**Department of World Languages, Literatures, & Culture**

**SPAN 3001**

**Advanced Conversation for Non-Native Speakers**

**Fall 2025**

Instructor Contact

**Name: Dr. Emily Thurman**

**Pronouns: she/her/ella**

**Office Location: Language Bldg. 106A**

**Office Hours: Tuesdays 11-12 & Wednesdays, 1-2 pm or by appointment**

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**Communication Expectations:** If you have a concern or question regarding the course policies or materials, please email me at the address given above. Students can expect to receive a response within 24 hours. Emails received on a Friday after 5pm will not be answered until the following Monday. Feedback for assignments will be posted within one week of the assignment due date.

**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. Students will discuss events, present detailed arguments, and summarize information at a level appropriate to third-year students.

**Course Structure**

This is a face-to-face course that covers 6-chapter lessons over a period of 15 weeks.

**Course Prerequisites**

SPAN 2050 Intermediate Spanish II or equivalent from transfer credit or credit by exam.

**Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate oral proficiency appropriate to third-year students
2. 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
3. Demonstrate vocabulary and grammar necessary to support and facilitate in-depth conversation and expression of opinions at a level appropriate to third-year students
4. Converse knowledgeably about the assigned readings, videoclips, and contribute to the topical discussions
5. Develop cultural awareness of the Spanish-speaking world appropriate to third-year students

## **Materials**

* *Revista: Conversación sin barreras by Blanco, 7th Edition, 2014, ISBN* 978-1-66995-167-4
* Revista: *Conversación sin barreras* Supersite ( <https://www.vhlcentral.com/>)
* A good bilingual or monolingual dictionary

## **Course Technology & Skills**

### Minimum Technology Requirements

* Computer
* Reliable internet access
* Speakers
* Microphone

### Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UNT IT Help Desk**

**Email**: helpdesk@unt.edu
Live Chat: <https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk/chatsupport>
Phone: 940-565-2324

**Hours and Availability:** Visit <https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk> for up-to-date hours and availability

### **Rules of Engagement**

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

* While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
* Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
* Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
* Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
* Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
* Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
* Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
* Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
* Proofread and fact-check your sources.
* Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) (<https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips>) for more information.

## **Course Requirements**

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| ***Grade Distribution*** | ***Percentage of Final Grade*** |
| ***Participation*** | *10%* |
| ***Homework (Supersite & Canvas)*** | *15%* |
| ***Quizzes*** | *10%* |
| ***Oral Tasks*** | *20%* |
| ***Video Journals*** | *15%* |
| ***Midterm Exam***  | *15%* |
| ***Final Exam*** | *15%* |
| ***Total Points Possible*** | *100%* |

## Grading

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 59 or below

## **Course Policies**

Class Participation

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:

1.) attending class and arriving on time

2.) being well prepared for all oral activities and using only Spanish during class

3.) making a significant contribution by listening and participating in discussions

4.) listening to and responding to differing opinions with courtesy

5.) staying on task during class

Note: Student may have three unexcused absences for MWF classes without penalty. Each unexcused absence (after the third unexcused absences) will result in a 1% deduction per absence from the final grade in the course.

**Late Work**

**Class attendance is mandatory, and no late/make-up work will be allowed for unexcused absences. Only those individuals whose absences are authorized by the instructor will be eligible to make up any assignment missed. Excused absences include the following: illnesses, deaths in the family, religious holidays, military duties, and university sponsored activities. For illnesses and deaths in the family, documentation (physician’s statement, obituary, etc.) must be provided the first day upon returning to class for the absence to be excused. Absences in observance of religious holidays are authorized only if students have notified the instructor in writing within the first 15 days of the semester. For absences due to scheduled (not emergency) military duties, students must present their documentation to the instructor within the first 15 days of the semester. For absences due to university-sponsored activities, students must get authorized absence letters from the Dean of Students and present them to the instructor before the absence.**

### **Examination Policy**

Midterm:

Students will engage in a 5-6minute paired conversation. A random draw on the exam day will determine the conversation's topic. The choices will be based on the topics covered up to the date of the midterm exam. Conversations will be graded on their content, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and fluidity. You will have access to the actual rubric via Canvas.

Final:

Students will engage in a 6-7-minute paired conversation. A random draw on the exam day will determine this conversation's topic. The choices will be based on the topics covered throughout the semester. Conversations will be graded on their content, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and fluidity. You will have access to the actual rubric via Canvas.

