

SPAN 2313

Spanish Heritage Learners III

Instructor: Dr. Alexandra Rodriguez	EMAIL: Yrodriguez@tamusa.edu	Instructional Method: HYBRID/BLENDED Meetings: Mondays 12:30- 1:45pm Central Academic 219
Office: CLASSROOM HALL 314-O	Office Hours: M & W 3:15- 4:15 pm For virtual appointments, send an email with two of your most convenient times.	

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Spanish for Heritage Learners III is a third semester course designed for students who have been raised in a Spanish-speaking environment and speak, or understand, some Spanish as a result of hearing it in the home, and in the community by family, friends, and neighbors. Students in this course will continue to develop their ability to narrate events in the past and will be able to describe hypothetical situations. Students will also develop their ability to express wishes, desires, and necessities. This course focuses on the cultural capital and linguistic knowledge brought to the class by the heritage language students. By examining social justice topics, culture, and multimedia production from and about the Spanish-speaking world, students will use the Spanish language to reflect on and produce multimedia content that links and contextualizes learners' home, families, and communities' stories within the US and global society. In this way, students will enhance not only their linguistic skills but their media literacy and critical thinking as well. This course will help the student build confidence in their Spanish abilities and expand the language use in the areas of writing, reading, oral production and listening comprehension. The course will also explore the diverse identities and experiences of Spanish-Speaking groups in the United States and student's home and community culture, while raising students' critical language awareness of speech and Spanish language variations in different contexts.

Student Learning Outcomes (on syllabi and for assessment)

1. Interpersonal Communication: Students can exchange information on a wide variety of familiar topics in which the students use appropriate vocabulary to describe their daily lives and narrate events in the past with some degree of ease and confidence. Students will record a podcast.
2. Written expression: Students can write an essay/news articles/opinion pieces in the target language, and that effectively conveys a series of past events to the reader that may include recent and distant past.
3. Interpretive listening: Students can identify the main idea and key information in short straightforward conversations, different media outlets, and podcasts.
4. Interpretive reading: Students can understand the main idea and key information in short straightforward informational and fictional texts.
5. Critical cultural and language awareness: Students can recognize and explain some of the issues facing bilingual communities in accordance to the instructor's expertise and articulation with previous and subsequent courses.

Communicative Functions to cover

- expressing concern for other people's welfare
- expressing joy at another's success (or disappointment at another's misfortune)
- extending and accepting invitations / refusing invitations politely or making alternative arrangements
- indicating agreement or disagreement
- sharing and asking about others' wishes, hopes, desires, problems, beliefs, thoughts, opinions, etc.
- discouraging someone from pursuing a course of action

B. COURSE MATERIALS

- All course materials, course notes, and readings will be presented to students in Blackboard.
- Hernández Yanina. and José Esteban Hernández. 2020. *Reflexiones sobre nuestra lengua: Manual de discusión y reflexión*. <https://reflexionessobrenuestralengua.pressbooks.com/>. Open Education Resource*.
- Other resources
 - Microphone and camera access
 - <https://spark.adobe.com>
 - <https://www.wordreference.com>
 - <https://www.linguee.com>

*An open education resource as defined by SB810, is "Open educational resource means a teaching, learning, or research resource that is in the public domain or has been released under an intellectual property license that permits the free use and repurposing of the resource by any person. The term may include full course curricula, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge."

○

C. COURSE POLICIES

1. COURSE PREREQUISITE

Spanish 2313 is an intermediate level course designed for students who are bilingual and/or have taken SPAN 1313 and SPAN 1315 at A&M-San Antonio. The course is inclusive of bilingual and second language learners of Spanish. The course focusses on developing grammatical, conversational, and listening skills in a positive and culturally relevant setting. Prerequisite: Placement by exam or departmental approval, or successful completion of SPAN 1315.

2. MORE ON PLACEMENT TESTING AND THE

Students wishing to enroll in Spanish must take the A&M-SA Spanish Placement Exam (SASPE) for appropriate placement.

3. ATTENDANCE

Attendance and participation are mandatory. You must come to class **every week** and you must be ready to participate actively in class discussion as well as small group activities. Attendance factors into your participation grade.

- You are allowed **two** "grace" absence, which cannot be taken on a day when you are scheduled to make a presentation or a report. For each subsequent absence 2% will be deducted from your final grade.

- Missed work can only be made up if you have valid documentation. Legitimate excused absences include the following: verifiable confining illness, serious verifiable family emergencies, subpoenas, jury duty, and military service. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor of any excused absences as far in advance as possible. Work must be made up in a timely manner (e.g. before the next scheduled evaluation).
- Documentation for excused absences must be presented as soon as possible. No documentation will be accepted after the last day of regularly scheduled classes.

