

SPAN 3301: ADVANCED SPANISH GRAMMAR

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Classroom: CH 307
Time: Mondays 5:30-7pm (plus hybrid assignments)
Office hours: Wednesdays 1:00-3:00 and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Este curso se enfoca en una aproximación sociolingüística y descriptiva del uso de la gramática del español. El curso considera las estructuras lingüísticas del lenguaje y explora las variaciones que existen en diferentes países, incluyendo los Estados Unidos. Veremos el papel que juegan las sociedades en moldear los patrones del lenguaje para analizar el contenido del curso. En este curso estudiaremos diferentes temas gramaticales, aprenderemos la terminología para describirlas, y practicaremos cómo analizar y practicar usando estas estructuras en varias formas y al ver cómo se manifiestan en diferentes contextos sociales y regiones donde se usa el español.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate advanced speaking and listening proficiency;
- Use accurate terminology to describe linguistic features of Spanish;
- Apply grammatical concepts studied in class to analyze written and spoken Spanish;
- Produce written texts that accurately apply the grammatical concepts studied in class;
- Describe different value judgements associated with variations of grammatical structures in the Spanish-speaking world;
- Describe the ways in which Spanish language use varies according to place, context, and among different groups;
- Use Spanish in ways that create grammatical, accurate meaning and polish production so that communication is more precise across different linguistic contexts.

COURSE MATERIALS

Potowski, K., & Shin, N.L. (2018) *Gramática española. Variación social*. 2nd ed. London: Routledge. (REQUIRED). **NO ebook, printed.**

Additional readings will be assigned and made available in Blackboard.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance

- **Class attendance is mandatory.**
- After two unexcused absences, your participation grade will be reduced by 2% per day missed.
- Please note that notifying the instructor does not excuse absence, although it is appreciated.
- If you miss class for any reason, it is your responsibility to get class notes and assignments from your classmates, and you are still responsible for any material covered that day.

- You may only make up assignments or tests if an absence is excused.
- Please arrive to class on time (5:30) and do your best to arrive ready to work.

Participation (15%)

- Active, engaged participation is required. You can expect to spend a sizeable portion of class time engaged in discussions and practice activities in Spanish, and you can expect to work with different groups and/or change groups regularly.
- Please come to class prepared: this means that you should study (**not just skim, but really STUDY**) assignments ahead of time and complete all homework thoughtfully.
- Please try to avoid using laptops if at all possible and avoid using your phone unless the instructor allows them for a particular activity. Please do your best to remain focused while in class; we only have a limited time to cover our material, so please make the most of it!

Homework and quizzes (20%)

- Specific assignments will be posted regularly to Blackboard under your weekly modules, and you can also see it under calendar. Please plan on checking Blackboard on a regular basis.
- Any additional readings, along with recommended sources for further learning, will also be made available on Blackboard.
- Handwork is acceptable as long as you write legibly and you complete the work BEFORE (and not during) class.
- Quizzes will be given periodically and will be taken on Blackboard or in-class.

Reflexiones y trabajos de aplicación (15%)

The purpose of these assignments will be to reflect on a particular topic being studied and apply different concepts in practical ways in order to reach a deeper understanding of the material. There will be three such assignments that will be completed during the semester; instructions will be provided ahead of time in Blackboard and the due dates are available on the course calendar.

Individual presentation (10%)

Different course topics will be presented by students starting in the fourth week of classes. Students will explain concepts, model material, design and lead activities to practice the content. Topics will be selected by no later than week 3, and the instructor will model possibilities and provide a rubric ahead of time. Students will be required to meet with the professor prior to giving their presentation to review their plans and materials.

Exams (20%)

A midterm and a final exam will be given on the dates stated in the course calendar.

Final project (20%)

Specific instructions will be available in Blackboard by week 4. Students will prepare a project proposal which they will submit to the instructor by midterms. Questions will always be welcome throughout the process and are encouraged.

EVALUACIÓN

Deberes diarios (ejercicios asignados, actividades de Blackboard, controles, etc.)	20%
Participación en clase	15%
Reflexiones, trabajo de aplicación (3)	15%
Presentación	10%
Exámenes (2)	20%
Proyecto final	20%
Total	100%

Percentage	Letter Grade
90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

Attendance

Attendance and participation are mandatory. You must come to class every week and you must be ready to participate actively in class discussions as well as small group activities. Remember that attendance factors into your participation grade and will likely impact your peer evaluation score. You have two "free" absences that won't impact your grade, after that, proper documentation such as a doctor's note or court order will be needed to excuse the absence. After two unexcused absences, your grade will drop by 2% with each unexcused absence.

Technology Use

I understand the value of having computer access in the classroom and may even ask you to bring a computer on occasion, but I reserve the right to institute a technology policy if your usage becomes problematic or distracting to the class. I also reserve the right to ask everyone to "unplug" or put away technology for the day if we see students using technology for non-class purposes.

Assignment Due Dates

Due dates for this course are firm. If you do not turn an assignment in on time, you will receive zero points for that assignment. We will make exceptions for university-excused absences and unavoidable circumstances (e.g., deaths, personal/family illness, and emergencies) with written verification, but we ask that you inform us at least 24 hours in advance if possible. After one week past the due date, you will not be allowed to turn in assignments for credit, even if you have verification, if we have not heard from you.

