INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Mario Morera and adjunct faculty
CREDITS: 4

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The class is going to integrate language practice and learning, while it also includes a study of linguistic-cultural aspects. Students will learn to use Spanish in real-life contexts closely related to their areas of service learning during the 4-week Community Engagement practicum period. The student will be able to acquire language tools allowing them to learn and interact with the Costa Rican culture and enrich their sociolinguistic experience in the program. In order to achieve this objective there will be a series of cultural and pedagogical activities that are an integral part of the course. The language department will work together with the students’ Community Engagement class as they develop and carry out their practicum, so there will be a constant monitoring of the students’ language proficiency.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
b. Acquisition of general and regional vocabulary related to the student’s rural practicum period.
c. Pronunciation improvement.
d. Growth of self-confidence in communication.
e. Acquisition of Costa Rican cultural aspects.
g. On-going language practice upon arrival from rural stay.

REQUIRED TEXTS
To be determined

COURSE CONTENT
Each three-hour class period is divided the following way:
- Grammar class: 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
- Homework review and grammar practice: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
- Conversation: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Grammar topics:
- Verb “to be”
- Subject-verb agreement, gender
- Reflexive verbs;
- Indicative past tenses
- Direct-indirect object pronouns
- Prepositions “por and para”
- Prepositions in general
- Indicative perfect tenses
- Costa Rican phrases
- Verbal phrases
- Comparative and superlative forms
- Present subjunctive
- Past subjunctive
- Conditional and subjunctive
- Passive voice
- Uses of “se”
- Direct and indirect speech
- Word formation
- Adverbial phrases
- Uses of the “vos” form

**Conversation:**
Conversation classes will be structured according to language ability, which will be assessed by two placement tests: oral and written, and later by community engagement topic. Students will be expected to discuss a variety of topics and articles and will practice interviewing skills and other areas that will enhance their community engagement experience.

**ASSESSMENT:**
- a. Attendance 20
- b. Homework and class preparation 20
- c. Class participation 20
- d. Cultural activities and fieldtrips participation 10
- e. Oral and written exams 30

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Total 100 pts

**ACM POLICY ON ACADEMICS**
A complete listing of ACM policies can be found in your student handbook.

Class attendance and participation: You are expected to attend and participate fully in all classroom sessions, site visits, and field trips.

Academic honesty: Actions of dishonesty are destructive to the well-being of the academic community, and ACM staff respond to them vigorously. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic theft will result in a failing grade for that assignment and may result in failure for the course.

**ACM POLICY ON NON-DISCRIMINATION**
The Associated Colleges of the Midwest does not discriminate in the operation of its educational programs, activities, or employment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, marital status, or disability.

**CLASSROOM CONDUCT**
Laptops, tablets and mobile phones are strictly forbidden during class time.