

University of North Texas
Department of Spanish
Spanish 3004: Advanced Composition
To access the course: <https://unt.instructure.com>

Instructor: Concepcion C. Martinez- Ph: 972-596-0708
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Office hours: MW at 1:00 p.m. Invitation sent via UNT Zoom. Also use conference, email, chat, or by appointment.

Course Description:

Both native and non-native learners of Spanish will improve their writing abilities in the language by writing diverse types of compositions. Students will be introduced to narrative, descriptive, expository texts, among others. Furthermore, students will study the necessary strategies to write an academically acceptable research paper. **Prerequisite:** Students must have completed, or received credit for, SPAN 2050, but having completed an advanced grammar course will help you to do better in this course.

Course Objectives:

Attention will be focused on writing in Spanish, and as such, at the end of the course Students will be able to:

- Identify the intention and fundamental reason behind the narratives written in Spanish
- Use correct and appropriate grammar, vocabulary, and spelling in the written narratives
- Use diverse connectors in order to establish coherent transitions in the written narratives
- Write various types of narratives, from descriptions to academic essays, as preparation for the upper-level courses of Spanish.

Required Text and Supplementary Materials:

- Cañon, Paula. *Taller de escritores. Grammar and Composition for Advanced Spanish*. 3rd Edition. Vista Higher Learning, 2021. ISBN: 978-1-54330-900-3 **AND** the Super-Site.
- A good Spanish/English, English/Spanish dictionary. Students can also refer to *Real Academia Española* (<http://www.rae.es>).
- A reliable electronic device, preferably with a webcam
- Be familiar with online classes and/or take the tutorials

Grade Distribution:

The final grade will be determined in the following way:

Grade distribution

Online Activities Homework	20%
Portafolio-Quizzes	20%
Essays (4)	40%
Final Exam – Academic Essay	20%

Grade Scale: A= 90 – 100 B=80 – 89.9 C=70 – 79.9 D=60 – 69.9 F=0-59

Activities:

All assigned activities have two principal objectives: 1) to revise specific elements of the topic being studied, and 2) to review and revise grammar content pertinent to each kind of written texts.

All work you produce must be your own and they all will be graded. They must be complete, free of errors, your **own work**, and done according to guidelines.

You will not receive credit if you use an online translator or if the ask a friend to write your assignments.

If you turn in something you previously received a grade for or if the plagiarism percentage is higher than 8%, you will not receive credit AND your name will be sent to the Dean of Students with the charges of academic misconduct and dishonesty.

Not having a reliable computer or internet service is not an excuse to not turn in activities on time.

Online activities:

These are assignments from VHL Central supersite. The student will purchase the textbook's supersite to access the online activities. To create an account, you will access <https://www.vhlcentral.com/> . All assignments have a different due date and in order to receive full credit, you must complete and submit them before midnight on Fridays. You must submit all assignments on time as if they are late you will not receive credit but you can complete them for practice to prepare you for the quizzes and while writing essays.

Homework refers to assignments from the textbook. See the syllabus for specific details and due dates.

Portfolios:

These are informal writings that will be uploaded via “Discussions”. Each of the assigned portfolios addresses specific course content information. These activities will count as quizzes. Read more details in the document “Portafolios” in Canvas.

Essays:

There will be five (5) written essays, including the final exam, this semester.

TurnItIn is used to check originality (plagiarism) of essays. Students will receive a **zero** if 1) more than 8% plagiarism is reported on Turnitin, 2) the essay is not turned in via Turnitin, 3) the topic is not from the assigned themes, 4) a translator is used, and 5) if assignment was previously submitted, or received a grade, in another class/school (your name will be sent to the Dean of Students). No exceptions.

For regular essays, write the word count and your last name and name after you are finished writing the conclusion.

Do not use a footer/header. Type essays double spaced using a professional looking font, size 12. Final drafts must be 475-525 words each and must address the specified topics on the weekly course content of the syllabus.

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|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Essay 1: La descripción | - Description (p. 24) |
| • Essay 2: La narrativa | - Anecdotal (#4 in pp. 45 or 49) |
| • Essay 3: El ensayo de opinión | - A topic from page 137 |
| • Essay 4: El ensayo de refutación | - A topic from page 173 |

Final Exam:

- Essay 5: El ensayo académico. Students will choose a literary text from the Hispanic world or another topic of academic research approved by your instructor and will write a paper using the MLA Style.

Note on Essay 5:

The grade of the research paper will be based on the mastering of styles and techniques, content, grammar, and fluency of expression covered in the course. Students may study same authors but cannot work in the same text. Your work must be in Spanish.

Your research paper must include a minimum of **5 pages**:

Page 1-4: Research Paper

Page 5: Cited works/ Bibliography

Remember your Research Paper will be checked in the Turnitin data bank.

Read more details in the “Sobre los ensayos” document.

Faculty Expectations:

- I expect you to respect due dates. This is an online course; consequently, you will be working at your own pace but guided by your instructor.
- I expect you to read assigned pages early in the week and contact me if you have questions. Resend the message if I have not answered within 12 hours (except on weekends).
- I expect you to reply to my messages within 12 hours.
- I expect you to have a “Plan B” for emergencies. Technology will always fail when you need it the most. Plan for life’s emergencies and do not wait until the very last day/hour to start working on the assignments. Friday is the very last day to turn in activities. It means you can submit them earlier than Friday.
- I expect you to access the course on a daily basis and work on the assigned activities every day: work a little every day.
- I expect you to have a reliable and working computer and internet provider. The

- Languages Building lab is a good place to work on your assignments.
- I expect you to contact me if you are having issues with the class (read posted documents first) connie.martinez@unt.edu
 - I expect you to contact the Student HelpDesk if you have technology issues

HelpDesk Information:

Telephone Availability: [940-565-2324](tel:940-565-2324)

Sunday: noon–midnight

Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m.–midnight

Friday: 8 a.m.–8 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Website: <http://it.unt.edu/helpdesk> Bookmark this homepage today!

Create a Service Ticket: [report a problem or request a service](#)

Office Hours and Walk-in Support: [Sage Hall](#), Room 330D | Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.–8 p.m.

Location: [Sage Hall](#), Room 330D.

Course Policies:

Submission of coursework: Follow the dates outlined in the weekly schedule of activities. **NO late work will be accepted.**

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:

“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.” <https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003.pdf>

SPOT (Student Perceptions of Teaching)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The short SPOT survey will be made available in November to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. You will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations" via IA System Notification (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Please look for the email in your UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete it. Once you complete and submit the survey, you will receive a confirmation email. Save the confirmation you receive, as your instructor will ask for it. For additional information, please visit the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

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) or in person at SAGE Hall 167

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
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
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 syllabi as well as follow all directives given by instructors of Spanish classes on Canvas/Blackboard 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.

COURSE CALENDAR:

See detailed weekly course of activities in a separate file.

Weeks 1-2	Cap. 1: La descripción (2-31)
Weeks 3-4	Cap. 2: La narración (32-69)
Weeks 5-6	Cap. 3: El ensayo narrativo (70-101)
Weeks 7-8	Cap. 4: La exposición (102-134)
Week 9	Cap. 4: El ensayo de opinión (135-137)
Week 10	Cap. 5: La carta de presentación (167-170)
Week 11	Cap. 5: La carta de refutación (171-173)
Weeks 12-14	Cap. 6: El ensayo académico (174-211)
Week 15	Peer review of final essay
Week 16	Monday - Turn in final essay (Final Exam)