NOTE ON ZOOM: This is an in-person class, *occasionally* due to documented illness or other pressing issues, you might request the instructor to allow you to join via Zoom. If request granted, you are expected to have your **camera ON** during the class, and to actively participate.

4. Class participation

This course is conducted in Spanish. Students are expected to participate (group discussions and assignments) in Spanish. This is a class for YOU to feel confident producing the Spanish you may have heard before as you were growing up. Taking risks in Spanish is crucial for you to build up your oral skills. The use of Spanish is expected in every activity in the class with the instructor and classmates. You are expected to attend all classes, read the material before class, and participate actively in classroom activities. You will be expected to participate in class activities and discussions, to continue to improve your speaking fluency. A grading rubric for oral participation will be provided. Keep in mind that if you are absent, you will receive no participation points for that day.

5. TECHNOLOGY USE

In general, the use of laptops, tablets, and cell phones for **personal use** during class is not allowed. Exceptions will be made when talking about discussion posts in class or accessing BLACKBOARD for course materials. Please turn off and put away these devices during class lectures, discussions, and exams. These devices can be distracting to you and others in the class and can prevent you from focusing on course content and participating in class discussions.

6. ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

Due dates are firm. Work is due at the *beginning* of each class period (unless specified otherwise) and late work will not be accepted. **Coursework turned in late will receive zero points for the assignment.** We will make exceptions for university-excused absences and unavoidable circumstances (e.g., deaths, personal/family illness and emergencies) with written verification. *All assignments need to be uploaded onto BLACKBOARD.*

7. 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. I also ask that you inform us of these types of situations at least 24 hours in advance, whenever possible.

8. BLACKBOARD/E-MAIL

There is a BLACKBOARD site for this course where readings will be posted, along with grades and other course information and assignments. It is your responsibility to check BLACKBOARD regularly for announcements and updates. You are also responsible for all information that is sent to your TEXAS A&M email account regarding the course, and you should check this information regularly. E-mail is the easiest and quickest way to get in touch with your instructors, and we will do our best to respond to your emails within 24 hours.

9. ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

It is the responsibility of the Committee/Office on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. 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. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct. For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <https://www.tamusa.edu/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-conduct.html>

In this course, academic misconduct is constituted by using any online automatic translators, such as Google Translate, or automatic translator on SpanishDict.com, among others, or receiving help in composition or exams from others. We encourage students to visit the Writing, Language, and Digital Literacy Center for writing and language support and to use resources such as <https://www.wordreference.com/> for sentence level and grammatical checks on essays and projects. However, these resources must not be used on exams or quizzes unless it is explicitly permitted by the instructor. If you are unsure about using a resource, please ask your instructor. You will receive a zero on the assignment turned in using any of the resources listed above (or similar ones) the first time. On the second offense will receive a zero and you will be reported to the office of academic misconduct.

The sanctions for the misconduct can include a failing grade in this course and suspension or expulsion from the university.

No Use of Generative AI Permitted

Spanish Heritage Learners III assumes that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio’s standards of academic integrity.

*. Student Life Disability Services

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with The Office of Disability Support Services (DSS). After registration,

make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. DSS contact information:

<https://www.tamusa.edu/disability-support-services/>

GRADING PROCEDURES

1. COMPONENTS AND WEIGHTING

GRADE COMPONENTS	WEIGHTING
PARTICIPACIÓN	200
REFLEXIONES (4)	200
MIDTERM EXAMS (2 TOTAL) + POP QUIZZES	270
AUTOBIOGRAFÍA DIGITAL O PSA	150
MANUAL DE PRÁCTICA, TAREAS	180
TOTAL	1000

Participación (200): Participation is a fundamental part of this course. Please read ahead, practice the vocabulary for the week so you are able to actively contribute in the class. No hay la posibilidad de *make-ups* en el caso de las actividades de clase. (*Please note: This is not merely an attendance grade, but rather a global assessment of the quality of your participation in class activities. You are expected to contribute to all group activities and class discussions.*)

Manual de práctica, Tareas (180): There will be various assignments about the studied grammar vocabulary, and spelling topics presented on each unit. Gramática, ortografía y vocabulario are topics found under each unit module. There will also be several other homework assignments some of these include discussion film assignments, creative writing assignments, and Blackboard assignments. At the discretion of the instructor, there may be quizzes to measure comprehension of the materials being discussed in the course such as vocabulary, spelling, and grammar. The specific dates for these quizzes are not stipulated in syllabus, but instructor may opt to advice on the tentative dates and material covered.

