "gustar".

Prerequisites and Placement Tests: HISP 210 or HISP 218 or the equivalent. All students registered in this course must write an online placement test between August 18 and September 2nd to be allowed to stay in the course. Your instructor will be contacting you by email with further information by August 18. According to the results and space allowing, you may be placed in a lower level or a higher level course. All pertinent information will be communicated with the results of the placement test.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES

The general objectives in this course are similar to those in the face-to-face version of HISP 220.

1. Practice written expression: Write two-page compositions and short paragraphs with a high degree of accuracy and using a more precise and varied vocabulary. Emphasis is placed on academic writing.
2. Practice oral expression (listening and conversational skills): Express likes and dislikes, describe people and places, narrate past events, express wishes and desires, give directions, and make suggestions, requests and hypotheses. Express and defend opinions. Understand the main ideas of connected discourse on a variety of topics.
3. Reading comprehension: Understand authentic documents such as newspaper articles, poems, essays and short stories.

4. Grammar: Review grammar concepts and incorporate new structures. Control the verb and pronoun systems. Follow sequence of tenses. Master the rules of gender, number and agreement.
5. Learn cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking countries via readings, shorts, music and films. Recognize how the histories, traditions, and cultural values of the countries in which Spanish is spoken affect and infuse meaning in the language.
6. All the required listening, reading, speaking, and writing tasks in HISP 220 are designed to prepare students who wish to pursue literary studies in our department or in study abroad contexts. After completing this course, students typically take one of the *Survey of Literature* courses offered by Hispanic Studies. These *Survey* courses are designed to offer an introduction to the study of Spanish and Spanish American literature while at the same time providing the opportunity for students to continue improving their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. More information is available on <https://www.mcgill.ca/langlitcultures/programs/hispanic-studies>

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- An online Spanish-English or Spanish-French dictionary such as www.wordreference.com
- Learning modules in MyCourses.

-Bretz, Mary Lee, et al. *¡AVANCE! Intermediate Spanish*, 3rd edition. McGraw Hill, 2014.

This textbook comes with an online component, called CONNECT, which includes workbook exercises and additional exercises. It is accessible with a **Connect registration code** and is sold as a package at the McGill bookstore. Please note that if you buy your textbook second-hand, the registration card in the used textbook will not be valid. *The website is an integral part of this course, both in terms of your learning and your grade.* Further readings on-line/myCourses or photocopies will be used. You will also need a good bilingual dictionary (Spanish/English, Espagnol/Français)

Purchase the ebook or printed version of *¡Avance!* With the *Connect registration code* from the McGill bookstore.

Enter your e-mail address and choose a password, then activate your *Connect* registration code. The access card will give you access to Connect, a site where you will find the online textbook and online workbook exercises and *LearnSmart*, an adaptive learning tool. You will also need an access code to the course section that your professor will provide.

DO NOT purchase the access card directly from the *Connect* page as it is cheaper at the McGill bookstore.

If you are not ready to buy the book, you have access to a 14-day courtesy period.

If you have registration issues, please contact Support: mheducation.ca/student-support or call 1-800-331 5094.

SEE 210

COURSE FORMAT

FORMAT

COURSE FORMAT

COURSE

This online course will consist of asynchronous content coupled with synchronous oral practice virtual meetings with the instructor and students via Zoom. Class meets 3 times a week (M-W-F), however, at times no Zoom meetings are held on Wednesdays so as to allow more time for you to review material.

the benefits of attending Zoom meetings? What are

not mandatory, they are highly recommended because they are like a face-to-face class, during which you:

- practice the language via different interactive activities
- can ask questions on unclear concepts
- take advantage of the interaction with peers
- solidify grammar structures
- further learn and are exposed to cultural aspects
- build a stronger learning community to avoid feeling isolated: online classes may sometimes make you feel like you are learning on your own, but this could not be further from the truth. This online course is built around the concept of collaboration with your professor and peers. Build relationships with other students by introducing yourself and engaging in online discussion boards. Do not be afraid to turn to them to create a virtual study group. Although

