Evalúación del curso:

La profesora: Dra. Hilary Landwehr

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<th>La profesora: Dra. Hilary Landwehr</th>
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Objetivos y resultados del curso:

During the semester students will study the sound system of Spanish in detail with the primary goal of improving the student's pronunciation and fluency. In order to do this students will examine how sounds are produced, which ones are used in Spanish (as opposed to English), and in what contexts they occur. Successful students will be able to apply what they learn to their own speech. They will study basic linguistic terms and phonetic transcription so that they may describe accurately the phenomena being discussed in class. Toward the end of the course, the class will examine some of the problems involved in teaching Spanish pronunciation to speakers of English. A mathematical average of 60% is required to pass, and one of 70% is required for a C-.
Student obligations:

1. **Participate in class.** Class attendance, preparation, and participation are obligatory and will be included in the final grade. To receive an A in participation and preparation, the student must prepare all assignments, do all the lab exercises, come to all classes on time, and participate willingly and well in class activities and discussions. The first 2 absences will not affect the participation grade, but if a student misses more than 2 classes, the participation grade may be lowered by as much as a letter grade per absence, at the instructor's discretion. A student who misses 7 or more classes should expect a class participation grade of F for the semester.

**Classroom etiquette.** If a student arrives late and a paired or group activity is already set up or in progress, the late student must wait until the next activity before beginning to participate. Pagers, cell phones, blackberries, I-pods, & other electronic devices are to be turned off during class. **If a device goes off, the student will be required to stand up and sing the first line of a Hispanic national anthem.** Repeated failure to do so will affect the participation grade (not to mention having to sing even more of the anthem). Using any personal recording, camera, audio playing or text messaging devices during an exam or test will be considered an honor code violation. Covered drinks are permitted, provided that they are not forbidden in that classroom and are kept away from any media or scientific equipment.

2. **Do the audio program.** Because the primary course objective is the improvement of the student's Spanish pronunciation, work with the audio program is mandatory. The student must listen and practice each exercise at least twice. Many will need to practice certain exercises more times in order to get the desired improvement. The audio program consists of the material on the CD that accompanies the text. The mp3 files will be uploaded to Blackboard. After a listening session, the student should go to the Diario section, select the “entrada” that corresponds to the chapter s/he is working on and add a “comentario”: José Gómez escuchó las Cintas 02-01 a 02-09 el 20 de enero; dictó el ejercicio 02-03 a María García. This will replace the listening/recording log of previous years. OJO: although the exercises in the book are often titled “repetición rápida”, you should start by speaking s-l-o-w-l-y. Why? Because otherwise you won’t have time to notice how you are producing the sounds and so will be unable to correct your errors. For those who remember these things, treat it like a touch-typing course. First you strive for accuracy and then you try for speed, because speed without accuracy just creates more work. Also notice that some exercises in each chapter ask you to dictate or read something to a partner. You can accomplish this face to face, by telephone, or whatever is convenient. Both partners should record the activity in their comentarios.

3. **Meet all course deadlines.** Specifically, do pruebas 2-4 and the examen final on the appointed dates and submit prueba 1, the transcriptions and any other exercises requested by midnight (24:00) on the appointed date. Late work will be penalized by one letter grade (2 if more than a week late), at the professor’s discretion. In cases of illness, accident or other serious problems, the student can make up a prueba provided that he/she obtains the approval of the professor beforehand or presents written, acceptable evidence that attendance was impossible. Family vacations and spring break travel plans are not legitimate reasons to miss a deadline. Leaving a message on the professor’s voice or e-mail does not guarantee approval to make up work.

4. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for this course must register with the Disability Services Office in Student Union, Suite 303 (tel. 859-572-5401; website: http://disability.nku.edu/)

Clariifications:

1. **The NKU Student Honor Code.** The Honor Code is a commitment that, individually and collectively, the students of Northern Kentucky University will not lie, cheat, or plagiarize to gain an academic advantage over fellow students or avoid academic requirements. All work you will do in this course is subject to this code. All work submitted must be produced originally, by the student for this course. Use of a translation program to fulfill any course assignment is forbidden. Students are expected to do their own work on all quizzes, examinations, poster, exercises, and other assignments, except where group work is necessary & expected. The professor, a tutor or a classmate may be consulted for explanations of grammar or personal coaching in pronunciation, BUT the student must then prepare the assigned work on his/her own. If the student uses outside sources in the preparation of the final exam, those sources must be cited. Use of another person’s work without documentation is plagiarism and a violation of the honor code. If you are not sure about what documentation is required or what types of help are appropriate, consult the professor. Violations of this policy are subject to penalties, as specified in the honor code. For more information, consult the following site:

http://www.nku.edu/audience/current-students/honor.html.
2. El poema. By January 21, each student will choose a poem of 150-175 syllables and record it (a sonnet works well, but you may do any other poem of the correct length—preferably one you like!). You will use this feature to document your progress in the course on a more personal level. For this we will be using PowerPoint Mix. You will need a PC for this (try the Norse Tech Bar, if you speak Mac). The Mix option works with PowerPoint 2013 and higher, which you can get here: (free for NKU students): https://it.nku.edu/listsoftware/microsoft-stu.html Once you have that, to download Mix (for free) go to: https://mix.office.com/ Sign in with your NKU account. Mix adds a new tab in PowerPoint that allows you to do screen and audio recording. Tutorial: https://mix.office.com/watch/7o6kt118pguk

1. Type in a digital copy of the poem you chose, and record yourself reading it aloud. Save a copy of the text for yourself as a backup. After you upload it, send the link to the profe.

2. Copy your digital copy onto a second slide, divide the text into syllables (the way we practiced in class) and record yourself reading it aloud, observing the syllables you typed. Back up as needed and send the link…

3. Copy the text from slide 2 onto slide 3, and adjust the text to reflect the way we transcribe vowels…

4. Copy the text again, and this time adjust the text to include the phonetic symbols for /p t k b d ɟ x s/. At this point, it may be a good idea to drop your text into Type IPA (http://ipa.typeit.org/full/) to have easy access to the symbols. Record yourself making all the correct sounds…

5. Copy the text again and this time include all the phonetic symbols we have used. Record yourself. At this point you should be at your very best…

6. Autoevaluación: go back and listen to your first and your last recordings. Has your pronunciation changed since January? What has improved? What still needs work? Write up what you think and submit it to the profe.

On the last day of class, everyone will recite their poems in front of the class. In order to earn an A on this portion of the course, all recordings, transcriptions, and evaluations must be submitted, and there must be **DISCERNIBLE IMPROVEMENT** in the student’s pronunciation.

3. Pruebas. The **pruebas** will emphasize the chapters most recently covered in the course (since the previous **prueba**). However, the student should be aware that all language courses are inherently cumulative and he/she will need to remember material from earlier parts of the course in order to handle the newer material.

4. Examen final. After spring break, the class will be divided into pairs and each pair will receive a phoneme or a related group of phonemes to work on. They will then research the sounds and prepare a three-part document: (1) a report in Spanish covering how the sound is produced, dialectical variations, etc. and using parenthetical documentation where appropriate, (2) an annotated written lesson plan for teaching the sounds in question, and (3) a list of “obras consultadas”—in MLA style—of the resources used to create parts 1 and 2. This will be submitted the last day of class. The pair will then use the lesson plan to teach a brief demonstration lesson on the pronunciation of the phoneme to the class during the official final exam period for the course. The final written document should not be more than 5-6 pages, including the “obras” list. Spanish majors should check with their advisors before submitting this assignment as part of their assessment portfolios.

5. ¡Socorro! (autorizado según el código de honor 😊) The professor keeps office hours to answer your questions about the course and its material—please ask early and often! If there are any native speakers of Spanish enrolled in the course, part of their course requirements will be to serve as coaches for the other students. If you get their help, please make a note of it, so the professor can give them credit. The professor will also be posting internet links on the class web page as she finds them (if you find a good one, let us know!). If, during the semester, you find yourself facing a personal, financial, or academic issue that affects your ability to continue in this course or in any other NKU course in which you are enrolled, please contact the University Connect and Persist (UCAP) office in the Student Success Center (UC 120, tel. 859-572-6497, ucap.nku.edu) as soon as you realize you have a problem.

