

## Advanced Language and Composition Boston University (in Madrid)

Professor Carmén Bordón

Required Texts: *Abanico. Curso Avanzado de Español Lengua Extranjera.*  
- *Libro del alumno* and *Cuaderno de ejercicios*

### **Course Outline**

- Week 1. Presentation of the course. Review of verb tenses. Introduction to Spanish syntax.
- Week 2. Unit 1: Ser and Estar
- Week 3. Unit 1. Descriptions. **1<sup>st</sup> composition**
- Week 4. Unit 2: the past tenses
- Week 5. Unit 3: Personal Pronouns, narration. **2<sup>nd</sup> composition**
- Week 6. Unit 3. **1<sup>st</sup> Exam**
- Week 7. Unit 5: the subjunctive in relative, temporal and definitive sentences
- Week 8. Unit 6: the indicative and the subjunctive in hypothetical expressions. Exposition and argument. **3<sup>rd</sup> composition**
- Week 9. Unit 7: the indirect style. Transformation of the verb forms.
- Week 10. Review. **2<sup>nd</sup> Exam.**
- Week 11. Unit 8: Uses of the subjunctive in substantive sentences.
- Week 12. Unit 9: Uses of the gerund and the participle. Verbs that introduce a discussion. **4<sup>th</sup> composition.**
- Week 13. Unit 12: Conditional sentences. **5<sup>th</sup> composition.**
- Week 14. Review. **5<sup>th</sup> composition.**
- Week 15. **Final Exam**

### **Assignments and course grades:**

Each exam is worth 25% of the final grade (3 exams = 75%).

The compositions are worth 5% each (5 compositions = 25%)

Participation and attendance will be reflected in the final grade, raising or lowering it accordingly.

### **Note about the Course:**

Students must do exercises about the selected topics for each class. These exercises must be done at home and will be corrected in class. It is **very** important to do the exercises in order to maximize the value of the class.

Each exam will have grammar and vocabulary sections. There will also be a written composition on each exam. Assigned compositions should be turned in on time. To write them you may consult books, dictionaries, etc., but **you should not** ask anyone else for help.

The professor may adjust the schedule of the classes or assignments if needed due to time or other constraints.

### **Bibliography:**

Alarcos Llorach, Emilio, *Gramática de la Lengua Española*, Espasa, Madrid, 1994.

Álvarez, Miriam, *Tipos de escrito I. Narración y descripción*. Arco Libros, Madrid.

*Tipos de escrito II. Exposición y argumentación*. Arco Libros, Madrid.

Gómez Torrego, L., *Gramática didáctica del español*, S.M., Madrid, 1997.

Montolio, E. ed., *Manual práctico de escritura académica*, Ariel, Barcelona, 2000.

Seco, Manuel, *Gramática esencial del español*, Espasa, Madrid, 1994.