RECORDINGS

Generally, virtual class meetings will **not** be recorded. If a portion of a Zoom session is recorded on rare occasion, you will be notified through a “pop-up” box in Zoom during a meeting. You can turn off your camera, so that only your name appears on screen. If you do not feel comfortable being in a class that is recorded, you may leave the meeting by logging off Zoom. In the latter case, you should watch the recording later so that you do not miss any content. The recordings will be uploaded to myCourses.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

This course has been designed with the same rigorous standards of content as a campus course. Expectations for your performance as a Flexible Learning student are as high as they would be if you were taking this course in a face-to-face setting. Learning a language on an online setting requires dedication, discipline, organization, and as much work as learning in a face-to-face class. You should expect to have to work on this class for at least 6 hours a week in order to complete all assignments indicated in your Learning Modules in a timely fashion.

Online courses require a high degree of interaction using email and other communication tools. It is of utmost importance that you check your McGill e-mail account regularly to ensure that time critical e-mail is accessed, read, and acted upon in a timely fashion. You must also check “Announcements” in myCourses on a daily basis, which may include reminders, revisions, and updates.¹

How do you know what you must prepare for each class?

- Before each class and for each class, consult your syllabus with the weekly course calendar and then the Learning Modules (see the next section on “Learning Modules”) on myCourses.
- Follow the step-by-step instructions and do the exercises in the sequence suggested in the “Learning Modules”.

What if I don't understand certain aspects of the material covered?

- It is essential to communicate any questions, concerns or problems to the instructor promptly by via email or by Zoom, depending on the need (for further details see section “Tips for success” on p. 6).

LEARNING MODULES

A **learning module** is a sequenced collection of materials designed to teach the topic at hand. Each learning module is a self-study unit that will lead you through a segment of the course. The materials taught in this online course have been divided into learning modules. You will need to self-study each of these modules in the order specified in the syllabus. Do not skip modules nor exercises in each module. The materials for each module will be under “Content” in the corresponding week in myCourses.

As part of your self-studying of these modules, you may be asked to:

- 1) study grammar explanations in your *Avance* textbook, consult PowerPoint presentations, watch grammar tutorials or read documents on myCourses or the internet.
- 2) complete online exercises in the online platform *Connect* (see section *Connect* below).
- 3) publish a post on myCourses: *Discussions board* or submit a video or audio file
- 4) do culture related work such as reading a short story or watching a video and answer the corresponding questions found in the module. Please note that tests always include questions based on the readings and/or cultural material assigned.
- 5) At the beginning of each module, there is a **to-do list** that will explain in detail what you will be asked to study and what exercises, assignments and homework/tarea you will need to submit in order to complete that specific module. Be sure to follow the course syllabus to know when you need to complete each of the modules.
- 6) **submit homework (tarea)**, all based on the learning modules and each **worth 1%**. The main goal of each “tarea” is to measure your assimilation of the material and your progress. These will be submitted via myCourses: *Assignments, Quizzes, Discussion Forums or Video: Assignments: Q & A*. **Unlike compositions, no late “tareas” are accepted because they are meant to prepare you for the next step in your learning.**

CONNECT: ONLINE EXERCISES (Ejercicios en línea)

Connect is a web-based assignment platform. When you buy the Access card to our course eBook or hardcopy with Access card *Avance* you will have access to all features in the platform. As part of a Learning Module, you will be required to consult the

¹ You can sign up to be notified via text (SMS) or email about any or all of the following topics, including assignment due dates, new discussion posts, new grades, new items, and more. We strongly suggest that you sign up for notifications: log-in to myCourses, click on your name in the top right corner, then click on “Notifications.” You can set how often you would like notifications, for which topics, and by which method (text or email). To access your notification settings, click the arrow beside the word “Announcements” at the top of the Announcements widget and select “Notifications”. Click here for further instructions if you need help setting it up: <http://kb.mcgill.ca/kb/?ArticleId=3925&source=article&c=12&cid=2#tab:homeTab:crumb:8:artId:3925:src:article>

textbook and complete the online workbook exercises in Connect. Exercises from the *online workbook* are to be done online and completed by the due date and time indicated in the syllabus. The objective of doing these exercises is to help you work and learn on your own and, thus, be responsible for your learning as well they serve as an important review tool of material covered in the Learning Modules. The exercises are computer graded and you have three attempts to obtain the right answer and a better score. These exercises are extremely important because they will help and guide you in the learning process. If after completing the exercises, there are points that you still find unclear, bring it to my attention and I will further explain. **Unlike compositions, no late online exercises are accepted.**

