

**University of North Texas  
Department of Spanish  
Spanish 3001.01 – MWF – LANG 114  
Advanced Conversation for Non-Native Speakers**

**Instructor: Connie C. Martinez**  
**Office Hours: MWF – 11:00 – 11:50 a.m.**  
**Tertulias – Mondays 2-3 p.m. in LANG 410**

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**and by appointment**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Spanish 3001 is an advanced conversation course for non-native speakers of Spanish who have successfully completed SPAN 2050 or its equivalent. This course will expand your vocabulary and improve your ability to read, comprehend, listen, and discuss a broad variety of topics in Spanish. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to discuss events, present detailed arguments, and summarize information at a level appropriate to third-year students.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- Demonstrate oral proficiency appropriate to third-year students
- Demonstrate fluency and the ability to summarize information, present arguments, persuade, analyze, and interpret the opinions of others at a level appropriate to third-year students
- Demonstrate vocabulary and grammar necessary to support and facilitate in-depth conversation and expression of opinions at a level appropriate to third-year students
- Converse knowledgeably about the assigned readings, videoclips, and contribute to the topical discussions
- Develop cultural awareness of the Spanish-speaking world appropriate to third-year students

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

-Revista: *Conversación sin barreras* by Blanco, 5th Edition, 2014, ISBN 978-1-61857-148-9

-Revista: *Conversación sin barreras Supersite*.

**Recommended:**

A good bilingual or monolingual dictionary. Students can also refer to *Real Academia Española* (<http://www.rae.es>).

**GRADE DISTRIBUTION:**

Participation	10%
Homework (textbook & online)	15%
Quizzes	10%
Oral Tasks	20%
Midterm Exam	15%
Video Journals	15%
Final Exam	15%

**GRADE SCALE:**

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = 59 or below

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

To be successful in this course, it is imperative that you complete all homework assignments prior to attending each class in order to be able to participate in class discussions. While in class, your attention should be on classroom activities. Inappropriate use of electronic devices (cell phones, iPads, laptops, etc.) and outside reading materials is not allowed during class. Food is not allowed in the classroom. Consumption of appropriate beverages during class is allowed **if** approved by the instructor.

Makeups are permitted only for documented absences owing to observance of a religious holiday or University-sponsored activity at which your attendance is mandatory. **You must notify your instructor in writing during the first week of class of planned absences due to a religious holiday** or University-sponsored activity. For University-sponsored activities, you must obtain authorized absence cards from the Dean of Students and present them to your instructor in order for your absences to be excused before the absence happens or on the first day of your return to the classroom. Your instructor will not accept documentation after a week late. As the Academic Integrity Policy demands that students do not engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation, or deception, all documentation is subject to verification by the Department of Spanish.

## **PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE:**

Participation is a vital part of any language learning experience. Your careful preparation prior to attending class and your sustained participation will determine your success. To improve your level of participation and maximize your use of class time, prepare thoroughly prior to each class. This may require multiple readings of the same article or several viewings of the video clips. This course is student-centered and relies heavily on your interaction and collaboration with your peers. Much of your work during class will be completed in pairs and groups, with your instructor as the facilitator and you and your classmates as the main participants. All students are expected to participate equally in these activities and will be graded accordingly. Refer to the participation rubric available on Canvas. Although attendance is mandatory, be mindful that attendance without active and sustained participation, does not guarantee a good participation grade.

### **Your participation grade is influenced by:**

- attending class and arriving on time
- being well prepared for all oral activities and using only Spanish during class
- making a significant contribution by listening and participating in discussions
- listening to and responding to differing opinions with courtesy
- Staying on task during class

**Note:** Student may have two unexcused absences for TR classes and three unexcused absences for MWF classes without penalty. Each unexcused absence (after the second/third unexcused absences) will result in a 2% deduction per absence from the final grade in the course.

### **HOMEWORK:**

Homework will be assigned for each class. This will involve readings, viewing video clips, and preparation for in-class oral activities. Supersite, the online component of the course, will be used for part of the homework. You must submit your answers to Supersite assignments one hour before class. No late work will be accepted. Please turn in all other homework and chapter assignments according to the directions of your instructor.

To access the supersite, you must create an account. If you already have an account, you log in as normal and find your Spanish course. [www.vhlcentral.com](http://www.vhlcentral.com)

### **QUIZZES:**

There will be 5 to 6 unannounced quizzes. These will be based on the homework and material covered in class. There are no makeups for missed quizzes due to unexcused absences or tardiness.

### **ORAL TASKS:**

Students will complete two oral tasks that include 1) an informational presentation and 2) a persuasive presentation. The presentations will be given during class time and will focus on a topic related to the themes, conversations, and grammar covered in *Revista*. The presentations must not be read and must meet the time requirements (between three and four minutes). Practice ahead of time. If using a PowerPoint presentation, follow the guidelines determined by your instructor. The grading rubrics for assessment of oral skills and any additional instructions will be posted to Canvas. Students will be graded on their 1) organization, 2) content, 3) grammar, 4) pronunciation, and 5) fluidity.

### **VIDEO JOURNALS:**

Each student will record a total of 4 video journals that address a different topic assigned from the chapters studied within the semester. Videos must be 3 minutes in length and must be turned in according to the directions of the instructor. Videos will be graded on their 1) organization, 2) content, 3) grammar, 4) pronunciation, and 5) fluidity.