Make-up Exams and Presentations

If you are not in class on the scheduled day to take an exam or to participate in the group presentation you will receive a score of zero. Make-up exams and presentations will be arranged for university-excused or unavoidable circumstances (e.g., deaths, personal/family illness, and emergencies), but only with written verification. Proper documentation must be submitted within 72 hours of your absence. We also ask that you inform us of these types of situations in advance when possible.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY SYLLABUS STATEMENT

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. I strive to prepare students for personal and professional integrity and therefore, I regard all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. The Student Handbook is available through the Student Rights and Responsibilities webpage: <https://www.tamusa.edu/student-rights-and-responsibilities/index.html>

The use of all online translators is strictly prohibited for coursework in SPAN 3301. This includes the use of any Artificial Intelligence applications or software. It is absolutely necessary that you make use of your own abilities and knowledge so that you can learn and advance in your abilities. I will announce resources that students may use for help with their assignments; use of any other assistance will be considered an infraction of academic honesty and will be dealt with accordingly.

Accommodations

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact Disability Support Services in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210, or at (210) 784-1335 or visit <https://www.tamusa.edu/index.html> or email us at dss@tamusa.edu. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

CALENDAR*

*Subject to change as some topics may take longer than others and we will adjust accordingly.
Specific assignments and supplemental readings will be posted regularly in Blackboard.

	IN CLASS	READING/ACTIVITIES
Week 1 La lengua como significador social		
Monday, 8/25/25	Course introduction Questionnaire La lengua como significador social y los estereotipos	Capítulo 1: pp. 3-6. Hacer 1.1 y 1.2 Discussion Board (due by class time)
Week 2 (no In-Person meeting, but readings and homework for the week) La lengua como significador social		
Labor day week!	Los dialectos del español Definiciones de “gramática”. El prestigio lingüístico Mira este video: Masterclass With Jonathan Rosa - Unsettling Race and Language: Toward a Raciolinguistic Perspective	Capítulo 1: pp. 2-12 Hacer 1.7, 1.10 y 1.15 Capítulo 1: Leer pp. 13-28
Week 3 La lengua como significador social		
Monday, 9/8/25	El prestigio lingüístico Resumen de las ideas centrales del Capítulo 1 Los sustantivos: el número	Lectura TBA; ver Blackboard. Capítulo 2.1 y 2.2: pp. 29-42 Reflexiones, trabajo de Aplicación 1 Entregar Tarea 1 Discussion Board (due by class time)
Week 4 Sustantivos, pronombres y preposiciones		
Monday, 09/15/25	Los sustantivos: el género Los sustantivos: el pronombre de sujeto	Capítulo 2.1 y 2.2: pp. 29-42 Capítulo 2.3: pp. 41-55
Week 5		
Monday, 09/22/25	Los sustantivos: el pronombre «ello», Las interrogativas Los sustantivos: el voseo	Capítulo 2.4: pp. 55-63
Week 6		
Monday, 09/29/25	Los sustantivos: pronombres de objeto, leísmo Los sustantivos: las preposiciones y el <i>dequeísmo</i>	Capítulo 2.5: pp. 64-71 Capítulo 2.6: pp. 72-77 Entregar Tarea 2
Week 7 Verbos		
Monday, 10/06/25	Los verbos Los verbos: formas del pretérito	Capítulo 3.1: pp. 75-77 Capítulo 3.2: pp. 85-94
Week 8 Verbos		
Monday, 10/13/25	Los verbos: el pretérito y el presente perfecto Examen parcial	Capítulo 3.3: pp. 94-103
Week 9 Verbos		
Monday, 10/20/25	Los verbos: la pluralización de <i>Haber</i> Los verbos: el presente de subjuntivo	Capítulo 3.4: pp. 104-110 Capítulo 3.5: pp. 110-119 Reflexiones, trabajo de Aplicación 2

Week 10		
Monday, 10/27/25	Los verbos: el imperfecto de Subjuntivo Los verbos: oraciones con <i>si</i> con condiciones hipotéticas	Capítulo 3.6: pp. 119-121 Capítulo 3.7: pp. 121-126 Entregar Tarea 3
Week 11		
Monday, 11/3/25	Los verbos: <i>ser</i> y <i>estar</i> ; resumen del capítulo Características del español en contacto con otras lenguas: -el pronombre objeto directo.	Capítulo 3.8 y 3.9: pp. 126-132 Capítulo 4.1: pp. 136-144
Week 12 Características del español en contacto con otras lenguas		
Monday, 11/10/25	Características del español en contacto con otras lenguas: - la «a personal» en EEUU, los posesivos dobles -la regularización verbal; el gerundio y el infinitivo	Capítulo 4.2 y 4.3: pp. 145-153 Capítulo 4.4 y 4.5: pp. 153-160 Reflexiones, trabajo de Aplicación 3
Week 13 Características del español en contacto con otras lenguas		
Monday, 11/17/25	Características del español en contacto con otras lenguas: el subjuntivo y el indicativo; el pretérito y el imperfecto (EEUU)	Capítulo 4.6 y 4.7: pp. 160-175 Entregar Tarea 4
Week 14 Características del español en contacto con otras lenguas		
Monday, 11/24/25	Características del español en contacto con otras lenguas: la alternancia de códigos; los préstamos y las extensions Conclusiones: conexiones entre factores sociales y la gramática	Capítulo 4.8 y 4.9: pp. 175-179 Capítulo 5 (184-194) Entregar Tarea 5
Week 15 Conexiones entre factores sociales y la gramática		
Monday, 12/1/25	Día de repaso y síntesis	TBA
Week 16		
Monday, 12/8/25	Examen final	