COURSE GOALS

• To develop skills that will enable you to listen, speak, read, and write in the target language at the Novice mid or high Proficiency Level.

• To acquire an awareness, appreciation, and acceptance of the differences between American (United States) and Hispanic (i.e., Spanish/Latin American) cultures.

• To realize that there is both pleasure and value in being able to communicate in a second language.

1400-level SPA courses will help the student move from novice toward intermediate level proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) has developed a set of performance indicators and "can-do" statements to help students gauge their own progress in these skills in three modes: interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive. Below you will find a list of "can-do" statements for this course.

Interpersonal Communication: As the course progresses, I can communicate and exchange information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes supported by memorized language. By the end of the course, I can participate in conversations on a number of familiar topics using simple sentences. I can handle short social interactions in everyday situations by asking and answering simple questions.

Presentational Speaking: As the course progresses, I can present basic information on familiar topics using language I have practiced, using phrases and simple sentences. By the end of the course, I can present information on most familiar topics using a series of simple sentences.

Presentational Writing: In the beginning, I can write short messages and notes on familiar topics related to everyday life. By the end of course, I can write briefly about most familiar topics and present information using a series of simple sentences.

Interpretive Listening: Near the start of the course, I can often understand words, phrases, and simple sentences related to everyday life. As the course progresses, I can recognize pieces of information and sometimes understand the main topic of what is being said. By the end of the course, I can understand the main idea in short, simple messages and presentations on familiar topics. I can understand the main idea of simple conversations that I overhear.

Interpretive Reading: At the beginning of the course, I can understand the main idea of short and simple texts when the topic is familiar. By the end of the course, I can understand the main idea of texts related to everyday life and personal interests or studies.

Interpretive Reading: At the beginning of the course, I can understand the main idea of texts related to everyday life and personal interests or studies. By the end of the course, I can easily understand the main idea of texts related to everyday life, personal interests, and studies. I can sometimes follow stories and descriptions about events and experiences in various time frames.