**Assignments**

Online Homework:

1.) VHL (Vista Higher Learning) Supersite:

**Homework will be assigned for each week with a due date of Friday at 11:59 p.m.** This will involve readings (students must read the indicated pages for each day given on the syllabus before coming to class), 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 on the assigned Friday of that week. 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](https://www.vhlcentral.com)

2.) Weekly Reflections: Students will post a weekly video reflection in Canvas that will review their own individual oral performance in Spanish and comprehension skills during that week’s assignments. Video reflections must be 1–2 minutes long.

Quizzes:

There will be 6 quizzes at the end of the lessons. These will be based on the homework and material covered in class. The lowest quiz grade (one) will be dropped. There are no makeups for missed quizzes due to unexcused absences or tardiness.

Oral Tasks:

Students will complete two oral tasks in class 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 the textbook *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, students will be allowed one slide only with photos and no more than 25 words, in Spanish, on the slide. 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 use Canvas to record 4 video journals addressing a different topic assigned from the chapters studied in 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 organization, content, grammar, pronunciation, and fluidity.

After you upload your video journal, you must make two video comments on two video journals posted by your classmates and provide constructive criticism on each one of them. You can address grammar, pronunciation and / or content issues.

**Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback**

As your instructor, my responsibility is to help students grow and learn; provide clear instructions for projects and assessments, answer questions about assignments, identify additional resources as necessary, provide grading rubrics, reviewing and updating course content, etc.);

If you have a concern or question regarding the course policies or materials, please email me at the address given above. Students can expect to receive a response within 24 hours. Emails received on a Friday after 5pm will not be answered until the following Monday. I will try to post feedback for assignments within one week of the assignment due date.

**Syllabus Change Policy**

If changes need to be made to the syllabus, the updated version will be posted to Canvas and students will be notified of those changes.

## **Student Complaints & Grade Disputes**

When a student has a course-related concern about their instructor (e.g., appeal a grade, disagreement about attendance record, interpretation of a class assignment, assigned grades, etc.), the following steps should be taken to resolve the issue:

1. The student should first attempt to informally resolve their concern by speaking directly with their instructor.

2. If there is no satisfactory resolution to their concern, the student should email a description of the issue to Dr. Christoph Weber, chair of the WLLC department (christoph.weber@unt.edu).

3. The department chair will contact the assistant/associate chair of the WLLC department. They will meet with the student and instructor separately to resolve the issue.

4. The department chair will inform the student about the resolution of their concern.

**UNT Policies**

### Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

### ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of 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 accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [ODA website](https://disability.unt.edu/) (<https://disability.unt.edu/>).

### Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

### Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

### Acceptable Student Behavior

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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>) to learn more.

## **Academic Support & Student Services**

### Student Support Services

#### *Mental Health*

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

* [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
* [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
* [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)
* [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

#### *Additional Student Support Services*

* Registrar (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
* [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
* [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
* [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
* [Multicultural Center](https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center) (<https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center>)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
* [Pride Alliance](https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance) (<https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance>)
* [UNT Food Pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)

### Academic Support Services

* [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (<https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources>)
* [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
* [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
* [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)

This calendar is tentative: you will be notified if adjustments are made.

Students will be expected to read the pages indicated and/or watch videos for that day before they come to class and to turn in their online homework, video journal, etc. on the assigned Friday by 11:59 pm.

