# SPAN 3120 Aspects of Contemporary Spanish Culture

## Instructor Contact

**Name: Mr. Steve Sheppard**

**Office Location: LANG 403G**

**Phone Number: 817-366-8636**

**Office Hours: By appointment**

**Email: Steven.Sheppard@unt.edu**

**Communication Expectations:** Email is the primary tool that will be used to communicate with students (Canvas and WhatsApp may also be used to send class announcements). Instructors will only respond to email sent by students from a UNT Eagle Connect address. Likewise, instructors will only send email to UNT Eagle Connect addresses. Information about Eagle Connect can be found at [Eagle Connect](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/).

## Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT’s full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

## Course Description

In this course students explore cultural, historical, and geographical contexts for the Spanish world from its origins until the present day, with an emphasis on contemporary life. Students sharpen language skills and increase intercultural competency in the classroom and while touring medieval cities, museums, and other culturally relevant sites, and while living with Spanish host families.

## Course Prerequisites

This course is designed for students who have completed SPAN 2050 or its equivalent, or who have taken the Department of Spanish placement exam and passed all sections.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, learners will be able to:

* identify key historical, cultural, and geographical items of the Spanish world, and relate them to the Spanish experience
* demonstrate understanding of modern Spain and its interrelationships in a global environment
* express themselves and understand others at a level appropriate to third-year students

## Required Materiales

Ugarte, Ugarte, and McNerney. *España y su civilización*, 6th ed.

ISBN-13: 978-0073385204

## Course Technology & Skills

### Minimum Technology Requirements

* [Canvas Technical Requirements](https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements) (https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements)

### Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

Course-specific technical skills learners must have to succeed in the course:

* Using Canvas
* Using email

### 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.

**UIT Help Desk**: [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

**Email**: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

**Phone**: 940-565-2324

**In Person**: Sage Hall, Room 330

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

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Activities and Assessments

* Participation (30% of total)
* Journal Assignment (16 entries, 20% of total)
* Quizzes (12 quizzes, 15% of total)
* Oral Presentation (15% of total)
* Final Exam (20% of total)

### Grading

A = 90% - 100%

B = 89% - 90%

C = 79% - 70%

D = 69% - 60%

F = 59% - 0%

Participation

To achieve the highest possible personal level of proficiency in Spanish and to be successful in this course, it is necessary to come to each class focused on that goal. Students who perform the five basic tasks listed in the rubric below will be well on their way to being successful in communicating in Spanish. Additionally, students will see these efforts recognized and rewarded; class participation is a substantial portion of the course grade. Please note students must perform **all** five tasks listed in the rubric below to receive participation points each day. Students not meeting expectations for all five tasks listed in the rubric below will receive a zero (verbal/written warnings and reduced points may also be assigned according to the policy of the instructor).

**Participation Rubric**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Classroom Tasks** | **Exceeds / Meets Expectations** | **Does Not Meet Expectations** |
| 1. Speaks in Spanish as directed the entire class period |  |  |
| 1. Works well with classmates (e.g., is an active listener, is respectful, helpful, and supportive of classmates, etc.) |  |  |
| 1. Stays on task during class |  |  |
| 1. Comes prepared to class (e.g., completed assigned homework, brings required materials, etc.) |  |  |
| 1. Arrives on time to class and stays for entire period |  |  |

**Attendance is mandatory and students will receive a participation grade for the following tours/activities:**

* Tour of El Escorial and Cuelgamuros Valley
* Tour of the Madrid historic center and Prado Museum
* Tour of the Toledo cathedral and synagogue
* Tour of the Valencia historic center
* Paella Experience

### Quizzes

Daily quizzes will be given in the classroom component of this course and will cover readings from the textbook and all other information disseminated in class.

### 

### Journal Assignment

Students will keep a journal written in Spanish in which they reflect on differences and similarities noted between the Spanish and American lifestyles, or other observations on living abroad. Students must make 4 entries each week for weeks 1 – 4 of not less than 100 words each. See course calendar for due dates.

### Oral Presentation

Students will research an assigned topic and make an in-class group oral presentation in Spanish. See Canvas for assigned groups, topics, and instructions.

### In-class Writings

Students will write two essays in Spanish in class over course topics.

### Final Exam

The final exam will be comprehensive to the entire course and will include information from assigned readings in the textbook, classroom sessions, and group tours.

## COURSE POLICIES

### Attendance Policy:

Research has shown that students who attend class are more likely to be successful. You should attend every class unless you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy day, or an official university function as stated in the [Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy (PDF)](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039>). If you cannot attend a class due to an emergency, please let me know. Your safety and well-being are important to me.

### Late Work

No late or makeup work is accepted except in the case of excused absence.

### Office of Disability (ODA / Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with ODA to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, 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. For study abroad courses, students requesting accommodations should notify their faculty leader as early as possible so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Note that while the ADA does not extend beyond US borders, and international accessibility requirements vary broadly from US standards, UNT study abroad programs will endeavor to provide accommodations wherever practicable. 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: [**UNT Office of Disability Access**](http://disability.unt.edu/). You may also contact ODA by phone at 940.565.4323.

### 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. Please note that students are free to consult with tutors to discuss any questions they may have over material covered in the course. 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 a warning and may be reported to the Dean of Students.