Exámenes + Pruebas (Quizzes) (270): There will be two major tests that will include the material covered in each unit: Manual de discusión y reflexión and Manual de práctica. Exam dates as specified in the calendar.

Reflexiones (200): *Reflexiones* entries will be submitted as specified in the calendar, they are found and the end of each *unidad*. It is important to do these written assignments on your own. The help of a dictionary is essential. Once your instructor grades the first *Reflexiones* entry, look over any comments or suggestions (content, spelling, punctuation, or grammar) that will improve your writing. These corrections should reflect in future entries, since failing to do so may result in a lower grade, compared to initial entries. Each *Reflexiones* entry will be graded as follows: content and originality (40%), sentence structure (20%), spelling and punctuation (20%), grammar (20%). Instructor may opt to give further instructions. The entries should be in Spanish mainly, but a limited use of English is acceptable (translanguaging). All entries should include a title and your personal information, and every paragraph will contain a main sentence, and supporting evidence. *Reflexiones* entries should be one paragraph long (150-200 words), computer-written assignments, using double space, Times new Roman and size 12 font, and include one-inch margins.

Autobiografía Digital ó PSA (150): The final project component of the course will be a digital autobiography with 3 main parts: preparing the script (20%), presenting a preliminary version (20%), and final version (60%). Plan ahead and keep on track! The instructor will provide additional guidelines-over the course of the semester. Autobiografía digital should be turned in as a link to instructor.

If you chose to do a PSA (Public Service Announcement), you will still need to prepare a script (or a pitch), present your preliminary version, and final version, but you have two choices: create a **PSA info graphic** (which you present to the class) or a **PSA video**. The topic for the PSA has to be related to topics discussed in the classroom, and you want to inform and persuade your audience using facts and convincing reasons to back up your claims.

Be aware that some documents take time to be uploaded and sent electronically, therefore, plan ahead and send the project with plenty of time.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Academic Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities: 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.

Academic Learning Center: The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the *Tools* section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu, calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

Counseling/Mental Health Resources: As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and/or negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment call 210-784-1331 or visit Modular C, Room 166 (Rear entrance).

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services.

Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 (after-hours select option '2'). For more information and self-help resources, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling

Emergency Preparedness: JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>.

More information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/campus-information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-operations-plan.pdf> and <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/campus-information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-action-plan.pdf>

Download the SafeZone App for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center: The Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://bit.ly/WLDCCenter>.

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students (DOS@tamusa.edu) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources they may possess.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, and special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the Patriots' Casa in-person room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

Religious Observances: Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA.

Statement of Harassment and Discrimination: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university as a whole. If you have experienced any form of sex- or gender-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio's Title IX Coordinator can support those impacted by such conduct in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and trained victim advocates) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting requirement, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331 or visit them in Madla 120.

Pregnant/Parenting Students: Texas A&M-San Antonio does not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of that status or issues related to that status, to (1) take a leave of absence or withdraw from their degree or certificate program; (2) limit the student's studies; (3) participate in an alternative program; (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or (5) refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the University. The university will provide reasonable accommodations to pregnant students that would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition and that are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child. These could include maintaining a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant individuals and their unborn child; excused absences because of illness or medical appointments; modified due dates for assignments; rescheduled tests/exams; taking a leave of absence; and being provided access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for excused absences, if these would be provided to any other student with an excused absence. Pregnant/parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator with any questions or concerns related to their status (titleix@tamusa.edu; 210-784-2061; CAB 439K).

Texas A&M-San Antonio has also designated the Title IX Coordinator as the liaison officer for current or incoming students who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age. The Title IX Coordinator can provide students with information regarding support services and other resources.

Students' Rights and Responsibilities: The following statement of students' rights and responsibilities is intended to reflect the philosophical base upon which University Student Rules are built. This philosophy acknowledges the existence of both rights and responsibilities, which is inherent to an individual not only as a student at Texas A&M University-San Antonio but also as a citizen of this country.

Students' Rights

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no University rule or administrative rule that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
3. A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
4. Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of university student rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students' Responsibilities

1. A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty and administration.
2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules found in the Student Handbook, [Student Code of Conduct](#), on our website, University Catalog and to comply with them, as well as federal, state, and local laws.
3. A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.
4. A student has the responsibility to recognize the University's obligation to provide an environment for learning.
5. A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official university notification.

We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education. Students engaging in an act that violates the standards of academic integrity will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Academic misconduct is any act, or attempt, which gives an unfair advantage to the student. Additionally, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct. For more information on academic misconduct policies and procedures please review the [Student Code of Conduct](#).