General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Rodrigo Acuna
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Tutor
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Credit points
3

Prerequisites
6cp at 200 level including SPN202

Learning Outcomes

1. Listening skills: Students will be able to understand extended speech and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar; understand general spoken language at normal speech rate; extract specific information and follow the significant points in an oral utterance; understand most TV news and short radio interviews; understand the majority of films in standard dialect.

2. Reading skills: Students will be able to read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems; identify and extract information from various sources. Students will have developed strategies to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words from the context and understand frequently used set expressions.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Unit description

This unit follows a communicative approach and is designed to extend skills in reading, writing, comprehension and speaking by studying contemporary Spanish and Latin American issues through the analysis of a variety of representative films.
3. Speaking skills: Students will be able to express themselves spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions; use language flexibly and effectively for social purposes; engage verbally with increasingly complex subjects; produce an oral presentation in order to demonstrate their knowledge about a set topic; use an increasingly wide range of vocabulary, set expressions and idioms and structure their speech logically.

4. Writing skills: Students will be able to write a clear, well-structured text, interpreting or expressing points of view at some length; write about increasingly complex subjects; write in a style appropriate to the reader in mind; express and justify opinions and give arguments supporting their point of view; explain and compare ideas presented to them in a text; use appropriate devices to ensure the smooth flow of a piece of writing most of the time; produce a text with few grammatical mistakes that would substantially interfere with the reader’s understanding.

Assessment Tasks

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<td>Oral/written tasks</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
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<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
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Oral/written tasks

Due: As specified in weekly guide
Weighting: 25%

Written submissions and one oral.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Speaking skills: Students will be able to express themselves spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions; use language flexibly and effectively for social purposes; engage verbally with increasingly complex subjects; produce an oral presentation in order to demonstrate their knowledge about a set topic; use an increasingly wide range of vocabulary, set expressions and idioms and structure their
speech logically.

- **Writing skills:** Students will be able to write a clear, well-structured text, interpreting or expressing points of view at some length; write about increasingly complex subjects; write in a style appropriate to the reader in mind; express and justify opinions and give arguments supporting their point of view; explain and compare ideas presented to them in a text; use appropriate devices to ensure the smooth flow of a piece of writing most of the time; produce a text with few grammatical mistakes that would substantially interfere with the reader’s understanding.

**Quizzes**

*Due: As specified in weekly guide*

*Weighting: 15%*

4 Quizzes

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- **Reading skills:** Students will be able to read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems; identify and extract information from various sources. Students will have developed strategies to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words from the context and understand frequently used set expressions.

- **Writing skills:** Students will be able to write a clear, well-structured text, interpreting or expressing points of view at some length; write about increasingly complex subjects; write in a style appropriate to the reader in mind; express and justify opinions and give arguments supporting their point of view; explain and compare ideas presented to them in a text; use appropriate devices to ensure the smooth flow of a piece of writing most of the time; produce a text with few grammatical mistakes that would substantially interfere with the reader’s understanding.

**Participation**

*Due: Ongoing*

*Weighting: 20%*

This unit has a strong emphasis on class participation through discussions in Spanish in class AND online, through the discussion board. EXTERNAL students will complete their tutorials through iLearn.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- **Listening skills:** Students will be able to understand extended speech and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar; understand general
spoken language at normal speech rate; extract specific information and follow the significant points in an oral utterance; understand most TV news and short radio interviews; understand the majority of films in standard dialect.

• Reading skills: Students will be able to read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems; identify and extract information from various sources. Students will have developed strategies to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words from the context and understand frequently used set expressions.

• Speaking skills: Students will be able to express themselves spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions; use language flexibly and effectively for social purposes; engage verbally with increasingly complex subjects; produce an oral presentation in order to demonstrate their knowledge about a set topic; use an increasingly wide range of vocabulary, set expressions and idioms and structure their speech logically.

**Final Oral test**

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **20%**

Conducted IN CLASS in Week 13 and based on the topics covered during the semester.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

• Listening skills: Students will be able to understand extended speech and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar; understand general spoken language at normal speech rate; extract specific information and follow the significant points in an oral utterance; understand most TV news and short radio interviews; understand the majority of films in standard dialect.

• Speaking skills: Students will be able to express themselves spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions; use language flexibly and effectively for social purposes; engage verbally with increasingly complex subjects; produce an oral presentation in order to demonstrate their knowledge about a set topic; use an increasingly wide range of vocabulary, set expressions and idioms and structure their speech logically.

**Final Written test**

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **20%**

Conducted IN CLASS in Week 13 and based on the topics covered during the semester.
This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- **Reading skills**: Students will be able to read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems; identify and extract information from various sources. Students will have developed strategies to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words from the context and understand frequently used set expressions.
- **Writing skills**: Students will be able to write a clear, well-structured text, interpreting or expressing points of view at some length; write about increasingly complex subjects; write in a style appropriate to the reader in mind; express and justify opinions and give arguments supporting their point of view; explain and compare ideas presented to them in a text; use appropriate devices to ensure the smooth flow of a piece of writing most of the time; produce a text with few grammatical mistakes that would substantially interfere with the reader’s understanding.

