SPA543 _ 82929 & 82930

"Spanish Sociolinguistics"

Course Syllabus: Fall 2016

Instructor: Dr. Flavia Belpoliti

Office hours: Mondays, 10am-3pm at HL318 (Commerce) & Wednesdays, 3pm-4:30pm at the UCD (Dallas), or by appointment.

Office phone: 903 886-5271

University email: flavia.belpoliti@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

Course description
The focus of this graduate course is to advance students' understanding of key concepts in the field of Hispanic Sociolinguistics, and gain a greater comprehension of the interplay of different variables (gender, age, region, social status, among others) which regulate language variation. Diverse aspects of Spanish regional varieties will be explored while analyzing different aspects influencing the development of varieties in the Spanish-speaking world. Students will analyze phonological, morphological, grammatical, and lexical features of Spanish dialects in order to implement these main concepts in classroom instruction. The course will be conducted in Spanish and will consist mainly of guided readings, discussions, student presentations, and a final bibliographic research project. Readings will be in English and Spanish.
Important note: This is a hybrid class which will meet every other week. See the Tentative Course Schedule for details.

Student Learning Outcomes. Students who successfully complete the course will:
   a.   Demonstrate comprehension of main topics, issues and methods in the field of Hispanic Sociolinguistics.
   b.   Demonstrate advanced understanding of main external variables influencing language variation across the Spanish-speaking world.
   c.   Critically apply theoretical knowledge of Hispanic Sociolinguistics into the teaching of Spanish as second, foreign, or heritage language by designing lesson plans and teaching materials.
   d.   Demonstrate advanced analytical skills through an individual bibliographic research project focusing on a current Spanish sociolinguist topic.

Collection of Data for Measuring Institutional Effectiveness:

In order to measure the level of compliance with the university's Institutional Effectiveness guidelines, I will collect some of the ungraded materials you will produce for the class. These materials will be part of a portfolio created on your behalf and will be measured to ensure that our program "promotes practices that result in higher student academic achievement; an enhanced student experience; aligned and transparent decisions; and readily available information for improvement, accountability, and accreditation" (see "Department of Institutional Effectiveness," http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutus/institutionalEffectiveness/default.aspx). This is solely an assessment of program effectiveness and in no way affects students' course grades or GPAs.

Textbooks & Materials

- Moreno Fernández, F. (2010). *Las variedades de la lengua española y su enseñanza*. Arco Libros, 2010. ISBN 978-84-7635-802-3.
- Selected articles and materials (see the 'Lecturas' folder in e-College)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Presentation

This hybrid course will be delivered in biweekly face-to-face meetings and online through the LearningStudio (e-College) platform. You will use your *MyLeo* account to access the platform and be able to use the course content, which includes readings, discussion threads, and chat/email communication.

Students are expected to: a) complete all readings and assignments in a timely fashion; b) attend all face-to-face meetings; c) be ready to actively participate in the face-to-face and online meetings, and positively engage in all group work.

Course Activities

Content exams (30% of final grade)

There will be two content exams based on the assigned readings and class discussions; the exams will assess understanding of key topics, critical connections, and analysis of main issues presented in class. Exams will be available through the LearningStudio (e-College) platform and are to be completed by the due dates. Exams can only be taken once; see the Course Schedule for relevant dates.

Teaching materials and presentation (20 % of final grade-group work)

You will work with a classmate to prepare four lesson plans integrating Hispanic Sociolinguistic topics into the teaching of Spanish; these plans will be later shared with your colleagues. The lesson plans should demonstrate that the student has mastered main concepts, methods, and topics of Spanish Sociolinguistics, and he/she is capable of applying this knowledge to improve the learning experience of the students of Spanish. At the end of the semester your group will demonstrate one lesson plan in a short, ten-minute interactive presentation. See the "Recursos" folder in e-College for more information.

Online Participation (20 % of final grade).
Biweekly online coursework will be completed by accessing the corresponding discussion board. The board will include examples, cases, or set of questions related to the readings and complementary materials. Students will participate posting their answers to these activities by means of critical interpretation, offering counter-examples or discussing a particular case. Students are encouraged to respond to classmates' presentations and posts; students are expected to complete <u>a minimum of 2 posting for each week</u> (about 250-300 words each, in Spanish). Postings will be evaluated for content understanding, reasoning and language conventions usage. See *Online Discussion Rubric* in the 'Recursos' folder for details.

Bibliographic research project (30% of final grade)
The final paper is a bibliographic research in a topic of interest, focusing in a current area of Spanish sociolinguistic research (description of a speech community, a particular linguistic variable, an issue of language attitudes, language contact, language planning, etc.). Students will prepare an initial draft of the final paper (about 200-250 words) introducing the topic and justifying the topic selection. The final paper should be between 13 and 15 pages plus references (font 12, double-spaced, APA style); it should include an annotated bibliography of <u>a minimum of ten different sources</u> (mandatory reading for the course cannot included). For each source, you should write a brief paragraph summarizing main concepts and conclusions, and a brief evaluation. Make sure to discuss with the instructor the topic before and during the development of your work.