6. Changes. The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus should she deem it necessary. Any such changes will be announced in class, and students are responsible for finding out about them. The professor also reserves the right to have disruptive students removed from the course in accordance with College of Arts and Sciences policy. **Grades** will be posted on MyNKU. OJO: The mid-term grade is not necessarily the final grade. Your average may improve, but it may also drop, depending on your performance in the second half of the course. **Incompletes** are governed by university rules.

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This page is officially part of the course syllabus for SPI 401.

Official NKU boilerplate: This Student Honor Code [the "Honor Code"] is a commitment by students of Northern Kentucky University, through their matriculation or continued enrollment at the University, to adhere to the highest degree of ethical integrity in academic conduct. It is a commitment individually and collectively that the students of Northern Kentucky University will not lie, cheat, or plagiarize to gain an academic advantage over fellow students or avoid academic requirements. The purpose of the Honor Code is to establish standards of academic conduct for students at Northern Kentucky University and to provide a procedure that offers basic assurances of fundamental fairness to any person accused of violations of these rules. Each Northern Kentucky University student is bound by the provisions of the Honor Code and is presumed to be familiar with all of its provisions. Students also should aspire to conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with the highest degree of ethical integrity in all matters, whether covered in the Honor Code or not. The success of this commitment begins in the diligence with which students uphold the letter and the spirit of the Honor Code. Students may view the complete honor code at http://deanofstudents.nku.edu/policies/student-rights.html#policies.

Class preparation and participation (definition of a credit hour). In accordance with federal policy, NKU defines a credit hour as the amount of work represented in the achievement of student learning outcomes (verified by evidence of student achievement) that reasonably approximates one hour (50 minutes) of classroom instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work. For every course credit hour, a typical student should expect to spend at least three hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work including, but not limited to, class meeting time, reading, reviewing, organizing notes, studying and completing assignments. At least an equivalent amount of time is expected for other academic activities such as online courses, laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

Disabilities The University is committed to making reasonable efforts to assist individuals with disabilities in their efforts to avail themselves of services and programs offered by the University. To this end, Northern Kentucky University will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with documented qualifying disabilities. If you have a disability and feel you need accommodations in this course, you must present a letter to me from the Disability Programs and Services Office (SU 303), indicating the existence of a disability and the suggested accommodations. More information can be found at http://disability.nku.edu.

Student Evaluation of Instructor and Course – Required (Boilerplate)

Northern Kentucky University takes Instructor and Course Evaluations very seriously as an important means of gathering information for the enhancement of learning opportunities for its students. It is an important responsibility of NKU students as citizens of the University to participate in the instructor and course evaluation process. During the two weeks* prior to the end of each semester classes, you will be asked to reflect upon what you have learned in this course, the extent to which you have invested the necessary effort to maximize your learning, and the role your instructor has played in the learning process. It is very important that you complete the online evaluations with thoughtfully written comments.

Student evaluations of courses and instructors are regarded as strictly confidential. They are not available to the instructor until after final grades are submitted, and extensive precautions are taken to prevent your comments from being identified as coming from you. Students who complete an evaluation for a particular course (or opt out of doing so in the evaluation) will be rewarded for their participation by having access to their course grade as soon as that grade is submitted by the instructor. On the other hand, any student who does not complete the course evaluation (or opt out of doing so in the evaluation) should expect to incur a two week delay in access to his or her course grade beyond the university's official date for grade availability. To complete online evaluations go to http://eval.nku.edu. Click on "student login" and use the same USERNAME and PASSWORD as used on campus.

In addition, you should be aware of:

- Evaluations can affect changes in courses. Evaluations without comments are less valuable and less credible than those filled out thoughtfully. Comments that are expressed well are more effective than those that are not.
- Positive feedback is just as important as criticism. Moreover, negative evaluations without any explanation are not especially useful.
- Once grades are submitted, all evaluations are read not only by the instructor, but also by the instructor’s department chairperson.
- Evaluations not only provide feedback to your instructor, but also provide information to the department chair for use in performance evaluations. This information affects reappointments, promotions, salaries, and teaching assignments.

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