



**SPA 475 (METHODS FOR TEACHING SPANISH)  
Spring 2014  
(MW 6:00pm-7:15pm - Location: BA244 / MPLX131 / CHEC)**

**Course:** SPA 475.01S / SPA 475.41R / SPA 475.51R

**Instructor:** Dr. Elisa Gironzetti

**Office Hours:** MW 4-6 pm HL126 – (o concertar cita vía email)

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**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:**

*Textbook(s) Required:*

Diane Larsen Freeman. (2011). *Techniques and Principles in Language Teaching*. Third Edition. Oxford: oxford University Press. ISBN

Additional materials will be available through the eCollege course site and in class.

**Course Description:**

Catalogue Description:

This course presents an introduction to second language acquisition theories applied to different methodologies of teaching Spanish as a Second/Foreign Language in a formal in-class setting. Starting from an overview on traditional and current language teaching methods, the course will focus on current pedagogical trends. Techniques to develop student's skills according to language and learning theories, learning objectives, and roles of teachers and students will be presented; along with the components of effective teaching tools, such as lesson planning, student needs analysis, materials developments and evaluation tools. Much of the course consists on hands-on experience, discussion and practical application to promote meaningful active learning.

**Course Objectives:**

- You will understand the theoretical principles behind each teaching approach and be able to judge its appropriateness to a specific classroom situation
- You will learn how to plan, teach and assess Spanish Language courses.

## Student Learning Outcomes:

In this course you will:

- Understand the basic principles of language teaching and learning, as demonstrated by the exams.
- Think critically about different teaching strategies and methods, as well as their application to specific learning environment, as demonstrated by the student portfolio (*diary*)
- Develop authentic and original teaching materials (from planning to evaluation and assessment) for teaching Spanish as a Foreign Language (SFL), as demonstrated by the student portfolio (*lesson plans*).

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes / objectives of this course and instructional units/modules. **Students are to bring their textbook to class every day.**

Portfolio	50%
• 10 lesson plans (4% each)	
• Learning diary (10%)	
Exams (10% each)	30%
Teaching demonstration	10%
Class and online participation	10%

### Grading

A=100-90    B=89-80    C=79-70    D=69-60    F=59-0

*Please Note: All assignments will be graded based on content and linguistic accuracy.  
Para todos los trabajos se evaluarán el contenido y la competencia lingüística.*

### Portfolio (lesson plans 40% + diary 10%)

Cada estudiante tendrá que crear un portfolio (una carpeta dedicada) en el que incluirá los siguientes trabajos realizados a lo largo del curso:

- a) Una introducción de una página mínimo, en la que el estudiante resume los materiales incluidos en el portfolio y su relevancia en el marco del presente curso.
- b) Una conclusión, de 5 páginas máximo, en la que el estudiante reflexiona acerca del proceso de aprendizaje relativo al curso, y extrae conclusiones personales acerca de la validez o aplicabilidad de los métodos, enfoques y técnicas estudiados.
- c) Un diario de aprendizaje (diez entradas de una página mínima) escrito en primera persona, que puede incluir comentarios acerca de los contenidos aprendidos (positivos o negativos, pero siempre respetuosos), reflexiones personales, posibles ideas o aplicaciones didácticas, etc. (10% de la nota final).

- d) Diez lesson plans, cada uno vinculado con un método, enfoque o técnica de aprendizaje (40% de la nota final). La profesora proporcionará a cada estudiante un modelo de *lesson plan* a seguir.

El portfolio se ha de entregar completo en la última semana de clase (week 15). Sin embargo, en el calendario se detallan las fechas de entrega de todos los trabajos a lo largo del curso.

A principio de curso, la profesora entregará a cada estudiante una plantilla de evaluación del portfolio (introducción, conclusión y diario de aprendizaje) y una plantilla de evaluación de las *lesson plans*.