GRADING

Exams	30%	(2 x 15%)
Teaching Materials	22%	(lesson plans 4 x 3%= 12% + presentation 10%)
Online participation	18%	(6 x 3%)
Bibliographic Research	30%	(draft= 10%, final= 20%)
Total	**100%**	

Grading Scale: A=100-90   B=89-80   C=79-70   D=69-60   F= 59>

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topics & Readings	Assignments & Assessments
8/31 UCD	Course introduction; course goals and expectations; main readings and resources. Goals and key concepts in Spanish sociolinguistics. Areas of interest.	Complete Online Student Survey.
9/7 online	Silva-Corvalán: *Sociolingüística y pragmática* (Cap 1, 1-36) Días-Campos: *Introducción a la sociolingüística hispánica*. (Cap 1, 1-29)	Online discussion board
9/14 UCD	Social variables and language variation: age, gender, education, and social status. Contextual variation.	

9/21 online	Días-Campos: *Introducción a la sociolingüística hispánica*. (Cap 2, 30-68). Moreno Fernández: *Las variedades de la lengua española y su enseñanza*. (Cap. 1, 15-46)	Online activities and discussion board
9/28 UCD	Spanish dialectology: main perspectives and issues. The Varilex project; the Preseea project; Spanish corpora.	**Lesson plans 1 – 2 are due**
10/5 online	Paufler: *"La noción de dialecto y las diferentes corrientes dialectológicas en el mundo hispánico". (421-435)* Izquierdo & Utrilla: *La lengua española en América: normas y usos actuales. (*Introducción, *23-42)*	Online activities and discussion board
10/12 UCD	The varieties of the Spanish language: main features in America and Spain.	
10/19 online	Moreno Fernández: *Las variedades de la lengua española y su enseñanza*. (Cap. 2 & 3, 47-120). Andión Herrero: "Las variedades y su complejidad conceptual en el diseño de un modelo lingüístico para el español L2/LE" (1-13).	**Exam I** Online activities and discussion board
10/26 UCD	Teaching "Spanishes": norm, standard and varieties. Pedagogical approaches to language diversity.	
11/2 online	Moreno Fernández: *Las variedades de la lengua española y su enseñanza* (Cap 4 & 5, 129-190) Zorraquino: "Norma y variación lingüística en la enseñanza de E/LE" (7-11) López García: "Norma estándar, variedad lingüística y español transnacional" (89-108)	Online activities and discussion board
11/9 UCD	Language ideologies, attitudes and linguistic identity in the Spanish-speaking world.	
11/16 online	Moreno Fernández: *Las variedades de la lengua española y su enseñanza* (Cap. 6, 197-225) Días-Campos: *Introducción a la sociolingüística hispánica*. (Cap 10, 266-295). García de los Santos: "Actitudes Lingüísticas en Uruguay" (1-58)	**Lesson plans 3-4 are due** **Bibliographic research project draft is due ("Proyecto final" folder in e-College).**
11/23 – 11/26	Thanksgiving Holiday	
11/30 UCD	Lesson Plans presentations. Exam II review	
12/7 online		**Exam II** Online discussion board
12/10 online	**Bibliographic research project is due ("Proyecto final" folder in e-College).**	

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES

1. Late work
This is an intense hybrid course, therefore there is no time for extended deadlines. <u>No late work will be accepted in this course, without exceptions</u>. Work should be submitted by <u>midnight</u> (Central Time) on the due dates provided in the class schedule. Failure to submit an assignment on time will result in a zero (F) grade. In the case of an emergency or other reasonable situation which may affect your submission, please contact me immediately.

2. Academic Dishonesty
Plagiarism is borrowing (stealing) the work of others and not giving credit where credit is due. It is unethical and reflects very poorly on a person's character. Copying someone else's work, or asking a friend or tutor to write your work constitutes a violation of the TAMUC Academic Honesty Policy. Likewise, the use of electronic media to translate your work to Spanish is also unacceptable. Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. 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]). For further information, please see the *Academic Honesty* statement of the Department of Literature and Languages below.

3. Students with Disabilities:
The *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination 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
> StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

http://www.tamuc.edu/CampusLife/CampusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/default.aspx

4. Student Conduct and Discriminatory Behavior
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).* A&M-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.

Students also should consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with peers and instructor in an online forum: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

5. Withdraws & Incomplete grade.
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.
I reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of the Code of Student Conduct. Incomplete grades (grade of "X") are granted only under rare and extraordinary circumstances which are fully documented; students requesting an incomplete grade should contact the instructor as soon as possible, provide all pertinent documentation, and sign the 'X' grade contract which details the coursework they need to complete to pass the class.

