

Sergio Torres

WLC 300

12-20-2013

### Narratives

#### Span-301- Composition/Oral practice (completed in Fall 2013)

This course meets MLO 1: Language proficiency and MLO 2: Language and Linguistic Knowledge. This course contributes to my fulfillment of MLO 1 because we practiced our writing skills in essays, writing assignments, and tests. We also did a lot of group activities that helped us practice our speaking and listening abilities. We did four essays in the semester, the first one was a composition about a wedding, the second one was a description about a market or store, the third one was an essay about euthanasia, and the last one was an essay about immigration in any country. A debate was also performed at the end of the class, we were put into groups of five classmates and had to research a certain topic and present in front of the class. Our topic was about Junipero Serra, the founder of California. Our group had to discuss the good and bad things about Junipero with another group. The knowledge that I gained from this course that is significant to my major is the following: writing skills, linguistics knowledge, reading skills, and communication skills. But the main thing would be writing skills since we did a lot of writing assignments on this class. I believe that I still need to work on my writing skills, even though I learned a lot in this class, I feel that I still need to work on this area. To further explore this learning experience I need to read more.

## Span-304- intro to Hispanic Literature (completed Fall 2013)

This course meets MLO 1: Language proficiency and MLO 3: Literary and Cultural Knowledge. This course contributes to fulfillment of MLO 1 because we mainly practiced our reading skills, speaking ability, and listening ability by reading a lot of literature pieces, novels, stories, poems, and participating in group activities, class discussions, class presentations. The first half of the class was literature and the second part was poetry. In the first half, we read a lot of novels from prestigious writers such as Ricardo Palma, Miguel de Cervantes, Jorge Luis Borges, Juan Rulfo, Julio Cortazar, and Gabriel García Marquez. A quiz had to be taken after reading each novel, and it also had to be discussed in groups during class. For the second half, we read poems written by famous poets such as Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, Federico García Lorca, Francisco de Quevedo, Lope de Vega, y Luis de Góngora. I gained a lot of knowledge and skills in this course. I learned about the different types of literature, the parts that a novel is divided into (intro, plot, climax, etc.). I gained reading skills, and reflecting skills, by that I mean after we read a novel we had to reflect on it and write a summary about it. I would like to get better reading skills and be able to understand the material as I am reading. I would also like to be able to reflect on a novel as soon as I finish reading it and write a good summary about it. To further explore this learning experience I intend to learn more books and novels written by good writers so I could keep practicing my reading skills on literature.

### Span 301S- Service learning in Latino Community (completed Fall 2013)

This course meets MLO 1 Language Proficiency and MLO 3 Literary and Cultural Knowledge. The reasons why this course meets the fulfillment of these two MLO's are the following. We practiced writing and reading skills through out the semester, we had to read a book and write several assignments. We also had to do thirty community service hours at a particular agency outside of campus developing a reasonable understanding of ideas, beliefs, attitudes, values, and philosophies. I read a book called "words were all we had, becoming biliterate against the odds" about stories of biliterate people who lived in the United States when Spanish was forbidden at school. I had to write my own story of what is it like to be biliterate in U.S.A and my experience in biliteracy. We also had to do thirty community service hours at WIC (Women Infants and Children) and write a journal or diary every time I went to that agency. On the diary, I had to reflect of what I learned at the service-learning site and write what I did to help the community. I gained a lot of knowledge on this course that is significant to my major; I learned how to interact with and help my Latino community practicing my language skills. I hope to develop further public speaking skills and teaching skills given that I had to teach some kids about nutrition and art. To further explore this learning experience I would intend to volunteer at different sites even though I am done with my community hours just so I could help my community.

## WLC-300 Major Proseminar (completed Fall 2013)

This course meets MLO 6 Information Technology Literacy. This course contributes to the fulfillment of this MLO for the following reasons: a lot of classes were based on technology, we were taught how to use Google docs, ilearn, how to make a video, and how to browse for books and articles at the library. I had to make an e-portfolio for this class and upload our personal statement and resume on it. On this website (e-portfolio), I had to list the classes that we took this fall semester and a short description on each class. I learned about “study abroad” programs and what countries are available for us on these programs. I gained a lot of knowledge on technology, “study abroad” programs, and requirements to graduate from CSUMB; this is significant for my major because I will need this knowledge to graduate and after I graduate as well. I would like to know more about the exact requirements that I need to graduate on time, I still feel a little disoriented on this matter. I would like to develop further in the areas of technology, even though I know the basics, I would like to be able to use any computer program without any help. To further explore this learning experience I would ask the teachers and counselors any questions I have about graduation requirements and capstone.