



**Syllabus, SP 2214A “Comparative Grammar of English and Spanish”
Fall 2017
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
Western University**

Professor : Dr. Yasaman Rafat Lectures : Tuesdays: 11:30-12:30 & Thursdays: 11:30-1:30 Location : TC 202 Email : yrafat@uwo.ca	Office : Arts & Humanities Building, Rm 3G28D Office hours : Tuesdays: 9:00-10:00 am Telephone: (519) 661-2111 ext. 81092
--	---

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introductory linguistic description of the Spanish language with a special focus on its main differences with English. By means of comparing the two languages, we will discover the main problematic contrasts for an English-speaking student of Spanish. We will cover topics such as masculine vs. feminine, stress placement and syllabification, imperfecto vs. pretérito, indicativo vs. subjuntivo, etc. The idea of the course is that by exploring challenging areas for second language learners, we will also learn the underlying linguistic concepts that rule those selections (aspectual differences, mood interpretation, to

OBJECTIVES

The course aims to achieve the following:

- Develop linguistic awareness by comparing two languages.
- Compare English and Spanish linguistic features in order to deepen our understanding of the structure of Spanish.
- Improve the student’s Spanish knowledge by using English as a point of comparison.
- Learn basic theoretical linguistic concepts.

Learning Outcomes:

It is expected that, upon the successful completion of this course, the students will have the ability to accomplish the following:

- Be able to reflect about the source of common mistakes in the interlanguage of a learner

of Spanish.

- Have the basic concepts of linguistics applied to Spanish.
- Understand why some grammar topics of Spanish are more difficult than others for an English speaker.
- Be able to improve their Spanish skills by reflecting on the grammar of the language.

TEXT MATERIALS: REQUIRED

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

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and participation:	15%
Term test:	40%
Translations:	30%
Oral presentation:	15%

- Attendance and active participation (15%): Students are required to have read the assigned materials for each class prior to coming to class and to have prepared questions and/or comments for discussion.
- Term test: there is a term test (10%). It is comprehensive in that it includes all material covered in the course up until the day of the particular term test. See “Course Calendar” for dates.
- Translation: You will compose 3 translations from original texts provided to you. The first one will be a Spanish to English translation, and the remaining two will be English to Spanish. For all 3 you will be expected to demonstrate the ability to translate the text accurately, showcasing your knowledge of topics covered up until the point at which the assignment is submitted. this is individual graded work, so students are not allowed to seek help from other instructors, friends, family members, etc. or use electronic translators. Any English to Spanish translation that has more than three words copied from a text in Spanish (from the internet, from a book, a magazine, etc.), or translated automatically will be given a zero. The translations need to be handed in typed, on paper in class on the due date, attaching the grading criteria sheet (attached below), and the reflection. No email attachments will be allowed.
- Oral presentation: You will be required to do a 10 minute group presentation on variation with respect to one of the grammatical topics either covered in class. Your presentation can be either on variation in either Spanish or English.

CALENDAR

<u>Week/Date</u>	<u>Theme / Structure (Target language)</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
1: Thurs, September 7	Presentación del curso. Sílabo. Requisitos Las clases de palabras. El sintagma nominal. ¿Qué es el género? Morfología Nominal	Leer el sílabo Ler pp. 6-13; 16-18; 44-47 Ejercicios en clase: p. 131, A, B, D.
2: Tues, September 12	El determinante y su interpretación.	Ejercicios 1 &

	La posesión inalienable.	Práctica p. 125, A, B, C.
3: Thurs, September 14	Los papeles temáticos. Valencias verbales. El sintagma nominal y sus funciones.	
4: Tues, September 19	Funciones	Ejercicion 2
5: Thurs, September 21	Los pronombres sujeto, diferencias de uso. Los pronombres objeto. La A personal.	Leer pp. 14-15; pp. 20-25 Práctica p. 157-159 R, U.
6: Tues, September 26	Práctica sobre funciones sintácticas y pronominalización	Ejercicios 3 Ejercicios de repaso: pp. 126, B, C, D, E
7: Thurs, September 28	Morfología Verbal: el paradigma verbal.	Ler pp. 80-93 Ejercicios pp. 136-137, A, B, C.
8: Tues, October 3	¿Qué es el aspecto? El aspecto en el pasado.	Leer pp. 94-97 Práctica pp. 137-139 D, E, F; pp. 145 C, D.
9: Thurs, October 5	Práctica pretérito imperfecto vs. pretérito indefinido	Ejercicios 4
10: Tues, October 10	FALL STUDY BREAK	
11: Thurs, October 12	FALL STUDY BREAK	
12: Tues, October 17	¿Qué es el tiempo? Los tiempos simples y los tiempos compuestos	Leer pp. 102-107. Práctica p. 140 I; p. 152, L; p. 167 DD.

