

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURAL STUDIES

<https://ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2021-2022 SPAN 300 A1: Advanced Spanish
(Fall Term)

Instructor: Dr .Yvonne Lam
Office: Arts 218-E
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Time: M 1:00-1:50, TR 12:30-1:50
Place: (M) HC 2-07, (TR) HC 2-12
Office Hours: by appointment
(in person or virtual)

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students>

Course Prerequisite: SPAN 212 or equivalent, or consent of the Spanish Language Coordinator (documentation required). Not to be taken by students with credit in SPAN 306.

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course. If you are asked to withdraw from the course because prior background deems you ineligible, and you fail to do so, the Department will withhold credit for the course. Any questions regarding eligibility should be directed to the Spanish Language Coordinator, Dr. Xavier Gutiérrez, xavier.gutierrez@ualberta.ca.

Experiential Learning Component:

this course has a significant experiential learning component (15% or more of the course grade) - NO

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes x No, not needed

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available:

- Exam registry – Students’ Union
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- x Document distributed in class
- Other (please specify)
- NA

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

This course is a high-intermediate to advanced-level course designed for students of Spanish as an additional language who already have a good working knowledge of the language. It is intended to improve overall proficiency in Spanish, with a particular emphasis on grammar, reading, and writing, in order to prepare students for higher-level academic courses in Spanish.

At the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

- clearly express, elaborate, and justify ideas and opinions orally and in writing
- identify and correct basic, common errors by learners of Spanish as an additional language
- read and understand short literary texts written for Spanish native speakers
- understand short films produced for Spanish native speakers

Course Format:

The objectives of the course will be met through activities in class and online, short literary texts, short films, written and oral assignments, and tests.

Texts:

There is no required textbook for the course. Materials will be made available on eClass as needed.

Recommended text

It is highly recommended that you purchase the grammar reference book listed below, if you have not already done so for previous courses. The book is available in the University Bookstore, listed under SPAN 111/SPAN 211. (There is an equivalent Spanish version of the book titled *Gramática básica del estudiante de español* if you find that online.)

Alonso Raya, R., Castañeda Castro, A., Martínez Gila, P., Miquel López, L., Ortega Olivares, J., & Ruiz Campillo, J. P. (2018). *Students' Basic Grammar of Spanish: Revised and Expanded Edition*. Barcelona: Difusión.

Online resources

Diccionario de la lengua española (23rd edition, 2014), *Diccionario de americanismos* (2010), and *Diccionario panhispánico de dudas* (1st edition, 2005) from the Real Academia Española can be consulted for free at <http://www.rae.es/>

Wordreference <http://www.wordreference.com> has two free Spanish-English dictionaries: the *Collins Spanish Dictionary* (8th edition) and Wordreference's own bilingual dictionary. It also provides free consultation of the *Diccionario de la Lengua Española* (Espasa Calpe, 2005) and the *Diccionario de Sinónimos y Antónimos* (Espasa Calpe, 2005). There is even a Spanish verb conjugator!

Additional Course Fees:

Yes No

Important Dates: [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

First Day of Class: September 1, 2021
Add/Delete Date: September 15, 2021
50% Withdrawal Date: October 4, 2021
Withdrawal Date: November 30, 2021
Last Day of Class: December 7, 2021

Components of Course Grade (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Component	Value	Due dates
Unit tests	80% (4 tests x 20% each)	Sept 27, Oct 25, Nov 15, Dec 6
Oral assignment	10%	Dec 7
Homework	10%	ongoing

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Unit tests

There will be a test at the end of each of the four units. The tests will be done **on eClass during the scheduled class time**. You are permitted to consult your notes and any other materials (i.e. an “open book” test), but there will be a strict time limit, so you will not have time to casually peruse your notes. There is no final exam for this course.

Oral assignment

The final assignment for this course will be a short recorded “presentation” that you will upload to eClass. Further details will be provided in class. You will need a microphone and an app that records your voice (e.g. Quicktime on a Mac, voice memo on your phone). No video is required.

Homework

Throughout the term, you will be given short assignments to complete on eClass. These assignments will be **ungraded**, but you will receive credit for having completed them by the indicated due date/time. The mark for this component will be the number of assignments you completed **on time** (e.g. 18 of 20 assignments completed = 9/10).

You are responsible for keeping track of all homework assignments. If you miss an assignment for an excusable reason, contact the instructor by email as soon as possible to discuss your options. For an unexcusable absence, or if you simply forgot, you will not receive credit for the assignment. No "extra" assignments for extra marks will be offered for any student.

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. However, because of the uncertainties surrounding the current public health situation, there is no participation or attendance mark in this course. While I encourage you to attend class as

much as possible, **please stay home if you are not feeling well**. All tests and assignments are done on eClass for this reason. All key materials (e.g. grammar notes) will be uploaded to eClass as well. If you do miss class, let me know by email so that I can help you stay up-to-date. If you find your performance in this course is adversely impacted by ongoing challenges, feel free to discuss them with me to see if we can find a mutually acceptable course of action that is also respectful of others in the course.

If you do miss a test or an assignment for an excusable reason (examples of excusable absences can be found [here](#)), you are responsible for contacting me by email as soon as possible, preferably within two days, to discuss your options. The instructor has the final decision on whether to allow a later due date or to transfer the weight of the missed component to other grade components. Any tests or assignments that are missed because of an unexcusable absence will automatically be assigned a grade of zero. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#).

It is important that you constantly check eClass as well as your @ualberta email for any last-minute announcements. I will try to notify you as much in advance as possible of any changes (e.g. cancelled class, class moved online, etc.).

Policy for Late Assignments:

See previous section. Unless I hear from you, I expect all assignments to be completed by the indicated due date/time.

Required Notes:

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.

Student Responsibilities:

Academic integrity

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration

of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Language and translation courses

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that the use of on-line translation to complete assignments constitutes a form of cheating as the student's own understanding and work is therefore not reflected. Also, students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, excessive editorial and creative help in assignments is considered a form of cheating that violates the [Code of Student Behaviour](#).

Recording of lectures

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Disclaimer

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

[The Academic Success Centre](#) provides professional academic support to help students maximize their academic success and achieve their academic goals. We offer appointments, advising, group workshops, online courses, and specialized programming year-round to students in all university programs, and at all levels of achievement and study.

They also administer the University of Alberta's [Duty to Accommodate procedure](#) for students and works with students, instructors, campus units, Faculties and departments, community and government agencies, and on and off-campus service providers to coordinate students' disability-related accommodation needs for participation in university programs.

For general information and to register for services visit the [Academic Accommodations](#) webpage.

[The Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

[The First Peoples' House](#) provides an environment of empowerment for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit learners to achieve personal and academic growth.

[Health and Wellness Support for Students](#) outlines available mental and physical health resources that are offered on-campus and in the community.

[The Office of the Student Ombuds](#) is a confidential service that strives to ensure that university processes related to students operate as fairly as possible. We offer information, advice, and support to students, faculty, and staff as they deal with academic, discipline, interpersonal, and financial issues related to student programs.

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment.

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) section of the University Calendar.

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
<p>Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.</p>	A+	4.0	95-100
	A	4.0	90-94
	A-	3.7	86-89
<p>Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.</p>	B+	3.3	82-85
	B	3.0	75-81
	B-	2.7	70-74
<p>Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.</p>	C+	2.3	66-69
	C	2.0	61-65
	C-	1.7	58-60
<p>Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.</p>	D+	1.3	55-57
	D	1.0	50-54
<p>Failure.</p>	F	0.0	0-49