Course Objectives.
The primary objective of this course is to introduce you to Latin American culture and civilization through the study of literary texts, music, films and news items. It is also designed to improve your Spanish communication skills in speaking, reading, and writing.

Expected Learning Outcomes.
Upon completing this course, the successful student will be familiar with the basic geography, economics, political history and culture of the nations known collectively as Latin America. Students will be able to identify several writers, artists, musicians, politicians, entertainers, and other contributors to the development of the rich cultures that comprise Latin America. The successful student will be able to converse about these subjects on an intermediate-high level in Spanish.¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>ASSESSMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(a)1.(i) Knowledge of grammatical organization (phonology, orthography, morphology, vocabulary, and syntax) and textual organization (cohesion, coherence, and rhetorical organization) for receiving and producing original and accurate messages in the target language.</td>
<td>Homework. Tests/Exams. Webcape Exam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(a)1.(ii) Knowledge of pragmatics (the effect of context on language) for appropriate usage of the target language in different language-specific settings.</td>
<td>Tests/exams based on analysis of readings in Mundo 21. Speaking/Participation. Written compositions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(a)1.(iii) Knowledge of travel and study opportunities in the target culture or in pseudo-immersion experiences for maintaining and improving proficiency.</td>
<td>Modified oral proficiency interview(s). Tests/Exams. Short essays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(a)2.(i) Ability to receive and produce original and accurate messages in all three modes (interpersonal, interpretive, presentational), employing knowledge of grammatical and textual organization of the target language.</td>
<td>Tests/Exams and assignments based on readings and conversation topics. Written compositions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(a)2.(ii) Ability to use</td>
<td>Tests/exams based on analysis of readings in Mundo 21.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ For proficiency level information, see ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview rating guidelines.
**Course Organization.**
There are assigned readings for each class period (listed below.) It is the student’s responsibility to read all of the assignment before class begins each day. The material will be analyzed in class through group discussions, questions and individual answers as well as presentations.

**Exams and Quizzes.**
There will be four exams during the semester (3 unit exams and one final.) All of the exams will evaluate the information contained in the assigned readings, covered in class discussions, film assignments, and student presentations. The unit exams will address information found in assigned readings and presented and discussed in class, as well as grammar concepts covered in class discussions. The final exam will consist of culture questions based on student presentations.

There will be occasional **POP QUIZZES** at the beginning of class. These 5 minute quizzes will cover the material discussed in the previous day’s class. I will drop your lowest quiz score when I calculate your final grade. Quizzes may not be made up for any reason.

**Research and Presentation Project.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pragmatics to receive and produce messages in the target language that are appropriate for different situations and for different people.</th>
<th>Mundo 21. Speaking/Participation. Written compositions.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(a)2.(iii) Ability to observe similarities and differences between languages when immersed in authentic language settings.</td>
<td>Modified oral proficiency interview(s). Tests/Exams. Short essays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(b)1.(i) Knowledge of target culture practices including daily life, customs, and cultural patterns.</td>
<td>Tests/exams based on analysis of readings in Mundo 21. Speaking/Participation. Written compositions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(b)1.(ii) Knowledge of target culture perspectives including values, patterns of thought, beliefs, and cultural assumptions.</td>
<td>Tests/exams based on analysis of readings in Mundo 21. Speaking/Participation. Written compositions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(b)1.(iii) Knowledge of target culture products including art forms; geography and history; social, economic, political, and religious institutions; ecology, and technology.</td>
<td>Tests/exams based on analysis of readings in Mundo 21. Speaking/Participation. Written compositions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290-3-3-.11(2)(b)2.(iii) Ability to use tools of inquiry to discover similarities and differences between native and target culture products such as geography, political institutions, and ecology.</td>
<td>Homework. Tests/Exams. Written compositions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
During the semester, each student will conduct a research project on a randomly assigned Latin American country. Students will identify an element of that country’s culture and collect a portfolio of research materials including current events articles, original essays, books, etc. as they prepare their own research paper. The final paper will be 4-6 pages in length, formatted to Times New Roman 12, double spaced, with one-inch margins.

The deadline for turning in the final paper is May 8 at 3:00 p.m.

Each student will be responsible for compiling a research portfolio and research journal. The content of the journal is not specified, but should demonstrate that the student has engaged the literature found. I will collect these research portfolios for a preparation grade on the days we have in-class exams.

Presentations.
The last unit of the course will consist of individual student culture presentations. Each student will give an 8-10 minute presentation, in Spanish, on an aspect of the culture of their assigned country. Students will create a handout with questions for distribution to their classmates and the instructor. The final exam will consist of questions from each of the presentations.

Attendance Policy.
Missing class (or any portion thereof) is not only detrimental to you, but to the class as a whole. I will take attendance 30 times this semester. You may miss up to 10% of class meetings (3 classes) for any reason without penalty. Once you have missed more than 10% of class meetings, your final grade will drop proportionally to the amount of class you have missed. (Ex: 6 absences = 20%; highest grade possible 100-20= 80%)
Tardies will count as 1/3 of an absence. If you arrive after 20 minutes of class have elapsed, you will be counted absent for the day.

Grading.
You will be graded on all aspects of the course, including written assignments, presentations, class participation, and exams. What matters most is the learning process.

Book.

Grading Criteria.
Quizzes and preparation 15%
Exams (3 @ 10% each) 30%
Final Exam 10%
Research Portfolio 10%
Presentation 10%
Final Paper 15%
Any aspect or element of this course can be modified at the professor’s discretion.

Daily Reading Schedule. It is your responsibility to read the corresponding section of the textbook associated with each country listed below.

12 de enero: Explicación del programa y del funcionamiento del curso; Estados Unidos
17 de enero: Puerto Rico
19 de enero: España
24 de enero: México
26 de enero: Perú
31 de enero: Bolivia
2 de febrero: Ecuador
7 de febrero: EXAMEN 1
9 de febrero: Chile
14 de febrero: Argentina
16 de febrero: Paraguay
21 de febrero: Uruguay
23 de febrero: Colombia
28 de febrero: Venezuela
1 de marzo: Cuba
6 de marzo: EXAMEN 2
8 de marzo: República Dominicana
13 de marzo: Guatemala
15 de marzo: El Salvador
20 de marzo: Nicaragua
22 de marzo: Honduras
3 de abril: Costa Rica
5 de abril: Panamá
10 de abril: EXAMEN 3
12 de abril: Presentaciones
17 de abril: Presentaciones
19 de abril: Presentaciones
24 de abril: Presentaciones
26 de abril: Presentaciones
1 de mayo: Presentaciones; Repaso y discusión
3 de mayo: Día de lectura (no hay clase)
8 de mayo, 8:00-9:45: EXAMEN FINAL
8 de mayo, 15:00: FECHA LÍMITE DE ENTREGAR EL TRABAJO FINAL