13: Thurs, October 19	Práctica de aspecto y tiempo.	Ejercicios 5
15: Tues, October 24	El futuro y el condicional. Usos	Leer pp. 98-101; 108-111. Práctica p. 139, G, H, K, Q; p. 161, W; p. 168, EE.
16: Thurs, October 26	Práctica verbal. Dudas.	Ejercicios 6
17: Tues, October 31	Las oraciones simples y complejas. Tipos de oraciones simples.	Entregar traducción 2 (En papel) Hacer p. 159, U
18: Thurs, November 2	Tipos de oraciones complejas. ¿Qué es el modo?	Ejercicios 7
19: Tues, November 7	Tipos de oraciones subordinadas. Las nominales y el subjuntivo.	Práctica p. 142, O, P P. 156, P; p. 165, AA
20: Thurs, November 9	Práctica con oraciones subordinadas nominales	Práctica p. 163, Y; p. 166, CC
21: Tues, November 14	Práctica sobre subordinadas adjetivas.	Ejercicios 9
22: Thurs, November 16	Oraciones subordinadas adverbiales (temporales) y el subjuntivo. Las Finales y las Causales.	
23: Tues, November 21	Práctica subordinadas adverbiales y subjuntivo. Repaso. Evaluaciones	Ejercicios 10 Entregar traducción 3 (en papel)
24: Thurs, November 23	Fonología comparativa	
25: Tues, November 28	Fonología comparativa	
20: Thurs, November 30	Vocabulario comparativo	
21: Tues, December 5	Examen/Term test	
22: Thursday, December 7	Reflección	

CLASS MANAGEMENT

- Students are expected to come to class regularly, having read the materials assigned and prepared to take part in pair and group discussions.
- 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. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. It is your responsibility to contact me **prior to** or **within the week** of a missed course term test, or assignment.
- UWO's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness: (<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>)
- Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading
- Course materials and announcements: Lectures and announcements will be posted on SAKAI. Student must therefore set up a SAKAI account. The address for SAKAI is <http://owl.uwo.ca/portal>. In order to access SAKAI you must have a UWO account. To log on the system will ask you to give your account name and your secret password.

PLAGIRISM

Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offense Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). 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 the 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. Students are allowed to use their laptops and iPads during class lectures, but they are not allowed to use any electronic device during exam sessions. Ringers must be turned off and laptops, tablets, or other technology must only be used for class purposes. Unauthorized recording or photographing of the class, its members, community partners, and/or the people they serve is prohibited.

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Web sites for Registrarial Services is <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca> and Student Support Services is <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> (including the services provided by the USC listed here: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>). The Student Development Services can also be reached at www.sdc.uwo.ca

Important Notice: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

EMAIL COMMUNICATION WITH THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR

- At times, the course Instructor may decide to send out important course information by email. To that end, all students are required to have a valid UWO email address. You are responsible for ensuring that your UWO email address is set up.
- Forwarding your UWO.ca email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from UWO.ca addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that emails from your course instructor may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.
- You are responsible for:
 - Ensuring you have a valid UWO email address
 - Checking your UWO email account on a regular basis.
 - Appropriate use: e-mail correspondence should be used only for administrative matters (e.g. make-up tests due to illness). All inquiries concerning course content including evaluations must be asked in class or discussed during office hours;
 - Self identification: please identify yourself clearly by including the course designator 'SP 3318 A' in the subject line and your full name with student number in the message.
 - Response time: I will reply to all messages within 24 hours of receiving them. Please note that no correspondence will occur during weekends. If you do not receive a reply within this period, resend your message

SELECTED WEB-BASED RESOURCES

- IPA Fonts (Go to Fonts > SIL Encore IPA Fonts > DoulosSIL)
<http://www.sil.org/>
- The sounds of Spanish, English and German:
<http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/>
- The sounds of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA):
<http://www.sil.org/computing/speechtools/ipahelp.htm>
- IPA chart, IPA handbook, Online phonetics lab:
<http://web.uvic.ca/ling/resources/ipa/handbook.htm>
- Variation in Spanish:
<http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/dialects/>
<http://lab.chass.utoronto.ca/rescentre/spanish/>
- Information about the world's languages:
<http://www.ethnologue.com>

CAVEAT

This syllabus is not etched in stone, and any information on this syllabus is subject to change at any time. Although we try to minimize change as much as possible, we may need to make some necessary adjustments (not, however, test, or assignment dates). Any changes will be announced in class and on the course webpage. Thus, it is your responsibility to be there, ask your fellow classmates or the instructor, or check the course webpage to be informed of any such changes.