

Instructions for Cultural Activities for Spanish Classes

5% of the grade is allotted to cultural activities on the syllabi for SPAN 101, 102, 201, 202. Points may be earned as follows:

Attend a cultural program related to the Hispanic world on campus or an off-campus program approved by your instructor. Write a reaction paper in English following the instructions below. To receive credit, you must turn in your paper within one week of the event. Events will be announced in class or posted around campus. (Maximum 100 points)

If unable to attend an event, you may do one or more of the following with your instructor's prior approval:

1) Do a written report on a book or a film available on video related to Hispanic world following the instructions below. Must be approved in advance by instructor. (Maximum 50 pts. May only do one video.)

2) No. 2 above with additional bibliography approved in advance by your instructor (copies of what you read must be attached to the report). (Maximum 100 points)

3) A special project of a cultural nature approved in advance by your instructor. A project that you are using to fulfill a requirement for another class is not sufficient, although an expansion of such a project is a possibility. Any special projects should be completed at least one week before the end of classes. (Maximum 100 points)

Please note: While a variety of activities will be offered during the semester that will allow you to fulfill this requirement, it is your responsibility to complete your cultural activity before the end of the semester. All reaction papers must be turned in personally to the instructor (not left in a mailbox or put under a door) by the last day of classes. Under no circumstances will a cultural reaction paper be the occasion for an incomplete.

Instructions for Reaction Paper on Cultural Event

The student should cover all of the topics listed below. In order to do so, the reaction paper should be about three pages. The part on personal reaction and what you learned should each be at least a paragraph in length.

Points are distributed as follows (based on 100):

Information about event: 1-10 pts.

(If the country information is wrong, maximum of 5 pts.)

Summary/Comments/Main ideas or themes: 1-40 pts.

What learned/Personal reaction: 1-50 pts.

Points are not earned merely by turning something in. Points earned are based on the quality of the work submitted (i.e. accuracy, completeness, expression, etc.).

1) Play or Feature Film

Introduction or first paragraph should include:

Title and date of event

Where or by what group presented?

Name of director or author?

From what country and/or cultural group?

About what country and/or cultural group?

The part below is to be written in complete sentences in good, clear prose:

Brief summary of plot

(include where and when action takes place)

Comments on characters and/or actors

Main ideas or themes

What did you learn from the film or play?

Personal reaction

2) Documentary

Introduction or first paragraph should include:

Title and date of event

Where or by what group presented?

Name of director or producer (or group produced by or for)?
From what country and/or cultural group?

The part below is to be written in complete sentences in good, clear prose:

Brief summary of main ideas
What did you learn from the film?
Personal reaction

3) Speaker(s)

Introduction or first paragraph should include:

Title and date of event
Name(s) of speaker(s)?
Where or by what group presented?
From what country and/or cultural group?
Speaking about what country and/or cultural group?

The part below is to be written in complete sentences in good, clear prose:

Brief summary of main ideas
What did you learn from the speaker(s)?
Personal reaction

4) Concert or Dance Performance

Introduction or first paragraph should include:

Title and date of event
Where or by what group presented?
Name(s) of artists
From what country and/or cultural group?
Music/dance from what country/countries and/or cultural group(s)?

The part below is to be written in complete sentences in good, clear prose:

What kind of music/dance was performed?
Which songs/dances did you particularly like and why?
What did you learn about Hispanic music/dance in general and/or the music/dance from specific countries?
Personal reaction

5) Exhibition

Introduction or first paragraph should include:

Dates of exhibition\Date attended
Where or by what group presented?
From what country and/or cultural group?
What artists included?

The part below is to be written in complete sentences in good, clear prose:

What kind of works were included in this exhibit?
Which ones did you particularly like and why?
What did you learn about Hispanic culture in general and/or the particular country/countries?
Personal reaction