### **Exámenes (30%)**

Habrán tres exámenes durante el semestre, y cada uno de ellos vale el 10% de la nota final, por un total de un 30%. Los exámenes evaluarán el conocimiento de los principios teóricos, la terminología y la aplicación de los enfoques, métodos y técnicas estudiados.

### **Demonstración de enseñanza (10%)**

Cada grupo (2 o 3 personas máx.) será responsable de llevar a cabo una breve demostración (máx. 15 minutos) de cómo sería una clase si se respetaran las pautas ofrecidas por un único método o enfoque. No se trata de una presentación, sino de una demonstración práctica de cómo sería una clase.

### **Participación online y en clase (10%)**

Para este curso deberás:

- asistir regularmente a las clases y participar en TODAS las actividades.
- leer los materiales asignados ANTES de clase y estar listos para participar en las discusiones de clase y online.
- entregar las tareas EN LOS PLAZOS ESTABLECIDOS (no se aceptarán trabajos entregados después del plazo establecido, salvo emergencias justificadas).

**La participación activa en todas las actividades en el aula es obligatoria**, por lo tanto se recibirá una nota de participación semanal. La asistencia, por consiguiente también es obligatoria. No se permitirá tener más de 2 ausencias injustificadas durante el semestre. Por cada ausencia que exceda este número se descontará un punto de la nota final. Después de la sexta ausencia el estudiante será retirado del curso.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course.

- Internet access/connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)
- Word Processor (i.e. MS Word or Word Perfect)

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

### **eCollege Access and Log in Information**

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu).

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Every communication with the instructor should occur via e-mail: [egironzetti@leomail.tamuc.edu](mailto:egironzetti@leomail.tamuc.edu) . Students are required to check their Tamuc e-mail frequently and on a regular basis.

The instructor may also use eCollege Announcements or Discussions to communicate with students.

### **E-Culture Policy**

When dealing with faculty and other students over e-mail or using eCollege, it is important that students keep the following in mind:

- Always use the Tamuc e-mail account to communicate with your instructor. Messages from any other e-mail accounts will not be considered.
- Always use salutations and signatures. Be courteous. Add a recognizable subject to your e-mail.
- For serious matters use e-mails to facilitate a mutually agreeable time to meet. E-mail should not be used to avoid personal interaction.
- Never use e-mail to vent or to respond immediately to an emotional situation.

### **eCollege Student Technical Support**

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Email: [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

- Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc.)

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures:

#### *Academic Honesty Policy*

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of **academic dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally-accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another person and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension and expulsion (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b [1, 2, 3]). Cheating, including plagiarizing papers in whole or part, will result in a grade of zero (0) on the assignment for the first offense and failure of the course for any subsequent offenses.

More details regarding academic honesty: Any student who commits plagiarism or violates any other tenet of academic honesty will receive a grade of zero for the first offense; a second violation will result in automatic failure of the course. Upon any infraction of academic honesty, I will provide the student with written notice of the infraction, will require a face-to-face meeting in my office to discuss the matter, and I will also notify the dean of the student's college.

#### Attendance Policy

Because your active participation in discussions is expected, attendance is vital for success in this course. Attendance requires more than simply logging on to the course site, and you should begin engaging in discussions each week.

#### Assignment Policy

I will provide specific details during class meetings and possibly by email. Students must stay current with all readings, including the course lectures and discussions. Students must complete and submit all assignments by their respective due dates.

#### Late Work

I will not accept any assignment after its due date. Assignments submitted after the due date may receive a score of zero (0).

#### Drop a Course

A student may drop a course by logging into his/her myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled "Drop a class" from among the choices found under the myLeo section of the Web page.

#### Incompletes

Incompletes (grade of "X") are granted only under rare and extraordinary circumstances.

#### Administrative Withdrawal

I reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of student conduct codes.

## **University Specific Procedures:**

### *ADA Statement*

#### **Students with Disabilities:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**  
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**  
**Gee Library**  
**Room 132**  
**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**  
**Fax (903) 468-8148**  
[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

### *Student Conduct*

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

Class-Specific Notes on Student Conduct: I expect all students to treat all members of the class community with respect, including respect to differences of opinion, cultural background, and other matters. Although I encourage students to debate issues, it is important to note that there are effective and logical ways of conducting such debates.

