

School of Languages, Cultures, and Race
Spanish Program

SPANISH CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION
“Utopías para un mundo mejor” in 100 words
(“Utopias for a Better World”)



A **utopia** is an imagined society where everything is perfect, a world built on fairness, peace, and well-being. While perfection may be unattainable, we all dream of ways to make the world a better place. We envision societies free of injustice, communities built on solidarity, and environments where humanity coexists harmoniously with nature.

This creative writing competition invites you to share your own vision of an ideal world. What does a utopia look like to you? How can we shape a world that fosters equality, sustainability, or happiness? What small changes could lead us to a brighter future? Your story may reflect your personal ideals, offer solutions for improving our reality, or dream beyond what seems possible.

For the first time in 2025, we are accepting both **poetry and prose** submissions.

Who can participate?

This contest is **open to all SLCR students** enrolled in Spanish courses across campuses, regardless of proficiency level. Students from elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels are encouraged to submit their creative works in Spanish.

Submission Guidelines:

- Submit a short story or poem written in Spanish with a maximum of 100 words (excluding the title).
- Your submission must be in Word format (.doc), double-spaced, and written in Times New Roman 12-point font.
- In a separate document, include:
 - a) Title of your story or poem
 - b) Your full name
 - c) Your WSU ID
 - d) Spanish courses taken at WSU
 - e) Courses you are currently enrolled in
 - f) Your campus (including Global Campus)
- Email both documents to Dr. Etna Avalos (etna.avalos@wsu.edu) with the subject line: "Utopías para un mundo mejor."
- Each student may submit **only one entry**.

Academic Integrity:

Any submission that violates Washington State University's Academic Integrity Policies will be disqualified. Likewise, any entry containing discriminatory or offensive content—including but not limited to race, gender, religion, social class, disability, age, sexual orientation, or national origin—will not be considered.

Evaluation Process:

Submissions will be evaluated through a blind review process to ensure fairness and transparency. The jury members will not have access to the names of the authors while reviewing the entries.

Entries will be judged according to three categories based on the level of Spanish courses taken:

Elementary Level (SPANISH 101-204, 208, 261)

Jurors: Maria S. Previto, Collin Shull, and Amy Hernández Matsumoto.

Intermediate Level (SPANISH 300 Level)

Jurors: Sonia López-López, Joseba Pérez Guerrero, and Raelene Wyse.

Advanced Level (SPANISH 400 Level)

Jurors: Begoña de Quintana Lasa, Vilma Navarro-Daniels, and Samuel Ginsburg.

Prizes and Recognition:

- **First Place winners in each category** will have their work published in School of Languages, Cultures, and Race website in a bilingual edition. They will also receive a diploma, a book, an SLCR T-shirt, and a representative gift from a Hispanic country or culture.
- **Second and Third Place winners** will receive a diploma and SLCR memorabilia.

All winners (1st, 2nd, and 3rd place) will be recognized at the SLCR Awards Ceremony on April 21, 2025, from 3:00 - 4:30 PM.

Deadline for submissions:

All entries must be submitted and received by **11:59 PM on March 3, 2025**.

Contest Results:

Winners will be notified via email by April 1st, 2025.

For any questions, please contact Dr. Etna Avalos (etna.avalos@wsu.edu)

We look forward to reading your creative visions for a better world!