UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR
SPANISH COURSES FOR FOREIGNERS

ADVANCED LEVEL
HISTORY OF TANGO- Conversation and Grammar Workshop

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54 contact hours

General objectives: to ensure that students
- Can flexibly and effectively use the language for social, academic and professional purposes, both orally and in writing, putting the emphasis on oral expression;

Specific objectives: to ensure that students
- Can maintain an informal conversation with a lot of fluency and spontaneity over a long period of time, and discuss abstract and cultural issues with sufficient, with no obvious signs of effort to find the right expression.
- Can understand a wide variety of extensive texts (written and audiovisual) and with a certain level of complexity, as well as recognizing implicit meanings in them.
- Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed and extensive texts on topics of some complexity, correctly using the mechanisms of organization, articulation and cohesion of the text, selecting the appropriate style according to the receiver and text function.

Cultural content:
- History of tango
- The Tango in the cinema

Unit 1: The origins of tango
The Rio de la Plata in the last decades of 19th century: Buenos Aires and Montevideo. Targeted immigration. The Shaping of society: the high Bourgeoisie; the basis for the future middle class; the urban proletariat; the gaucho, the Indian and the black. The music of two cities in transformation. From the brothel to fame. The tango in Paris.

Unit 2: Dance

Unit 3: The language of tango

Unit 4: The first tangos
The beginnings of the century. From “El entrerriano” to “La morocha”. Pascual Contursi: “Mi noche triste” and the birth of the tango song.

Unit 5: Tangos with a woman's name

**Unit 6: From Buenos Aires to the world**
The arrival of tango to Japan and other parts of the world. "Caminito", "A media luz", "Tiempo Viejos". Old guard versus new guard.

**Unit 7: The crisis of the ‘30s**

**Unit 8: The ‘40s and learned poetry**
Three men and three women: Homero Manzi and “Malena”; José María Contursi and “Gricel”; Cátulo Castillo and “María”.

Censorship in tango: The new tangos of Discépolo.
The typical orchestra: Lucio Demare, Aníbal Troilo and Mariano Mores.

**Unit 9: The ‘50s and ‘60s**

**Unit 10: Tango and Rock**

**Unit 11: End-of-the-century tango**

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**Discursive content:**

**Coherence and cohesion:**
- Cohesive processes: grammatical and lexical cohesion.
- Cohesion based on textual coherence.
- Connectors: Types and uses.

**Types of text (written and audiovisuales):**
- Conventionally structured genres.
- Narrative texts: basic characteristics of the narrative, the journalistic Chronicle, the cinematographic fiction.
- Descriptive texts: Literary or scientific description, the general interest essay, the documentary.
- Argumentative texts: outline, resources and argumentation processes.
- Explanatory texts: Instructional forms.
- Dialogic texts: The interview.
- Appellative texts: The advertising.

**Orality and daily life:**
- Characteristics of orality
- Formulaicness
- Orality and discourse planning
- The transcription of orality
- Writing and power
- Orality as intertext
Grammatical content:

Verbs:
Subjunctive mood: Its uses and temporal values.
Alternating subjunctive / indicative:
- In consecutive and causal subordinate clauses,
- With verbs expressing ignorance and the unknown,
- With adverbs like “probably” and “certainly”,
Tense agreement: Canonical concordance and other possibilities.
Probability: Verbal tenses indicating assumption or probability,
correspondence with the use “deber” in various tenses.
Hypothetical periods: Basic combinations and variations, “yo que vos” (“if I were you”)
+ Conditional and compound conditional. Indirect speech.
The different voices: Active, passive and passive voice with “se”: Uses.
Verbal phrases, verbal turns.

Verboids:
Simple and perfect infinitive: All uses.
The gerund: Correct and incorrect uses.

Articles:
Using the neutral article “lo” (lo de, lo que, lo + adjectives).
Agreement:
Agreement between the noun and the verb: General and special rules.
Agreement between noun and adjective: General and special rules.

The Grammatics of Conversation:
Prosody.
Substance of prosody.
Form of prosody.
The pause.
Prosody and transcription.
Rhythm.