COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: SPAN 1001/HUM 1001: Introduction to Hispanic Cultures

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None

This course a comparative study of Hispanic cultures and societies exploring geographical, historical, socio-economic, political and religious issues, as well as the regional customs and interpersonal relations of the Hispanic world. Because these courses are taught in English (may include basic Spanish expressions), they are particularly suitable for students who have never studied a foreign language. (Prerequisites: None). (3 C/3 lect, 0 lab). MNTC: Goal 2/CT, Goal 6/HA, Goal 8/GP. RECOMMENDED ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: Basic English comprehension skills or instructors permission

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): February, 2012

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
This course will be presented and organized by topics, which may include:
1. Definition of “culture” as an universal, learned aspect of world cultures
2. Political and economic geography of the 22 Spanish countries
3. Cultural and linguistics differences by region
4. National Minorities: tensions over social, cultural, religious and linguistic differences (within) Spanish-speaking countries
5. Philosophy and Religions: relative impact of Catholicism as opposed to native beliefs
6. History, governments and politics:
   a) USA involvement in and impacts on Spanish-speaking countries and current attitudes
7. Science and medicine in history: modern medicine or folk tradition alternatives
8. Social Customs/Etiquette (Women, marriage, and family values, business and interpersonal relationships
10. Architecture (castles, cathedrals, sculptures).
11. Traditional and Modern Literature & Theater, Legends and Folklore as they reflect reactions to dictatorships and form contemporary world view
12. Language: Tradition and transformation/non-verbal communications
13. Holidays: respect and value various religious, political and personal celebrations in order to develop global sensitivity
14. Education and learning

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Have acquired a basic knowledge and cultural sensitivity of the Spanish-speaking countries.
2. Identify important elements of Spanish-speaking countries’ cultural heritage that have contributed to world civilization, such as traditional social, philosophical, political, economical, and religious foundations, as well its achievements in the sciences, medicine, literature, and the visual and performing arts in both elite as well as popular culture.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):
Goal 2/Critical Thinking: The student will be able to:
1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives, which can give alternate meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.

Goal 6/The Humanities-the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy: The student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works on Spanish-speaking cultures in the arts, humanities, films and literature.
E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNCT): Continued...
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities, such as traditional social customers, religious and political celebrations and achievements in literature and visual arts.

Goal 8/Global Perspectives: The student will be able to:
1. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements, which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
3. Understand the role of a world citizen and the responsibility world citizen’s share for their common global future.

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
May include any or all of the following:
1. Objective exams
2. Research papers
3. Quizzes
4. Written homework
5. Small group projects
6. Oral presentations
7. Panel discussions
8. Or any other as deemed appropriate by the individual instructor.

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any):
Additional fees may be necessary for purchasing audiocassettes, computer disks, and for going on field trips. Study abroad program in Summer II.