### Delivery and Resources

**This unit will use:**

iLearn and Echo recordings

**Required texts:**


**Times and Locations for Lectures and Tutorials:**

Please consult the MQ Timetable Website: [http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au](http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au)

**Online Unit**

Login is via: [https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/](https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/) Using your Student ID number and your MyMQ Portal password.

Is my unit in iLearn?: [http://help.ilearn.mq.edu.au/unitonline/](http://help.ilearn.mq.edu.au/unitonline/) Use this link to check when your online unit will become available.

**Technology**

Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.

- For technical support go to: [http://mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/informatics/help](http://mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/informatics/help)
- For student quick guides on the use of iLearn go to: [http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_information/guides.htm](http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_information/guides.htm)
Unit Schedule
2016 - D1 Day; Offered in Session 1, North Ryde

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy  http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html


Disruption to Studies Policy  http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct:  https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in iLearn, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Late assignment policy

Assignments are compulsory and must be submitted on time. As a general rule, extensions will not be granted without a valid and documented reason (e.g. medical certificate). Late submissions will be penalised by 5% for each day (including weekends) the assignment task is late. No assignments will be accepted after assignments have been corrected and feedback has been provided. Assignment tasks handed in early will not be marked and returned before the due date.
Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

**Student Enquiry Service**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/disability_service/) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**IT Help**

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

When using the University’s IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

**Graduate Capabilities**

**Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills**

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Listening skills: Students will be able to understand extended speech and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar; understand general
spoken language at normal speech rate; extract specific information and follow the significant points in an oral utterance; understand most TV news and short radio interviews; understand the majority of films in standard dialect.

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### Assessment tasks

- Oral/written tasks
- Quizzes
- Participation
- Final Oral test
- Final Written test

### Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcomes

- **Reading skills**: Students will be able to read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems; identify and extract information from various sources. Students will have developed strategies to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words from the context and understand frequently used set expressions.
- **Writing skills**: Students will be able to write a clear, well-structured text, interpreting or expressing points of view at some length; write about increasingly complex subjects; write in a style appropriate to the reader in mind; express and justify opinions and give arguments supporting their point of view; explain and compare ideas presented to them in a text; use appropriate devices to ensure the smooth flow of a piece of writing most of the time; produce a text with few grammatical mistakes that would substantially interfere with the reader’s understanding.
Assessment tasks

- Oral/written tasks
- Quizzes
- Participation
- Final Written test

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Writing skills: Students will be able to write a clear, well-structured text, interpreting or expressing points of view at some length; write about increasingly complex subjects; write in a style appropriate to the reader in mind; express and justify opinions and give arguments supporting their point of view; explain and compare ideas presented to them in a text; use appropriate devices to ensure the smooth flow of a piece of writing most of the time; produce a text with few grammatical mistakes that would substantially interfere with the reader’s understanding.

Assessment tasks

- Oral/written tasks
- Quizzes
- Final Written test

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Listening skills: Students will be able to understand extended speech and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar; understand general spoken language at normal speech rate; extract specific information and follow the
significant points in an oral utterance; understand most TV news and short radio interviews; understand the majority of films in standard dialect.

- Writing skills: Students will be able to write a clear, well-structured text, interpreting or expressing points of view at some length; write about increasingly complex subjects; write in a style appropriate to the reader in mind; express and justify opinions and give arguments supporting their point of view; explain and compare ideas presented to them in a text; use appropriate devices to ensure the smooth flow of a piece of writing most of the time; produce a text with few grammatical mistakes that would substantially interfere with the reader’s understanding.

**Assessment tasks**

- Oral/written tasks
- Quizzes
- Participation
- Final Oral test
- Final Written test

**Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens**

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation’s historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**

- Speaking skills: Students will be able to express themselves spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions; use language flexibly and effectively for social purposes; engage verbally with increasingly complex subjects; produce an oral presentation in order to demonstrate their knowledge about a set topic; use an increasingly wide range of vocabulary, set expressions and idioms and structure their speech logically.

**Assessment tasks**

- Oral/written tasks
- Participation
- Final Oral test
Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Speaking skills: Students will be able to express themselves spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions; use language flexibly and effectively for social purposes; engage verbally with increasingly complex subjects; produce an oral presentation in order to demonstrate their knowledge about a set topic; use an increasingly wide range of vocabulary, set expressions and idioms and structure their speech logically.

Assessment tasks

- Oral/written tasks
- Participation
- Final Oral test

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Reading skills: Students will be able to read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems; identify and extract information from various sources. Students will have developed strategies to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words from the context and understand frequently used set expressions.

Assessment tasks

- Quizzes
- Participation
- Final Written test