FORMAL COMPOSITIONS

4 compositions are assigned with specific topics and corrected according to a correction grid. The topics will always be posted on *myCourses: Compositions*. In turn, students are responsible for submitting all compositions via *myCourse: Assignments* on the due date indicated on the syllabus.

If submitted late, 5% of the total mark is deducted per day, including weekends, and are not accepted after 7 days (weekends included) after the deadline and will not receive a grade. Students are expressly forbidden to have their compositions corrected by native speakers or any other person or use a translating program (see “Academic Integrity” section below). If an instructor believes that a composition is not entirely the work of the student who has submitted it, the instructor will report the case to the Office of Student Affairs for disciplinary action.

JOURNALS (Cuadernos de opiniones)

Students are required to write 4 journals and are submitted via *myCourses: Assignments* each time (see detailed calendar on p. 7 for due dates and for a detailed description of what a journal see *myCourses: Diarios* section). Entries must deal with cultural topics, vocabulary and grammar structures that have just been covered in the course. Most topics will be assigned by me and posted on *myCourses: Assignments*. **Unlike compositions, no late journals are accepted.**

TESTS

There will be 4 online tests and they will be posted in *myCourses: Assignments*. These tests are open-book exams and will be done online via *myCourses: Assignments*. The duration of the evaluations will be 50 minutes and are done in one sitting. accommodation is offered for time zone related problems. See syllabus for dates and times of each test. More information on exam procedures will be offered prior to each test.

ORAL EVALUATIONS

To assess your communicative skills in Spanish there will be 2 oral evaluations, one in the Fall term and one in the Winter term. You will be assigned a partner and you will be asked to carry out a 5 minute conversation based on topics studied in class and/or on a controversial topic and/or you will be asked to present on a cultural topic. In all cases, the topic is determined by the professor. Please note that accommodation is offered for time zone related problems. More information on exam procedures will be offered prior to each test.

MISSING TESTS & ORAL EVALUATIONS

There will be no make-up tests nor orals for missed evaluations unless a doctor's certificate (signed by a doctor) is provided within the next 5 days of the absence. The note has to cover the day and hour of the test. It must bear the doctor's office or hospital logo and a contact number. If a problem arises, students are expected to contact their professor **before** the exam date by e-mail. If during an oral or written evaluation a technical problem should arise, you must contact your professor immediately so that alternate plans can be made.

UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING

The instructor of this course wishes to provide an inclusive learning environment. Should you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with either one of us and/or the Office for Students with Disabilities, 514-398-6009 For further information contact <http://www.mcgill.ca/osd/>
In our class, everybody has a name and a pronoun. Your instructor is committed to referring to you with the correct pronoun. Please contact you instructor in this regard.

SENSITIVE COURSE MATERIAL

University education aims to expand student understanding and awareness. Thus, it necessarily involves engagement with a wide range of information, ideas, and creative representations. You can expect to encounter—and critically appraise—materials

that may differ from and perhaps challenge familiar understandings, ideas, and beliefs. You are encouraged to discuss these matters with your instructors.

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND EQUIPMENT

All work in this course must be done and submitted online. Therefore, students must have the following:

- consistent, reliable access to a computer with a current operating system with updates installed
- an up-to-date Internet browser that is compatible with both MyCourses and Connect
- a high-speed Internet connection
- headphones, earbuds, and/or speakers
- microphone (optional, a separate microphone can be better than your device's built-in)
- web camera (optional, preferred for face-to-face connection)
- a phone, camera or other device to take photos and/or create short videos
- a valid *CONNECT* access code (see Required Textbooks/Materials)
- a McGill email account
- Reliable data storage for your work (for example, a USB drive, Dropbox, or other cloud storage)