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| **WEEK** | **DATE** | **TEXTBOOK: *Revista Sixth edition*** |
| **Week 1** | **August:**18 (M)  |  Introduction to the course |
| 20 (W) | **Lección 1: ¿Realidad o fantasía?** pp. 2-9Cortometraje: *Viaje a marte* |
| 22 (F) | **Lección 1: ¿Realidad o fantasía?**pp. 2-9, 10-13Cortometraje: *Viaje a marte*Estructuras: Ser/EstarPreposiciones |
| **Week 2** | **August:** 25 (M) | **Lección 1: ¿Realidad o fantasía?** pp. 14-17Ensayo: *Celebración de la fantasía* |
| 27 (W) | **Lección 1: ¿Realidad o fantasía?** pp. 25-29Experiencias: *Los suyos*  |
| 29 (F) | **Lección 1: ¿Realidad o fantasía?** pp.33 |
| **Week 3** | **September:**1 (M) | Labor Day – No classes. University closed. |
| 3 (W) | **Prueba Lección 1**Lección 2: Una cuestión de personalidad pp. 34-36Cortometraje: *Diez minutos*  |
| 5 (F) | **Lección 2: Una cuestión de personalidad** pp. 42-45Estructuras: Narración en el pasado I **Video Journal #1 (Details posted in Canvas)** |
| **Week 4** | 8 (M) | **Lección 2: Una cuestión de personalidad** pp. 42-45Estructuras: Narración en el pasado II  |
| 10 (W) | **Lección 2: Una cuestión de personalidad** pp. 46-50Artículo: Las cuatro fórmulas científicas  |
| 12 (F) | **Lección 2: Una cuestión de personalidad** pp. 55-59Poema: La intrusa  |
| **Week 5** | 15 (M) | **Prueba Lección 2****Oral Task #1 Informational****Details posted in Canvas** |
| 17 (W) | **Oral Task #1 Informational** |
| 19 (F) | **Oral Task #1 Informational** |
| **Week 6** | **September:**22 (M) | **Lección 3: La influencia de los medios** pp. 64-71Cortometraje: Namnala |
| 24 (W) | **Lección 3: La influencia de los medios** pp. 72-75Estructuras: Pronombres, Adjetivos  |
| 26 (F) | **Lección 3: La influencia de los medios** pp. 76-80Opinión: Roma**Video Journal #2** **Details posted in Canvas** |
| **Week 7** | **September:**29 (M) | **Lección 3: La influencia de los medios** pp. 81-85Artículo: Las emociones en Twitter |
| **October:**1 (W) | **Lección 3 La influencia de los medios** pp. 86-91Cuento: ¿Me agregás como amiga?  |
| 3 (F) | Repaso para el Midterm**Prueba Lección 3** |
| **Week 8** | **October:**6 (M) | **Midterm Exam** |
| 8 (W) | **Midterm Exam** |
| 10 (F) | **Lección 4: Las garras del poder** pp. 96-103Cortometraje: Forastero |
| **Week 9** | 13 (M) | **Lección 4: Las garras del poder** Cortometraje pp. 104-105Estructuras: El subjuntivo  |
| 15 (W) | **Lección 4: Las garras del poder** pp. 104-105Estructuras: El subjuntivo  |
| 17 (F) | **Lección 4: Las garras del poder** pp. 108-111Opinión: La tortilla |
| **Week 10** | **October:**20 (M) | **Lección 4: Las garras del poder** pp. 112-116Experiencias: Carta abierta |
| 22 (W) | **Lección 4: Las garras del poder**pp. 112-116Experiencias: Carta abierta |
| 24 (F) | **Lección 4: Las garras del poder**pp. 117-121Poema: Oda a un millonario **Video journal # 3** **details posted in Canvas** |
| **Week 11** | October27 (M) | **Prueba Lección 4****Lección 5: Misterios del amor** Pp. 126-133Cortometraje: Porsiemprejamón  |
| 29 (W) | **Lección 5: Misterios del amor** pp. 134-135Estructuras: El subjuntivo II |
| 31 (F) | **Lección 5: Misterios del amor** pp. 138-141Artículo: ¿Existe aún el amor verdadero? |
| **Week 12** | November:3 (M) | **Lección 5: Misterios del amor**pp. 146-151 Cuento: Soufflé de castañas |
| 5 (W) | **Lección 5: Misterios del amor**pp. 152-153, 155 |
| 7 (F) | **Prueba Lección 5****Oral Task #2 Persuasive** |
| **Week 13** | 10 (M) | **Oral Task #2 Persuasive** |
| 12 (W) | **Oral Task #2 Persuasive** |
| 14 (F) | **Lección 6: Modos de vivir** pp. 156-163Cortometraje: Ayúdame a recordar |
| **Week 14** | **November:**17 (M) | **Lección 6: Modos de vivir**pp. 164-165Estructuras: Oraciones condicionales con si |
| 19 (W) | **Lección 6: Modos de vivir** pp. 168-172Experiencias: Ni coja ni madre |
| 21 (F) | **Lección 6: Modos de vivir** pp. 173 –177Artículo: Padre, papá, papi**Video journal 4** **details posted in Canvas** |
|  | **November:**24 - 28  | Fall break – No classes |
| **Week 15** | **December:**1 (M) | **Prueba** **Lección 6****Repaso para el examen final** |
| 3 (W) | **Repaso para el examen final** |
| 5 (F) | **Reading Day – No Class** |
| **Week 16** | 8-15 | **Final Exam – Wednesday, December 10th, 8-10 am** |