### Department of Spanish Policy on Student Issues with Instructors:

When a student has class-related issues with her/his instructor (e.g. appeal a grade, disagreement about attendance record, interpretation of a class assignment, assigned grades, etc.), she/he should follow these steps to reach a resolution:

### **A.**The student should consult with the instructor to attempt to resolve the issue.

**B.** If the issue is not resolved to the student's satisfaction, then she/he should follow the UNT Grade Appeals policy (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-040>). According to UNT policy 06.040 a student may appeal a grade when the student believes the:

1. grade was based on unfair treatment;
2. instructor departed from standards set out in the course syllabus without a rational academic reason; or
3. an error was made in calculating the grade, including failure to factor an assignment, project, quiz, or examination.

If the student believes that the grade was assigned due to discrimination or sexual harassment, the student must report this belief to the Office of Equal Opportunity. That allegation must be resolved through the UNT Resolution Procedures for Complaints of Discrimination, Harassment, or Retaliation, before the appeal can proceed. Change of a grade due to violations of academic integrity cannot be appealed through this process.

**C.** After consultation with the instructor, the student must initiate a grade appeal in writing, based on at least one of the three grounds mentioned above, to the Spanish Department Chair within five weeks (35 calendar days) of the date the grade was officially posted in the university system. If the department chair determines that the appeal is not based on one of the three criteria, the department chair shall dismiss the appeal, and the matter will be resolved.

If the department chair determines that the appeal is based on at least one of the three grounds mentioned above, the department chair shall provide the instructor with a copy of the written appeal within three (3) calendar days of its receipt.

The department chair may consult with the instructor and student to resolve the appeal. If the department chair is unable to resolve the appeal in consultation with the student and instructor, the department chair must forward the appeal to a faculty committee within seven (7) calendar days of its receipt.

### 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.

COURSE CALENDAR

**Syllabus and trip itinerary are subject to change. Students participating in this program may be video recorded/photographed. Images of students may be used in future pedagogical and promotional materials.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Day** | **Objectives/Activities** |
| **WEEK ONE** | |
| **Mon., June 23** | * Flight to Madrid |
| **Tue., June 24** | * Arrive in Madrid and check in at *Hostal Aguilar* * **5:00 pm –** Orientation for program in Madrid at *Hostal Aguilar* * **8:30 pm –** Group dinner (Location TBA) |
| **Wed., June 25** | * **8:30 am –** Group Breakfast at *Hostal Aguilar* * **10:30 am – Tour of Madrid Historic Center** * **5:30 pm – Tour of Museo del Prado** |
| **Thur., June 26** | * **8:30 am –** Group Breakfast at *Hostal Aguilar* * **9:30 am – Tour of Toledo** (group lunch included) |
| **Fri., June 27** | * **8:30 am –** Group Breakfast at *Hostal Aguilar* * **9:30 am – Tour of el Escorial and Valle de los Cuelgamuros** |
| **Sat., June 28** | * **8:30 am –** Group Breakfast at *Hostal Aguilar* * Check out of hostel * 10:30 am - Bus transfer to Valencia (break with snack in Alarcón*)*. Upon arrival, we will be met by representatives from AIP and host families |
| **WEEK TWO** | |
| **Mon., June 30** | * 9:00 am – Program orientation at AIP Language Institute and oral placement exams for SPAN 3001/SPAN 3002 * **2:00 pm –Tour of City Historic Center**(meet at AIP) |
| **Tue., July 1** | * Introducción (pp. 1-19) * Journal #1 due |
| **Wed., July 2** | * Capítulo 1 (pp. 21-41) * Quiz #1 |
| **Thurs., July 3** | * Capítulo 3 (pp. 42-55) * Quiz #2 |
| **WEEK THREE** | |
| **Mon., July 7** | * Capítulo 4 (pp. 57-72) * Quiz #3 |
| **Tue.,**  **July 8** | * Capítulo 6, 7 (pp. 83-93; pp. 94-105) * Quiz #4 * Journal #2 due |
| **Wed., July 9** | * Capítulo 8 (pp. 107-116) * Quiz #5 |
| **Thur., July 10** | * Capítulo 8 (pp. 116-119) |
| **WEEK FOUR** | |
| **Mon., July 14** | * Capítulo 10 (pp. 131-141) * Quiz #6 |
| **Tue., July 15** | * Capítulo 11 (pp. 143-155) * Quiz #7 * Journal #3 due |
| **Wed., July 16** | * Capítulo 13 (pp. 170-184) * Quiz #8 |
| **Thur., July 17** | * Capítulo 14 (pp. 185-196) * Quiz #9 |
| **WEEK FIVE** | |
| **Mon., July 21** | * Capítulo 15 (pp. 197-199) * Quiz #10 |
| **Tue., July 22** | * Capítulo 15 (pp. 199-206) * Journal #4 due |
| **Wed., July 23** | * Capítulo 16 (pp. 207-223) * Quiz #11 |
| **Thur., July 24** | * Quiz #12 * Oral Presentations |
| **Fri., July 25** | * **SPAN 3120 FINAL EXAM** * **AIP FINAL EXAM** * **1:30 pm – Acción de despedida**(farewell ceremony and AIP certificates) * **2:00 pm - Farewell lunch** (walk from AIP after ceremony to Casa Clemencia) |
| **Sat., July 26** | * **8:30 am – Bus transfer Valencia – Madrid Airport** (meet at AIP) |