

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

**2021-2022 Span378 A1: Teaching Spanish as a Second Language
(Fall Term)**

Instructor: Dr. Xavier Gutiérrez

Office: Arts 210-B

E-mail: xavier.gutierrez@ualberta.ca

Time: M-W-F 10:00-10:50am

Place: HC 2-21

Office Hours: W 11:00am-12:00pm (online)
or by appointment

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: SPAN300 or 306, or consent of department

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Technology requirements (minimum):

In order to complete most assignments in this course, you need a computer, laptop or mobile device and a dependable internet connection that allows you access to the course's learning management system (eClass). It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate technology for the course.

Experiential Learning Component

this course has a significant experiential learning component (15% or more of the course grade)

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

Yes 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
- Document distributed in class
- Other: Sample assignments can be found on the eClass site for the course
- NA

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

The goal of this course is to introduce students to a variety of topics related to teaching Spanish as a second/foreign language. The topics will cover trends in language pedagogy, as well as issues in lesson planning, development of materials and activities, teaching the four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) and language aspects (vocabulary, grammar), and assessment. In addition to discussing and critically reflecting on these topics from a theoretical standpoint, students will have opportunities to practically apply the concepts discussed. Thus, while the course establishes connections with theoretical aspects of language teaching and learning, the main focus is on actual practices in instructional settings.

Learning outcomes

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

- critically reflect on their second language learning experiences
- identify and describe aspects of major teaching methods

- identify and discuss principles of communicative and task-based language teaching
- critically analyze teaching practices
- evaluate and critique teaching materials and activities
- design activities and tasks for language teaching

Course Format: The learning outcomes for this course will be achieved through a combination of instructor-led presentations, group, pair and individual work, assigned readings and other audiovisual materials.

TEXTS AND MATERIALS:

Required:

García Moreno, C. (2015). *Materiales, estrategias y recursos para la enseñanza del español como 2/L* (2ª edición). Madrid: Arco/Libros

Diccionario de términos clave de ELE: https://cvc.cervantes.es/ensenanza/biblioteca_ele/diccio_ele/

Additional materials will be made available on eClass.

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

Final Exam Date: Not applicable

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable): TBD (*Please consult the following site:* [Academic Regulations - University of Alberta - Acalog ACMS™ \(ualberta.ca\)](#))

Deferred Final Examination: For information on how to apply for a deferred exam see [“I Missed my Final Exam, Now What?”](#)

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

Tests	2 x 15% = 30% (Oct. 18 & Dec. 6)
Final project	25% (Dec. 20 @ 9:00am)
Task comparison	15% (Oct. 6)
Reflection papers	2 x 10% = 20% (Sept. 22 & Nov. 29)
Homework	10% (ongoing)

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Tests 30%

There will be two tests, each worth 15%, focusing on the topics we will discuss in class. The format of the tests and their specific content will be discussed in class.

Final project 25%

For the final project, you will have to design a task sequence for a language class incorporating the pedagogical elements that we will work on throughout the term. In addition, you will have to submit a critical description and analysis of your task sequence. Further details and guidelines will be discussed in class.

Task comparison 15%

For this assignment, you will receive examples of tasks that you will have to compare and critically analyze on the

basis of the features of tasks that we will discuss in class. Further details and guidelines will be discussed in class.

Reflection papers 20%

You will have to complete two reflection papers, each worth 10%, discussing your prior experiences as second language learner and your ideas about second language teaching. Further details and guidelines will be discussed in class.

Homework 10%

Throughout the term, you will have to complete several short homework assignments, each of them worth 5% or less. The deadlines for these assignments will be announced at least one week in advance. Some of these assignments will be ungraded, but you will receive credit for having completed them.

ATTENDANCE, ABSENCES, AND MISSED GRADE COMPONENTS

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted.

Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#).

In this course, participation is an essential component; therefore, students are expected to attend class daily, be prepared to interact in Spanish in a variety of situations, keep up with the material, complete and hand in assigned homework, and take exams on the scheduled date.

a. Excused absences are not automatic; therefore, in cases of potentially excusable absences (emergency conditions, incapacitating illness, religious convictions or legitimate University-related business), students may apply for an excused absence for missed classes, term work, or exams. Please note:

- For an absence to be considered excused, instructors will request adequate documentation to substantiate the reason for the absence (i.e. in the form of a “Medical Declaration Form for Students” <https://uofa.ualberta.ca/arts/-/media/arts/student-services/documents/medicaldeclarationformforstudents.pdf>). Please, note that a “Statutory Declaration” submitted at the end of term covering multiple absences during the term will not be accepted.
- A student must inform the instructor within two working days following the class which was missed, or as soon as the student is able, having regard to the circumstances underlying the absence.
- For missed exams or term work, **no extension will be given after this deadline has elapsed and a grade of ZERO will be assigned.**
- For an excused absence where the cause is religious belief, a student must contact the instructor(s) within two weeks of the start of Fall or Winter classes; and within three days of the start of Spring or Summer classes.
- **No request for make-up for missed work or exams will be considered without proper documentation.**
- Providing any kind of document(s) does not imply an automatic approval; it will be at the discretion of the instructor to accept or decline a document and/or grant the student’s request for an excused absence.
- For further explanation regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult the [Attendance](#) section of University Calendar.

b. Unexcused absences. Each student is **allowed two unexcused absences for the entire term**. This does not include days on which assignments are due or when an exam or test is given. **For any unexcused absence beyond the allotted two, 2% per unexcused absence will be taken off the final course grade.** In addition, a **grade of ZERO** will be given for any exams or assignments that are not completed or handed in as a result of an unexcused absence.

Policy for Late Assignments:

- Students should be aware that **under no circumstances will homework assignments, quizzes, compositions, and/or written and/or oral exams/presentations be made up unless special arrangements have been made with the instructor prior** to the due date or the exam date.
- Formal **written** documentation will be required for an excused absence.
- Under **no circumstances** will the MLCS main office (Arts 200) receive work from students on behalf of instructors.

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: delete this section if not applicable

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	%
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.	A+	4.0	95-100
	A	4.0	90-94
	A-	3.7	86-89

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.	B+	3.3	82-85
	B	3.0	75-81
	B-	2.7	70-74
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.	C+	2.3	66-69
	C	2.0	61-65
	C-	1.7	58-60
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.	D+	1.3	55-57
	D	1.0	50-54
Failure.	F	0.0	0-49

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Consultation with instructor

You are encouraged to consult with me about any course-related issues with which you may need help (e.g., questions regarding course content, the structure of the course, or your progress). The fastest way to reach me is by e-mail, and you can expect a response within 24 hours, except on weekends. If you need to speak with me, I am available during office hours or we may set up an appointment if those hours do not work for you.

Please, note that you are responsible for any notes or material from any class missed. Do not contact me in this regard.

Use of Spanish

This is a Spanish course, therefore it will be taught in Spanish. However, we may occasionally use English if it is deemed pedagogically appropriate. Furthermore, to benefit from this course and to acquire a greater understanding of the language, students are expected to speak Spanish as much as possible in class.

Copyright: Dr. Xavier Gutiérrez, Faculty of Arts, University of Alberta 2021-2022