Author(s): MELO 3D Project Team, 2011

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Romance Languages & Literatures

General Teaching Philosophy
Communicative Approach

Focuses on language as a medium of communication. Recognizes that all communication has a social purpose. Learner has something to say or find out.

Classroom activities maximize opportunities for learners to use target language in a communicative way for meaningful activities.
Accent is on functional/useable language

- Classroom should provide opportunities for rehearsal of real-life situations and provide opportunity for real communication.

- Personalize and localize language and adapt it to interests of students

- Authentic resources

- Errors are a natural part of learning language

- Spontaneous and improvised practice
http://www.lenguajero.com

Lenguajero Guides

Spanish in Mexico
A beginner's guide to the slang, history, of Spanish, books, movies, music, and food in Mexico.

Spanish in Spain
A beginner's guide to the history, of Spanish, books, movies, music, and food in Spain.

Have a Conversation

1. Let people know what you want to talk about.
   Press Enter

2. Find a Conversation Partner

3. Available members will have a 'Talk Now' button on their profile. Click this button to send a chat request.

Writing Club

Recent Topics
- The Internet (101)
- Chocolate (113)
- Flying (79)
- Diet & Exercise (138)
- Gender Differences (50)

Flashcards

Our flashcard program is really smart. It knows what you need to study, and when you need to study it, to make sure that you memorize and retain new words and phrases. Try it out.
Content Quality

Keeping in mind our theoretical framework, “lenguajero” allows students to get in touch with native Spanish speakers. Beside all the possibilities that this site gives students for learning on their own, a teacher can assign activities to share in class (for example: interview a native about any specific topic). Furthermore, the spontaneous chat can be directed by interests such as food, sports, travels, etc. These topics help building student’s vocabulary.

**Strengths**

**Concerns**

Number of people available to chat at a given time.
Potential effectiveness as a teaching tool

STRENGTHS

- Allows practicing all 4 communicative skills (Listening, speaking, reading, writing) with special focus on Conversational skills
- Provides a real communicative situation. Meaningful exchange.

CONCERNS

- The student needs to have a basic command of the language. If not, Lenguajero won't be effective.
- In order to improve effectiveness it could be “wrapped” (establishing certain objectives) to provide more guidance for less advanced students.

The learning objective is not previously determined.
Ease of Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRENGTHS</th>
<th>CONCERNS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▪ Easy to navigate. Resembles other social</td>
<td>▪ Requires certain computer skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>networks and communication software the</td>
<td>▪ Registration online may be frustrating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>student is probably familiar with.</td>
<td>▪ A certain amount of computer hardware is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>needed (webcam, microphone, etc.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Provides a safe learning environment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ A dictionary is included next to the chat to</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>help students use and learn new words.</td>
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</tbody>
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