

**University of North Texas
Department of Spanish
Spanish 3003
Advanced Spanish Grammar**

Instructor:
Office Hours:

Office:
E-mail:

Course Introduction:

This course is designed to review and expand students' previous knowledge of Spanish grammar, with emphasis on those structures that are especially challenging for Spanish language learners. The course is based on intensive practice, discussion of cases, contextualized usage, and critical reflection on the main structures of the Spanish language. Particular emphasis is placed on verbal aspect and mood, spelling, punctuation, and agreement. Although some explanations will be done in English, Spanish is the preferred language of instruction and interaction.

Learning Outcomes:

1. You will demonstrate increased awareness and knowledge of Spanish grammar, which will contribute to the improvement and increased confidence of your speaking abilities and writing skills in Spanish.
2. You will demonstrate increased abilities for describing, comparing and analyzing Spanish grammar structures and understanding their different uses in a variety of contexts.
3. You will demonstrate correct use of verb tense and mood, as well, as spelling, punctuation, and agreement at the advanced level in written assignments.

Course Materials:

1. Textbook: Alonso Raya, Rosario. *Gramática básica del estudiante de español* 7th. ed. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons Inc, 2013.

ISBN-10: 0-13-159870-8 ISBN-13: 978-0-13-159870-8

2. Connect Super site (the link will show up in Canvas) All assigned activities have deadlines.

Recommended:

Dictionary: Spanish-English Dictionary. With proper guidance, the use of some Internet dictionaries may be appropriate, like the Real Academia dictionary www.rae.es

Grading System:

Homework	10%
Online component	10%
Weekly Quizzes	10%
Attendance / Participation	10%
Compositions	20%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

Grading Scale:

90+ = A
80-89.99= B
70-79.99= C
60-60.99= D
59.99-0= F

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 more than a week after your return to class (three class days for MWF and two for TR). 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:

As participation is a vital part of any language learning experience, your preparation, attendance and active involvement are crucial to achieve the goals of this course. In order to be able to participate, complete all daily assignments and required readings before class. Due to the complexities of some grammatical topics, you may need to reread the materials several times in order to participate in class discussions. The participation grade is determined by:

- ✓ Arriving on time and being well prepared
- ✓ Using Spanish to speak with classmates and instructor
- ✓ Bringing printed/handwritten homework and textbook
- ✓ Contributing to a learning environment that is conducive to learning (including grammar discussions)
- ✓ Staying on task during class

Two participation grades will be given during the semester. The criteria will be posted on the course site.

As most class activities include working in groups and collective discussions, your attendance is important for the whole class: You are expected to attend all class meetings. Written documentation is required for excused absences: it must be provided the first day you return to class. Your instructor will not accept documentation if it is turned more than a week after your return to class. If you know you will have a university sponsored activity, make arrangements with your instructor to turn in activities before you are absent. Activities missed due to unexcused absences cannot be made up.

Preexisting travel plans or work schedule conflicting with class meetings will not be considered a reasonable excuse. <http://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039>

If you are planning to be absent and it is not an excused one, make sure your instructor receives completed activities, via email, before the deadline. There is no guarantee you will receive full credit for assignments and your instructor will explain the criteria for the assigned or denied grade.

Note: Each unexcused absence (after the second for TR and third for MWF) will result in a 2% deduction per absence from **the final grade** in the course.

Homework:

This class demands a serious commitment to complete different types of assignments before and after class; make sure you print out the weekly schedule of activities to avoid missing assignments.

Grammar presents dual aspects of theory and practice. We cannot use Spanish grammar effectively without understanding how it works and recognizing its use when listening and reading. For this reason, homework assignments are designed to cover these aspects; some tasks involve answering theoretical questions while others focus on active production.

You must complete all activities assigned in the Weekly Schedule of Activities or Handouts posted on Canvas. You must also be ready to hand-in/show answers for assigned homework. Questions and clarifications pertinent to the assigned activities will be discussed in class.

Homework will be collected at random. Have all materials pertinent to homework assignments available in class whether typed, handwritten or via screenshot. The assigned work will be used in class as content material. It is essential that you complete all assignments before class and bring them to class for the following reasons:

- All homework requested in class (or in an email if you are planning to be absent) will be scored either “0” or “10”.
- Late homework will not be accepted.
- Incomplete homework will not be accepted and will earn a zero.

Connect (online) Activities:

All Connect activities have due dates: respect them. Do not wait until the last minute to start working on them. If you complete activities after the deadline, you will not receive credit. Plan for emergencies.

