

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

2019-2020 SPAN 300 B1: Advanced Spanish
(Winter Term)

Instructor: Dr. Yvonne Lam
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Time: M 1:00-1:50, TR 12:30-1:50
Place: (M) HC 2-29, (TR) HC 2-34
Office Hours: TR 11:00-12:00
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: 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.

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

Yes No, not needed

Community Service Learning Component:

Required Optional None

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 (please specify)
- NA

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

This course is a high-intermediate to advanced-level course designed for students who already have a good working knowledge of Spanish. It is intended to improve overall

proficiency in Spanish, with a particular emphasis on grammar, reading, and writing, in order to prepare students for participation in 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 in writing
- actively participate in discussions on a range of topical issues
- identify and self-correct basic, common errors in their written Spanish
- 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 in-class activities, short literary texts, short films, homework assignments, tests, and compositions.

Texts:

Required Text:

Alonso Raya, R., Castañeda Castro, A., Martínez Gila, P., Miquel López, L., Ortega Olivares, J., & Ruiz Campillo, J. P. (2011). *Gramática básica del estudiante de español (Edición revisada y ampliada)*. Barcelona: Difusión. If you have purchased the English version of this book (*Students' Basic Grammar of Spanish*) for a previous course, you may continue to use it.

Recommended 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 online 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: January 6, 2020

Add/Delete Date: January 17, 2020

50% Withdrawal Date: February 5, 2020

Winter Term Reading Week: February 18-21, 2020

Withdrawal Date: April 1, 2020

Last Day of Class: April 8, 2020

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable): Please consult the following site:

<https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations> (Exams)

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

Grade Distribution (see "Explanatory Notes"):

Component	Value	Due dates
Unit tests	50% (5 tests x 10% each)	Jan 27, Feb 10, Mar 2, Mar 16, Mar 31
Compositions	20% (2 compositions x 10% each)	Feb 24, Mar 23
End-of-term test	20%	Apr 7
Homework (online)	5%	ongoing
Oral participation	5%	ongoing

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Further details will be given in class.

Unit Tests:

A 50-minute test will be given in class at the end of each unit. No dictionary or other material or electronic devices will be permitted.

Compositions:

You will be asked to write two 500-word compositions on topics provided by the instructor. You will have approximately 10 days to prepare the compositions at home. Each assignment must be **typed, double-spaced, single-sided**, or it will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be assigned. Indicate the **number of words** on each assignment.

End-of-term Test:

The end-of-term test will be given in the last class and will cover the grammar studied in the course, plus a composition based on some of the topics discussed in the course. No dictionary or other material or electronic devices will be permitted. **There is no final exam for this course.**

Homework:

Throughout the term, you will be given short homework assignments to complete on eClass, as deemed appropriate by the instructor. These assignments will be **ungraded**, but you will receive credit for having completed them. The mark for this component will be the number of assignments you completed (e.g. 18 of 20 assignments completed = 4.5/5).

You are responsible for finding out whether or not an assignment has been given; not knowing because you were not in class is not an acceptable excuse, as you are expected to attend every class as well as to check eClass regularly. If you miss an

assignment for an excusable reason, contact the instructor by email within two days 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.

Oral Participation:

The mark for this component is based on how actively you participate in class activities (whole class or group activities) and how much you try to speak in Spanish. You are not expected to speak in perfect, fluent Spanish, but you are expected to put in your best effort and take advantage of every possible opportunity to practice speaking Spanish. While daily attendance is not taken, regular absenteeism is noted, as you cannot participate if you are not present.

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](#).

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.

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and

work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Sexual Violence Policy:

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>

Territorial Statement:

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.

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).

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 (examples of excusable absences can be found [here](#)), notify the 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, attendance in every class is expected and will be taken into consideration as part of the oral participation mark. If students miss a class, regardless of the reason, it is their responsibility to find out what was discussed and to ensure that they are caught

up. If students miss a test or an assignment for an excusable reason, they are responsible for contacting the instructor by email within two days to discuss their options. Students may be asked to provide additional documentation and/or fill out a Faculty form. The instructor has the final decision on whether to allow the test or assignment to be completed at a later date or to transfer the weight to other grade components. Any tests or assignments that are missed because of an unexcusable absence will automatically be assigned a grade of zero.

Policy for Late Assignments:

All assignments, including those submitted on eClass, are due at the **beginning** of the scheduled class time. Students who consult **in advance** with the instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be given an alternate due date. If no alternate arrangements are made before the due date, the instructor may deduct up to 5% per day of lateness or refuse to accept the assignment at all. In cases of emergency, students must notify the instructor by email within two days.

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>.

Accessibility Resources (1-80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

The Academic Success Centre (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

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.

Health and Wellness Support

There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

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	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
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	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
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	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
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	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
Failure.	F	0.0	0-59