Minimal technical skills are needed in this online course. Before starting this course, students must be able to comfortably perform the following technical tasks:

- Use an Internet browser to access and search the Internet
- Use email and attached files
- Use McGill University email and MyCourses
- Download and upload documents
- Create, organize, save, and retrieve electronic files
- Use Zoom, you can find more information about this application here: <https://mcgill.ca/tls/students/remote-learning-resources/learning-zoom>

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you have any technical problems when using myCourses, you should contact McGill IT Support at 514-398-3398 or itsupport@mcgill.ca for technical assistance. If you have any technical problems when using Connect, you should write to Customer support contact <https://mheducation.ca/student-support> or call 1-800-331 5094.

ONLINE 'NETIQUETTE'

A certain email etiquette is expected from your emails. Special care must be taken in online courses to avoid misunderstandings. Please note the following:

- Include a courteous greeting and closing and use proper titles and forms to address both your professor and peer.
- Demonstrate the same professionalism and respect in the online class as you would in a face-to-face class.
- Use correct spelling and standard grammar in your communications. Avoid typing in all capital letters. Avoid the use of abbreviation and informal language.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

McGILL UNIVERSITY VALUES ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, THEREFORE ALL STUDENTS MUST UNDERSTAND THE MEANING AND CONSEQUENCES OF CHEATING, PLAGIARISM AND OTHER ACADEMIC OFFENCES UNDER THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES. (see <http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/academicrights/integrity/cheating/> for more information).

L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (consultez le site <http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/academicrights/integrity/cheating/>

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

1. Treat an online course like a face-to face course, in terms of your level of engagement.
2. Attend as many Zoom meetings with the instructor and peers as possible for extra practice. Join the meeting **on time**.
3. You should be responsible for and monitor your own learning by:
 - i. Reviewing and using new vocabulary and structures (for example, do extra exercises in *Connect* or *LearnSmart* exercises). You will also find additional exercises in *myCourses*.
 - ii. Identifying problem areas and taking immediate action.
 - iii. Contacting your professor immediately whenever you feel lost or your progress is not satisfactory. Since this course is demanding, it is only natural that difficulties arise from time to time. If you let your instructor know which difficulties you experience, the challenging areas can be dealt with together.
4. Here are 5 strategies for success as indicated in the following McGill link, which you can consult for more detailed information on each point: <https://mcgill.ca/tls/students/remote-learning-resources/5-success-strategies>
 - i. Adapt your study habits
 - ii. Manage your time
 - iii. Tune out the noise
 - iv. Communicate
 - v. Stay connected
5. More practical advice for your learning:
 - I. Successful learning of a language requires being exposed to large amounts of written and oral input and making the effort to communicate in that language. Therefore, you must keep up with the daily work and know that your success and learning require substantial commitment and study out of class. You should try to use the Spanish language as much as possible, even beyond class assignments. You should not expect to comprehend every word you read or hear; instead you should aim at understanding the overall meaning. After continued practice, the language will start to become more and more comprehensible.
 - II. Complete the Module for each class.
 - III. Take notes in your own handwriting and some of the exercises on paper. Studies show that typing on a keyboard does not have the same effect on memory as does the act of writing.
 - IV. Keep a chronological notebook of your notes in your own words and use it to study.
 - V. Peer support is important. Create a study group and make good use of your partner group and be a good partner.

http://www.mcgill.ca/study/2011-2012/university_regulations_and_resources/undergraduate/gi_grading_and_grade_point_averages

Assessment	Fall	Winter	Grading Scheme
2 oral evaluations	6	8	A 85-100%
Connect online workbook exercises (10 x 1%)	5	5	A- 80-84
4 tests (4 x 7%)	14	14	B+ 75-79
4 compositions (4 x 4%)	8	8	B 70-74
4 journals (cuaderno de opiniones) (4 x 1.5%)	3	3	B- 65-69
26 homework (tarea) based on Learning Modules (may include Quizzes, reading or listening comprehension exercises, video assignments, participation on Discussion boards or short writing exercises 26 x 1%)	13	13	C+ 60-64 C 55-59 D 50-54
Total:	49	51	F Fail 0-49