

**University of North Texas**  
**Department of Spanish**  
**Spanish 3002**  
**Advanced Conversation for Native Speakers**

**Instructor:** Concepcion C. Martinez      **Office:** Lang. 401 G  
**Office Hours:** MWF – 12 – 12:50 p.m.      **E-mail:** connie.martinez@unt.edu

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course encourages exploration of current cultural, social, and political topics of importance and debate in local and international communities. A variety of focused oral activities will foster progress in Spanish language oral communication skills, and support linguistic challenges specific to native or heritage speakers of Spanish.

**Course Objectives**

- Develop cultural awareness of the Spanish-speaking world as appropriate to third-year students
- Demonstrate vocabulary and grammar necessary to support and facilitate in-depth conversation and expression of opinions related to current social and political realities
- Demonstrate oral proficiency appropriate to third-year students
- Demonstrate the ability to present arguments, persuade, analyze, and interpret the opinions of others at a level appropriate to third-year students.

**Pre-requisites:** SPAN 2050 or equivalent; students must demonstrate native or near-native linguistic skills. Students must know basic grammatical structures (e.g. verbal tenses, subjunctive mood, object pronouns, etc.) in order to take this course.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

- Lorillo, Diaz, and Hale. *Conversación y controversia*. 6<sup>th</sup> edition

**Recommended:**

A good bilingual or monolingual dictionary like [www.rae.es](http://www.rae.es) (Real Academia Española de la Lengua online monolingual dictionary).

**Grading Distribution:**

Class Participation	20%
Oral presentations (2)	30%
Mini Presentations	10%
Homework	5%
Quizzes	5%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	15%

**Grade Scale:**

A=90+
B= 80-89
C=70-79
D=60-69
F=59-0

**Class participation:**

Attendance to class is mandatory in order to improve your language learning and fluency. Students are expected to arrive **punctually and be prepared to participate**. More than 3 unexcused absences will result in your final grade being lowered automatically **two points for each unexcused absence\***. According to University policy, an excused absence applies to illness with a doctor's legal documentation, a death in the immediate family with an obituary notice, or a school-sponsored event with proper documentation. Bring your documentation on the first day you return to class. If you do not present documentation on time, your absence will not be excused. Should there be any previously understood reason for absence (religious), or should something occur unexpectedly (illness) please let instructor know at your earliest convenience. You should bring official documentation for any case of absence caused by illness. With regard to religious festivities, let the instructor know at the beginning of the semester in order to ensure that any assignments may be adequately given and/or submitted. Every activity done in class, outside of the categories, will count as class participation.

\*Note for classes that meet once a week:

-Since the class meets once a week for nearly 3 hours, the student is allowed to have only **one** absence, and for each absence after 1, **two points deducted from final grade for each unexcused absence**.

-For an absence to be excused, the student must immediately contact the instructor and provide verifiable medical documentation upon the return to class.

-When determining your class participation grade, your instructor will consider your level of participation during all class activities. Therefore, not only your attendance but also your sustained participation during each class activity are essential.

**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

**Oral Presentations:**

Each student will present two times during the semester on topics related to the assigned readings. Presentations should last 5-7 minutes (not to exceed 7 minutes). The objective of the oral presentation is to share new information that complements and expands upon class discussions. Students will be evaluated on content, vocabulary, grammar, and fluency. Your instructor must approve presentation topics. Visual aids, power point, and transparencies are acceptable, but reading the presentation is unacceptable. Your attendance is mandatory during oral presentations.

**Mini presentations** are impromptu 1-minute oral presentations on assigned topics. The emphasis is to develop presentational skills.

**Quizzes:**

Chapter quizzes content will include vocabulary, grammar, and cultural information reviewed in class. **NO MAKEUPS**

\*Note for classes that meet once a week:

**-Quiz contents will cover all assigned readings, vocabulary and grammar exercises. NO MAKEUPS.**

**Midterm Exam:**

The exam will be an individual interview with the professor. Students will be evaluated on content, vocabulary, grammar, and fluency.

**Final Exam:**

In pairs, students will carry-out a conversation related to topics studied during the semester and must effectively express their perspectives and experiences related to the topic. Students will be evaluated on content, vocabulary, grammar, and fluency.

**NO MAKEUP of any kind (Quizzes, Exams, Presentations, Homework, etc.)**

**Student 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.

**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 Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities 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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [www.unt.edu/csrr](http://www.unt.edu/csrr)

### **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.

The Department of Spanish strictly adheres to UNT standards for diversity and inclusion in all interactions with students, faculty and staff as stated in **UNT Policy 04.018 University Policy Statement on Diversity:**

“The University of North Texas values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution and responsive leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, the University of North Texas is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success.

The University of North Texas does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in its application and admission process, educational programs and activities, employment policies and use of university facilities.”

#### **Tentative Course Calendar:**

	<i>In class</i>
Week 1	Syllabus; Introduction to the course Capítulo 1: El científico y el artista
Week 2	Capítulo 1: El científico y el artista
Week 3	Capítulo 2: El año 2100
Week 4	Oral Presentation #1
Week 5	Capítulo 7: Pasado, presente y futuro
Week 6	Capítulo 9: La eutanasia
Week 7	Capítulo 10: La migración Capítulo 20: El spanglish
Week 8	Capítulo 11: La salud y la medicina Midterm Exam
Week 9	Capítulo 12: La censura
Week 10	Capítulo 14: Los gobiernos y la política
Week 11	Capítulo 17: La herencia y el medio ambiente
Week 12	Oral Presentation #2
Week 13	Capítulo 23: La educación
Week 14	Capítulo 19: La fe o la ciencia Capítulo 6: El ser supremo
Week 15	Final discussions
Week 16	Final Exam