

Sp2214A: Comparative Grammar of English and Spanish Fall 2016 (Tentative)

Meets: Mondays 11:30 – 12:30, Wednesdays 11:30 – 1:30 at TC204

Instructor: Diana Patricia Botero

E-mail: dboteroi@alumni.uwo.ca

Office: AHB 3R24

Pre or co-requisites: Spanish 2200 or 2200 W/X with a minimum standing of 60%, or permission of the department. This course is offered mostly in Spanish and it is expected that students will be able to communicate both orally and in written form in this language.

Anti-requisites: Spanish 3303 or permission of the department.



Course Description:

This course is an introduction to a comparative grammar analysis, a process that is based upon reflection about the differences between Spanish and English in areas that present the greatest difficulty for Spanish learners. Likewise, and with the participation of students, the course is designed with a strong practice component in which such divergences among the languages are discovered and explored. The course will cover topics such as feminine vs. masculine, temporal relations, imperfect vs. preterit, indicative vs. subjunctive, among others. By exploring these contrasts, the course will introduce underlying linguistic concepts that explain and describes such phenomena.

Course Aims:

- Compare English and Spanish grammar in order to deepen the understanding of challenging Spanish structures.
- Introduce basic linguistic concepts that underline grammatical structures that diverge between the two languages.
- Develop linguistic awareness through the comparison of the two languages.
- Improve students' Spanish knowledge on the basis of practice, analysis, comparison, and reflection of Spanish structures.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing this course successfully, the students will be able to accomplish the following:

- Learn and recognize basic linguistic concepts through the grammar comparison of both languages.
- Recognize the grammatical reasons behind the difficulty that learners have with some Spanish structures.
- Improve Spanish skills by means of activities that foster continue practice, reflection, and analysis.
- Develop comparative reflections on the source of common mistakes that Spanish learners have during their learning process.

Course Materials

Required Book:

Farrell, E. R., & Farrell, C. F. (2012). *Side by side. Spanish & English grammar* (3rd ed). New York: McGraw-Hill.

Recommended books:

- M. Stanley Whitley (2002). *Spanish/ English Contrasts: A Course in Spanish Linguistics*. 2nd. Edition. Georgetown University Press. (Also available the e-book)
- Chiquito, A. B. (2012). *A Handbook of Contemporary Spanish Grammar*. Vista Higher Learning.

Other Materials:

Any extra material or reading will be available in Sakai for students.

Evaluation

Homework and practice	20%	(10% Homework 10% 1hour in-class practice)
Assignments	15%	(2x7.5)
Attendance and participation	15%	
Exams	50%	(15% 2x7.5 35% Final Exam)

Policies and Academic Matters

The **Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies** which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Modern Languages and Literatures courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures website at <http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>

It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offense Policy in the Western Academic Calendar at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2012/pg113.html>). Plagiarism is the inclusion of someone else's verbatim or paraphrased text in one's own written work without immediate reference. Verbatim text must be surrounded by quotation marks or indented if it is longer than four lines. A reference must follow right after borrowed material (usually the author's name and page number). Without immediate reference to borrowed material, a list of sources at the end of a written assignment does not protect a writer against a possible charge of plagiarism. This also applies to work facilitated or written for students by third parties. The University of Western Ontario uses a plagiarism-checking site called Turnitin.com.

Absenteeism: Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. The instructor or department cannot grant academic accommodation.

- Attendance Regulations for Examinations

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf

- UWO's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

- Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC)

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”): Personal Response Systems may be used in the course but the instructor will safeguard the confidentiality of students. The instructor will use responses exclusively for the course purposes.

Other Academic Matters: UWO Academic Calendar (Academic Policies/Regulations).

<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg93.html>