**Brandeis University HISP 20- Continuing Spanish-Fall 2015**

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| **Instructor:** Raysa Mederos | **Office:** Rabb 339 |
| **Email:** mederos@brandeis.edu | **Office hours:**  Thursdays: 1:00-3:00  and by appointment |
| **Phone:** 6-3197 |

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**Textbooks**:

Blanco / Donley. VISTAS. Fourth Edition.

Supersite: [www.vistas.vhlcentral.com](http://www.vistas.vhlcentral.com/)(Free with the purchase of a new text book).

You will receive handouts (H/O) of additional materials in class.

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HISP20 continues the proficiency-based instruction started with Spanish 10 last semester, or its equivalent.

*Learning goals:* HISP20 aims to:

- further develop and strengthen the communication skills already acquired in a

previous course.

- bring students to a higher language proficiency level as determined by the

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) guidelines.

- help students attain a higher cultural competence and understanding.

- strengthen the students’ ability to communicate effectively in Spanish.

- review and increase the vocabulary and grammatical structures needed to

perform specific language functions.

- improve the students’ listening and reading skills.

- help students achieve more cohesion in writing.

***Learning outcomes.*** By the end of this course students will be able to:

- function in Spanish at a higher proficiency level.

- talk about a variety of familiar topics with more confidence and accuracy.

- talk about past and present events.

- write short compositions on a variety of familiar topics.

- understand and interpret the main idea in written and audio texts.

- better understand the culture of various Spanish speaking countries and communities.

Students taking this course will be able to perform the following language functions:

* Talk about present and past activities.
* Talk about daily routine.
* Express preferences/likes and dislikes.
* Talk about food and meals.
* Order food at a restaurant.
* Make comparisons.
* Talk about pastimes, parties, and celebrations.
* Talk about personal relationships.
* Talk about health and medical conditions.
* Describe how you feel physically.
* Talk about technology.
* Express possession.
* Talk about accidental events.
* Give orders.

**Grade Distribution:**

Attendance, participation 10%

Homework: VISTAS website and other 10%

Written assignments 10%

Skits 5%

Quizzes 15%

Exams 20%

Final oral exam 10%

1 Final Exam 20%

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**Course evaluations:**

**Skits:** Students will prepare and perform short theater pieces using the vocabulary and language functions practiced in class.

**Compositions:** Students will write two short compositions on familiar topics covered in class.

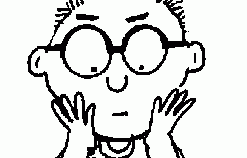
**Quizzes:** There will be three quizzesto evaluate listening comprehension and the vocabulary and grammatical structures covered in class.

**Exams:** Two exams will evaluate the students’ reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar and writing skills.

**Final oral exam:** The final oral evaluation will consist of a proficiency-based interview with your instructor.

**Final exam:** The final exam will cover the material studied throughout the semester.

\*\*\* \*\*\* **Make-up evaluation policy**: Should you need to miss class the day an evaluation is scheduled, you will be allowed to ***make-up only one*** evaluation provided your absence is properly excused.

EVALUATION DATES:

Dates provided are subject to change except for the final exam on 12/11 @ 1:30.

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| 1. Quiz 1: 9/18 |
| 1. Exam 1: 10/9 |
| 1. Writing assignment 1: 10/12 |
| 1. Quiz 2: 10/26 |
| 1. Exam 2: 11/16 |
| 1. Writing assignment 2: 11/13 |
| 1. Quiz 3: T.B.D. |
| 1. Skits: (I) 10/7-10/8 - (II) |
| 1. Final oral evaluation: 12/3, 4 & 7 |

**Grading Scale:**

98-100 A+ 74-76 C

94-97 A 70-73 C-

90-93 A- 67-69 D+

87-89 B+ 64-66 D

84-86 B 60-63 D-

80-83 B- 59 and below F

77-79 C+

**Placement:**

HISP10 at Brandeis, or AP exam score of 1-2.