When you click on the first activity, it will take you to the login site. Create an account and either pay for the code or use it for free (lower right corner of page). If you don't want to pay for it, you must complete the activities within 14 days.

Quizzes:

There will be weekly quizzes that can't be made-up. If you miss a quiz and you have a documented valid excuse for your absence, see your instructor to arrange a makeup date. Grades are not curved.

Compositions:

You will write two compositions. The specific topic or strategy to use will be discussed in class and posted on Canvas. The grade will be based on completing all assignment steps and applying the concepts learned in the period. Other components are content, mechanicals, mastery of grammar rules, vocabulary use, and completion of the steps required before the final production.

On the date marked on your calendar, you will bring your draft for in-class peer review and will discuss suggestions with your classmate and then write your final version. Both the draft and final version must be typed, doubled spaced, 12 pt. font, and with typed accents (á, é, í, ó, ú), and: ¡, ¿, ñ. Compositions will be turned in via Turnitin inside Canvas. You don't have to download the program, just use the created space to turn them in.

IMPORTANT! You may not seek tutoring or other help for the writing project or any other writing assignment for this class. Outside of class, only your instructor may give such help; however, seek this help within reasonable amount of time (days) before the due date. You may not use electronic translation tools or other similar devices to write these assignments. Your ability to communicate in Spanish is not equal to your ability to communicate in your native language; therefore, you must use the vocabulary and structures you have learned so far to communicate your ideas and structure your writing assignment accordingly. You may not submit a writing assignment already submitted in another class/school for a grade. Other writing assignments may be used to assess your progress and compare the language level of your written productions. Not abiding by these guidelines will constitute a violation of the Academic Honesty Policy and will not be tolerated. If the plagiarism percentage is above 8%, you will receive a zero.

Mid-Term Exam:

The midterm exam will cover the material covered during class discussions, homework, practice assignments, and assigned readings from day one. If you are absent on exam days, please see

your instructor to find out if there are grounds for granting an excuse and scheduling a make-up; otherwise, a zero will be recorded for your grade.

Final Exam:

A comprehensive final exam will be administered on the date indicated in the University Academic Calendar.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:

Violations of the Code of Conduct will not be tolerated. This means that all the work you submit should be your own and original work. Any violation of this policy may result in reporting to the Dean of Students and implementation of sanctions as stated in the Student Code of Conduct.

<https://facultysuccess.unt.edu/academic-integrity>

Other Class Policies:

- ✓ Any behavior considered disruptive or not conducive to a positive learning classroom environment will be sanctioned as stated in the Student Code of Conduct.
- ✓ Unless otherwise directed by instructor, all electronic devices must be in silent mode and not visible during class.
- ✓ Tardiness: In order to avoid disruption to class activities permission to enter may be denied after 10 minutes from the start of class time. Three tardies constitute an absence.
- ✓ No chewing tobacco (or spitting), or e-cigars are allowed in the classroom.
- ✓ No Extra Credit is available for this course.

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. or in person at SAGE Hall 167

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. READ THE INFO UNDER "IMPORTANT"

You are responsible for:

- ✓ Attending ALL class meetings
- ✓ Preparing the course's daily content
- ✓ Completing all assigned activities
- ✓ When assigned, turning in activities on Canvas
- ✓ Printing and consulting your class calendar for topics and assignments due dates

Final Comment:

If you experience difficulties in the class or need extra practice in order to master concepts, or clarification of any assignment, please see your instructor during office hours or set up an appointment.

Study Tips:

- ✓ Bring your book and questions to class every day!
- ✓ Complete homework before every class meeting!
- ✓ Make-ups for missing class due to excused absences may be granted with written documentation.

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 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.”

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Tentative Course Calendar: Students will be expected to read the pages indicated (watch videos, etc...) for that day before they come to class and to turn in their online homework before midnight on the date and time assigned on the syllabus.

Tentative Semester Calendar

WEEK	CONTENT		
Week 1	Letras y Diptongos	Week 9	Verbs
Week 2	Los acentos	Week 10	Verbs
Week 3	Los acentos	Week 11	Verbs
Week 4	Pronombres	Week 12	Imperativos
Week 5	Complementos	Week 13	Preposiciones
Week 6	Reflexivos	Week 14	Preposiciones; Composición 2
Week 7	Mid-Term Exam; Verbs	Week 15	Preposiciones; Repaso
Week 8	Verbs; Composición 1	Week 16	Examen final