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The following course schedule is subject to revisions and other modifications as the instructor deems necessary for the course. Any changes to the course schedule will be announced on the course website in advance of the week in which the change will occur.

Semana 1 Lunes 13 enero	Presentación del programa, objetivos y tareas del curso. Explicación del modelo de <i>lesson plan</i> . HW: read Larsen Freeman: Introducción & The Grammar Translation Method <b>Cuestionario online acerca de tus experiencias como estudiante.</b>
Semana 1 Miércoles 15 enero	The Grammar-Translation Method
Semana 2 Lunes 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No clase
Semana 2 Miércoles 22 enero	The Grammar-Translation Method <b>Diary 1 due</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: The Direct Method
Semana 3 Lunes 27 enero	The Direct Method <b>Lesson plan 1 due</b>
Semana 3 Miércoles 29 enero	The Direct Method <b>Diary II due</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: The Audiolingual Method
Semana 4 Lunes 3 febrero	The Audiolingual Method <b>Lesson plan 2 due</b>
Semana 4 Miércoles 5 febrero	The Audiolingual Method <b>Diary III due</b>
Semana 5 Lunes 10 febrero	<b>Exam 1</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: The Silent Way
Semana 5 Miércoles 12 febrero	The Silent Way <b>Lesson plan 3 due</b>
Semana 6 Lunes 17 febrero	The Silent Way <b>Diary IV due</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: Desuggestopedia
Semana 6 Miércoles 19 febrero	Desuggestopedia <b>Lesson plan 4 due</b>
Semana 7 Lunes 24 febrero	Desuggestopedia <b>Diary V due</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: Community Language Learning
Semana 7 Miércoles 26 febrero	Community Language Learning <b>Lesson plan 5 due</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: Total Physical Response
Semana 8 Lunes 3 marzo	Total Physical Response <b>Diary VI due</b>

Semana 8 Miércoles 5 marzo	<b>Exam II</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: Communicative Language Learning
SPRING BREAK	
Semana 9 Lunes 17 marzo	Communicative Language Learning <b>Lesson plan 6 due</b> HW: read Larsen-Freeman: Content-Based Instruction
Semana 9 Miércoles 19 marzo	Content-Based <b>Diary VII due</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: Task-based
Semana 10 Lunes 24 marzo	Task-based <b>Lesson plan 7 due</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: Learning Strategy Training, Cooperative Learning and Multiple Intelligencies
Semana 10 Miércoles 26 marzo	Learning Strategy Training, Cooperative Learning and Multiple Intelligencies <b>Diary VIII due</b> HW: read article (eCollege week 10)
Semana 11 Lunes 31 marzo	Teaching in Texas <b>Lesson plan 8 due</b>
Semana 11 Miércoles 2 abril	<b>Exam III</b> HW: read Larsen Freeman: Teaching with Technology
Semana 12 Lunes 7 abril	Teaching with technology <b>Diary IX due</b>
Semana 12 Miércoles 9 abril	Teaching with technology
Semana 13 Lunes 14 abril	<b>Teaching demonstrations (15 min. each)</b>
Semana 13 Miércoles 16 abril	<b>Teaching demonstrations (15 min. each)</b> HW: read LOTE preparation manual (eCollege)
Semana 14 Lunes 21 abril	The LOTE exam <b>Lesson plan 9 due</b>
Semana 14 Miércoles 23 abril	The LOTE exam <b>Diary X due</b>
Semana 15 Lunes 28 abril	Revisión final <b>Lesson plan 10 due</b>
Semana 15 Miércoles 30 abril	Conclusión del curso
FINALS WEEK	
<b>Complete Portfolio due on MAY 7<sup>th</sup> via e-mail or DROPBOX WEEK 15 (one PDF document or one ZIP folder per student)</b>	