If you did not take HISP10, you MUST take the placement exam.

If you are enrolled in this class, it is because you have placed yourself here. Think carefully about your placement; will this course be challenging enough for you? Do you want to major o minor in this language? And will you have enough time to do so? If you think this class might not be the right one for you, please speak with me as soon as possible. Keep in mind that once you have completed a course in the language sequence (courses number 10 through 108), you will not be able to skip a level. If the course that is at your level is closed, we advise you to wait a semester and enroll in the right course for you during pre-registration.

**\*Reminder: In order to be able to continue to the 30 level you have to get a C- or higher.**

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**Course Policies:** 

**All electronic devices MUST be OFF during class**

attendance: Your presence in class is crucial to language acquisition. If you miss more than 3 classes (excused or not), your final grade will be lowered. Your absences and tardiness will also have a negative impact upon your class participation grade.

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| 8 or more absences will result in an F. |
| 3 times late = 1 absence |

HOMEWORK and class participation: Your grade will be based on the quality and frequency of your participation in class activities. Using the language in communicative situations in class is central to this course. In order to be able to participate in class you must complete the homework. Online practice will also be assigned on the *Vistas Supersite*.

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If you are an **athlete** and need to be excused for competition, your coach must provide the dates when you will be unable to attend classes. You are responsible for keeping up with the class material.

IMPORTANT REMARKS:

spanish major: If you are thinking about majoring or minoring in Spanish, you should familiarize yourself with the program in the Bulletin and then see the Undergraduate Advising Head, Professor Dian Fox ([fox@brandeis.edu](mailto:fox@brandeis.edu)) as soon as possible to make sure that you understand the prerequisites and requirements.

academic integrity: All students are responsible for following the university guidelines regarding academic honesty:

Academic integrity is central to the mission of educational excellence at Brandeis University. Each student is expected to turn in work completed independently, except when assignments specifically authorize collaborative effort. It is not acceptable to use the words or ideas of another person—whether that be a world-class philosopher or those of your classmate—without proper acknowledgement of that source. This means you must use notes and quotation marks to indicate the source of any phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or ideas found in published volumes, on the internet, or created by another person.

Violation of University policies on academic integrity, described in Section 3 of Rights and Responsibilities, may result in failure on the assignment or failure in the course, and could even end in suspension from the University. Remember that tutors or study leaders, including those sanctioned by Brandeis University, are not authorized to complete homework or any other assignments for you. If you have questions about the type of help you can receive, please ask your professor before you receive help.

If you are working in a group that I authorized, I will expect your answers to resemble those of your partners. Otherwise, I expect you to do your work separately from your friends, classmates, family members, tutors, and so on. If you have any questions about this policy, please ask your professor before you receive help.

If you have any questions about academic integrity, please contact Dean Gendron, Director of Student Rights and Community Standards:[gendron@brandeis.edu](mailto:gendron@brandeis.edu), 781-736-5070,

Shapiro Campus Center 201.

notice to students with disabilities: If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis University and wish to have a reasonable accommodation made for you in this class, please see the professor immediately. Retroactive accommodations cannot be provided.

study abroad: You are highly encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to study abroad to continue to improve your skills, and broaden your knowledge of the culture of Hispanic countries. For more specific information, please, contact:

**Scott van der Meid** ([svanderm@brandeis.edu](mailto:svanderm@brandeis.edu)) or

**Allyson Goose** (agoose@brandeis.edu)

The Study Abroad office is in 127 Usdan Student Center, and its phone number is 6-3483.

LATTE: Additional information about this course, including the syllabus, activities and the films to be watched may be found on LATTE. Please note that if changes occur on the syllabus, I will contact the class through LATTE email service.

**Brandeis University Group Study (B.U.G.S.)** is a program that provides peer tutoring to all undergraduate students free of charge. There is no need to make an appointment. For more information or an updated schedule, contact:

Jeffrey Lowenstein ([jlowenst@brandeis.edu](mailto:jlowenst@brandeis.edu).