



SPA 332.1SE and 5RE **Spanish Composition and Grammar**

COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2016

Meets W 02:00 pm-04:40 pm – EDN 121 (broadcasted to CHEC 227)

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Elisa Gironzetti

Office Location: HL126

Office Hours: MWF 10am – 11 am or by appointment

Office Phone: (903) 468.8725

University Email Address: egironzetti@leomail.tamuc.edu (Important note: I will respond to emails within 24 hours during the work week and by the next business day on weekends and holidays.)

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s) Required

Lunn, P. V. & DeCesaris, J. (2007). *Investigaciones de gramática*. Boston, MA: Thomson/Heinle Publishers. ISBN: 9781413019964 / 141301996X

Software Required

Access to eCollege

Text processor (Office Word or similar)

Optional Texts and/or Materials

A good Spanish grammar (there are many options available, please ask your instructor if you need assistance)

Course Description

Catalogue Description

Written communication through creative expression as well as essays, stressing situations that challenge students to think and speak more creatively in Spanish. Development of self-correction techniques.

Prerequisite: Spa 232.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Description for Fall 2016

This course adopts a cognitive approach to the study of Spanish grammar that will enable students to understand the interplay of form, meaning, and use in diverse grammatical structures. These structures serve as repertoire of choices the speakers select according to their communicative intentions, and not as a set of static rules. In each session we will discuss some of the most challenging aspects of the Spanish grammar and students will apply the principles of cognitive grammar to the analysis and production of a variety of texts. Some of the questions we will seek to answer are: Why does Spanish use subjunctive? And all of those tenses, what are they for? What is the difference between saying *estaba cansada* and *estuve cansada*? When should I use an article before a noun in Spanish? Is *working* the same as *trabajando*? Is *para* the same as *for*?

This course is conducted in Spanish.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will develop a more nuanced comprehension of the Spanish language which will allow them to understand the different uses of grammar structures in a variety of contexts.
2. Students will learn specific linguistic terminology and will be able to apply it to describe, compare, and analyze Spanish grammar structures.
3. Students will develop a deeper understanding of the differences and similarities between English and Spanish and apply it to the analysis of real-world examples.

SLO 1	Measured by Corpus Project
SLO 2	Measured by Research Tasks and Final Exam
SLO 3	Measured by Contrastive Analysis

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods

This course will be conducted following a *flipped classroom* modality. This means that students will be responsible for reading and studying the materials at home. Class time will follow a workshop model and will be used to discuss the materials and assignments in depth, solve doubts, answer questions, and complete in-class assignments. The course will be conducted mostly in Spanish, therefore students should be proficient enough to be able to complete all assignments in Spanish and participate during in-class discussions and group activities.

Students need to come to class prepared to discuss the content of the reading materials and apply it to complete in-class assignments. If a student comes to class unprepared for the day (i.e., has not done the reading), s/he will be counted as absent.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Attendance & Participation

Participation and attendance are fundamental to succeed in this course. Attendance is mandatory. After six absences, you may be dropped from the course, depending on circumstances. Absences due to illness or unexpected situations count as absences. The only justified absences are those resulting from mandatory participation in university events, hospitalization, or family emergencies of which the instructor has been notified. Please note that there is no participation grade given in this course; however, after three unexcused absences, your final grade will be reduced by 2 points per absence. Late work is not accepted. No make-up assignments allowed.

You should arrive on time. Two late arrivals or early departures by more than 10 minutes equal one absence. If a student arrives late, she/he needs to talk to the professor at the end of class to make sure that a tardy mark was registered in the class book instead of an absence. If a student misses 3 consecutive sessions and does not contact the instructor, she/he may be dropped from class. You should not make travel/family /employment plans that interfere with classes or exams since make up exams cannot be made in order to accommodate such plans.

Student athletes, band members and members of other university sanctions should bring a letter from their supervisor or specific department during the first week of class indicating the dates they will miss class.

Students who require special accommodations for religious holidays should make arrangements with their instructor during the first week of class.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

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

Assessments

<i>Corpus project</i>	40%
<i>Research tasks (5)</i>	30%
<i>Contrastive analysis</i>	30%

Research Tasks 30%

Throughout the semester you will complete 5 research tasks (worth 6% each) on different Spanish grammatical features and structures. The goal of each task is to allow you to explore the use of the language in the real world. For each task, you will be chose from a poll of grammatical topics and will have to find at least 2 examples of that reflect the use and variation of your topic in published media such as newspapers, books, etc. You will be encouraged to access a variety of resources from different Spanish-speaking countries. You will write a short report (1 page approx.) in Spanish to present and discuss your findings.

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Contrastive Analysis 30%

You will identify an area/topic/feature in which Spanish and English differ (please, note that it cannot be the same topic of another assignment). You will write a 2-page report in Spanish to explain how they differ (worth 10%). Then, you will create a brief PowerPoint presentation (worth 20%) with the goal of helping a future student of Spanish to understand how this feature works in Spanish, and how to avoid transferring what s/he knows about English when using Spanish.

Corpus Project 40%

You will research the use of a grammar feature or structure in a corpus of your choice, and then compare it to its canonical use according to the textbook and classroom readings. You will highlight differences and similarities in meaning and form, adding an explanation whenever necessary. You will discuss the results of your research in an academic report (5-7 pages approx., worth 30%). The results of your research will be presented in Spanish to the class using PowerPoint (worth 10%). Refer to the *Guidelines* and *Rubric* for more detailed information.