After you upload your video journal, you must make two comments to your classmates and provide constructive criticism on each one of them. “Muy bien” or “Me gusto mucho” are not constructive comments. You can address grammar, pronunciation or content issues.

## **MIDTERM EXAM:**

Students will engage in a 4 to 5 minutes paired conversation. A random draw on the day of the exam will determine the topic of the conversation. The choices will be based on the topics covered up to the date of the midterm exam. Conversations will be graded on their 1) content, 2) grammar, 3) vocabulary, 4) pronunciation, and 5) fluidity.

## **FINAL EXAM:**

Students will engage in a 5 to 7 minutes paired conversation. A random draw on the day of the exam will determine the topic of this conversation. The choices will be based on the topics covered throughout the semester. Conversations will be graded on their 1) content, 2) grammar, 3) vocabulary, 4) pronunciation, and 5) fluidity.

## **COURSE POLICIES:**

### **On student behavior in the classroom:**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [www.unt.edu/csrr](http://www.unt.edu/csrr).

### **Outside help/academic integrity:**

The UNT Department of Spanish adheres to the University's policy on Student Academic Integrity. For all pertinent assignments and assessments, the work must be the student's work only (unless otherwise indicated by the course instructor) and should reflect the student's level of proficiency. Students are prohibited from asking another person (i.e. a friend, tutor, or relative) to help them develop or compose a response (oral or written) in preparation for, or while completing, an assignment or assessment that will be graded and applied to the student's final grade in the course. This includes, but is not limited to, receiving outside assistance with drafting, revising, editing, or developing the content and structure of a response to an assignment or assessment question without consent from the course instructor. Also, the use of translation technology (any digital translation tool or app) is prohibited for all assignments and assessments and will be considered academic misconduct. Information "cut and pasted" or otherwise copied from other sources and used as answers in assignments and assessments will be considered plagiarism. If a student has any doubts whatsoever as to what constitutes any form of scholastic dishonesty, they should consult with the course instructor before submitting their work. Cheating, plagiarism, and other examples of academic misconduct defined by University Policy will result in a zero on the assignment or assessment in question, and may be reported to the Dean of Students.

## **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT:**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).

## **STUDENT ISSUES WITH AN INSTRUCTOR OF SPANISH**

If a student in an advanced level Spanish class has an issue with her/his instructor, she/he should follow these procedures:

1. Make an appointment to talk with the instructor in person to try and resolve the issue to the satisfaction of both parties.
2. If the issue is not resolved to the student's satisfaction, then she/he should make an appointment to talk to Dr. Pierina Beckman about the issue. [Pierina.Beckman@unt.edu](mailto:Pierina.Beckman@unt.edu)
3. If the issue is still not resolved to the student's satisfaction, then she/he should make an appointment to talk to the chair of the department, Dr. Samuel Manickam. [Samuel.Manickam@unt.edu](mailto:Samuel.Manickam@unt.edu)
4. If the student is still not satisfied with the resolution of the issue, then she/he has the option of talking to the UNT Dean of Students in your discipline.

It is the responsibility of students to follow all rules, guidelines and instructions clearly outlined in class syllabus as well as follow all directives given by instructors of Spanish classes on Canvas and in class. The student should maintain clear lines of communication with the instructor in person and email regarding any issues or queries related to the class. You can expect your instructor to answer email messages as soon as he/she gets them; however, if it is past 5pm, on weekends, or during times that he/she is teaching, it might take longer. Also, send messages via UNT (not inside Canvas) and use a school related address.

### Tentative Course calendar:

Wk 1	Introduction to course <i>Lección 1</i> ¿Realidad o fantasía? Pp. 2-13
Wk. 2	<i>Lección 1</i> ¿Realidad o fantasía? Pp. 18-29 MLK Day – September 2 – “No hay clases”
Wk. 3	<i>Lección 1</i> ¿Realidad o fantasía? Pp. 30-33 <i>Lección 2</i> Una cuestión de personalidad Pp. 34-41 <b>Video Journal #1</b>
Wk. 4	<i>Lección 2</i> Una cuestión de personalidad Pp. 43-50 <b>Oral Task #1</b>
Wk. 5	<i>Lección 2</i> Una cuestión de personalidad Pp. 55-57 <i>Lección 3</i> La influencia de los medios
Wk. 6	<i>Lección 3</i> La influencia de los medios Pp. 68-86 <b>Video Journal #2</b>
Wk. 7	<i>Lección 3</i> La influencia de los medios Pp. 87-95 <b>Midterm Exam</b>
Wk. 8	<i>Lección 4</i> Las garras del poder Pp. 96-101
Wk. 9	<i>Lección 4</i> Las garras del poder Pp. 112-125 <b>Video journal # 3</b>
Wk. 10	<i>Lección 5</i> Misterios del amor Pp. 126-135
Wk. 11	<i>Lección 5</i> Misterios del amor Pp. 136-151 <b>Oral Task #2</b>
Wk. 12	<i>Lección 5</i> Misterios del amor Pp. 152-155 <i>Lección 6</i> Modos de vivir Pp. 156-159 <b>Video journal # 4</b>
Wk. 13	<i>Lección 6</i> Modos de vivir Pp. 160-172
Wk. 14	<i>Lección 6</i> Modos de vivir Pp. 173-186 Thanksgiving holiday – November 28-29 – “No hay clases”
Wk. 15	Review for Final Exam Reading Day – Friday, December 6 – “No hay clases”
Wk. 16	Final Exam – Wednesday, December 11, at 8:00 a.m. <a href="https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring">https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring</a>