Extra points

Students who participate in the Spanish program activities will receive extra points distributed as follows:

Maestro Soler Visit 3% towards final grade

Cervantes in films 5 points towards the final corpus project

Día de los muertos altar 2 points towards the final corpus project

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- To fully participate in online courses you will need to use a current Flash enabled internet browser. For PC and Mac users the suggested browser is Mozilla Firefox.
- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

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- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- Run a browser check through the Pearson LearningStudio Technical Requirements website. [Browser Check http://help.ecollege.com/LS_Tech_Reg_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browse](http://help.ecollege.com/LS_Tech_Reg_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browse)

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.
 JavaScript is enabled.
 Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
 - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)
 - [Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.
- For additional information about system requirements, please see: [System Requirements for LearningStudio https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical](https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical)

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to [myLeo](http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo) and from the top menu ribbon select eCollege. Then on the upper left side of the screen click on the My Courses tab. <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx>

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You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: It is strongly recommended you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the My Courses tab, and then select the Browser Test link under Support Services.

Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support for the use of Pearson LearningStudio. Technical assistance is available 24/7 (24 hours, 7 days a week).

If you experience LearningStudio (eCollege) technical problems, contact the LearningStudio helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511 (toll free) or visit [Pearson 24/7 Customer Support Site](http://247support.custhelp.com/) <http://247support.custhelp.com/>

The student help desk may be reached in the following ways:

- **Chat Support:** Click on *'Live Support'* on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

Accessing Help from within Your Course: Click on the *'Tech Support'* icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. Then you will be able to get assistance via online chat or by phone.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511.
2. Students must file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number

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3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and provide me with the helpdesk ticket number.
4. I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer and internet access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. Only Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate reasons to contact the Help Desk.

You strongly are encouraged to check for your internet browser compatibility **BEFORE** the course begins and take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform.

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at myLeo. <https://leo.tamuc.edu>

Learner Support


The [One Stop Shop](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/) was created to serve you by providing as many resources as possible in one location. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/>

The [Academic Success Center](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/) provides academic resources to help you achieve academic success. <http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/>

FREE Mobile APPS

The Courses apps for phones have been adapted to support the tasks students can easily complete on a smaller device. Due to the smaller screen size course content is not presented.

The Courses app is free of charge. The mobile Courses Apps are designed and adapted for different devices.

	App Title:	iPhone – Pearson LearningStudio Courses for iPhone Android – LearningStudio Courses - Phone
	Operating System:	iPhone - OS 6 and above Android – Jelly Bean, Kitkat, and Lollipop OS
	iPhone App URL:	https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pearson-learningstudio-courses/id977280011?mt=8
	Android App URL:	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pearson.lsphone

Once downloaded, search for Texas A&M University-Commerce, and it should appear on the list. Then you will need to sign into the myLeo Mobile portal.

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The Courses App for Android and iPhone contain the following feature set:

- View titles/code/Instructor of all Courses enrolled in online
- View and respond to all discussions in individual Courses
- View Instructor Announcements in individual Courses
- View Graded items, Grades and comments in individual Courses
- Grade to Date
- View Events (assignments) and Calendar in individual Courses
- View Activity Feed for all courses
- View course filters on activities
- View link to Privacy Policy
- Ability to Sign out
- Send Feedback

LearningStudio Notifications

Students can be alerted to course activities via text on their mobile phones or up to two email addresses.

Based on their preferences, students can automatically receive a push notification with every new: course announcement, threaded discussion post, grade, and/or assignment without having to login to the course. Enrolled students will automatically receive email notifications for announcements and can opt out of this feature. To receive text notifications, students must opt in.

To begin setting up notifications, go into your course in LearningStudio and click on the bell-shaped Notifications icon on the main menu ribbon.

By default the student's university email address will appear. This cannot be changed in LearningStudio. Additional email addresses may be added by clicking the Add button. After all of the other selections are completed be sure to click the Save and Finish button.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

The instructor's communication response time and feedback on assessments are stated clearly.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance/Lateness, Late Work, Missed Exams and Quizzes and Extra Credit

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

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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

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Este calendario no es definitivo y se podrá modificar a lo largo del semestre. Os avisaré con tiempo y por e-mail si hubiera cambios en el programa.

	Due before class	In class
31 ago.		Introducción, presentación del programa del curso
7 sept.		Tiempo y aspecto
14 sept.		Tiempo y aspecto
21 sept.	Research task 1	Pretérito e imperfecto
28 sept.		Pretérito e imperfecto ONLINE CLASS
4. OCT.	SPANISH PROGRAM ACTIVITY	MOVIE DAY
5 oct.	Research task 2	La frase nominal
7 OCT.	SPANISH PROGRAM ACTIVITY	MAESTRO SOLER VISIT 10:30am BA AUDITORIUM
12 oct.	Contrastive analysis due in dropbox	La frase nominal
13. OCT.	SPANISH PROGRAM ACTIVITY	MOVIE DAY
19 oct.		Contrastive analysis presentations
26 oct.	Research task 3	Indicativo y subjuntivo
1-3 NOV.	SPANISH PROGRAM ACTIVITY	DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS - ALTAR
2 nov.		Los participantes de los verbos
9 nov.	Research task 4	Los participantes de los verbos
16 nov.		preposiciones
23 nov.	NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING	
30 nov.	Research task 5	Repaso final
7 dic.	Corpus project due in dropbox	Corpus project presentations
14 dic.	FINALS	Corpus project presentations

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