6. Grievance procedures.
Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Director of the Spanish Program, Dr. Flavia Belpoliti (flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu).   If there are still unresolved issues, students need to schedule an appointment with the Department Head, Dr. Hunter Hayes, by completing a Student Grievance Form (available in the Main Office, HL 141). In the event that the instructor is the Department Head, the student should schedule a meeting with the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Humanities after following the steps outlined above; if the instructor is the Assistant Department Head, students should schedule a meeting with the Department Head. Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 ("Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation").

7. *Campus Concealed Carry*
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:
www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf, and/or consult your event organizer. 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.

Relevant information for Graduate Students
Please be sure to send an email to or make an appointment with your graduate director regarding your degree program to ensure you are on the right track. It is especially important to remember the 12-hour rule: students will lose anything over 12 hours if they have not been fully admitted into a degree program or if they change their program. Master's in Spanish students should contact Dr. Flavia Belpoliti at Flavia.Belpoliti@tamuc.edu.

Technology Requirements

To fully participate in online courses, you will need to use a current, Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Internet Explorer 9.0 or 10. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.

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.
- microphone
- Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor.

For courses where interactive tools are used, like VoiceThread or ClassLive Pro, headphones are suggested for use with recording and playback. We recommend a webcam with an integrated microphone, such as the Microsoft LifeCam Cinema. All devices should be installed and configured before class begins.

Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. Java can be downloaded at: http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp. Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

You will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software: Adobe Reader & Adobe Flash Player

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: https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical

Pearson LearningStudio (e-College) Access and Navigation

1) *Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) 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: http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.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@tamuc.edu.
   It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

2) *Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support*
   Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio. Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.
   If at any time you experience technical problems (e.g., you can't log in to the course, you can't see certain material, etc.) please contact the Pearson Learning Studio Help Desk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week:
- **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.
- **Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

3) *Accessing Help from within Your Course***:** Click on the *'Tech Support'* icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You will then be able to get assistance via online chat, email or by phone by calling the Help Desk number noted below.
   Note: Personal computer 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, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

4) *Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio*
   Should students encounter Pearson Learning Studio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure **MUST** be followed:
   a. Students must report the problem to the Help Desk. You may reach the helpdesk at helpdesk@online.tamuc.org or 1-866-656-5511.
   b. Students **MUST** file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number.
   c. Once a helpdesk ticket number is provided, students should email the instructor to advise of the problem and to provide with the helpdesk ticket number.
   d. At that time, the instructor will call the helpdesk to confirm the problem and follow up with you.

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson Learning Studio Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser **BEFORE** the course begins, and to take the Pearson Learning Studio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. **ONLY** Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

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 https://leo.tamuc.edu.

Learner Support*:*
   1) Go to One Stop Shop created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location.
   2) Go to Academic Success Center- focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

Academic Dishonesty Appendix

Department of Literature and Languages
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Policy #12
April 28, 2003
ACADEMIC HONESTY

Preamble. Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. Faculty members are expected to employ teaching practices that encourage academic honesty.

1. Academic Dishonesty Defined. Texas A&M University-Commerce defines "academic dishonesty" in the following way (Procedure A13.12 "Academic Honesty"): Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another 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.

2. "Plagiarism" Further Specified. The Department of Literature and Languages builds on the university definition of "plagiarism," given in 1, in the following manner (taken from "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The Council of Writing Program Administrators' Statement on Best Practices" undated, pages 1-2, 12,2003.
http://www.ilstu.edu/~ddhesse/wpa/positions/WPAplagiarism.pdf)

Plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source. [. . .] Ethical writers make every effort to acknowledge sources fully and appropriately in accordance with the contexts and genres of their writing. A student who attempts (even if clumsily) to identify and credit his or her source, but who misuses a specific citation format or incorrectly uses quotation marks or other forms of identifying material taken from other sources, has not plagiarized. Instead, such a student should be considered to have failed to cite and document sources appropriately.

3. "Collusion" Further Specified. Collusion specifically includes selling academic products. According to the Texas Penal Code (Title 7 Offenses Against Property, Chapter 32 Fraud, § 32.50 Deceptive
Preparation and Marketing of Academic Product), an "'academic product' means a term paper, thesis, dissertation, essay, report, recording, work of art, or other written, recorded, pictorial, or artistic product or material submitted or intended to be submitted by a person to satisfy an academic requirement of the person." The Texas Penal Code also specifies that person commits a Class C misdemeanor offense "if, with intent to make a profit, the person prepares, sells, offers or advertises for sale, or delivers to another person an academic product when the person knows, or should reasonably have known, that a person intends to submit or use the academic product to satisfy an academic requirement of a person other than the person who prepared the product."

4. Responsibility. Matters of academic dishonesty are handled initially by the instructor. If the instructor feels the problem warrants more attention, it should then be pursued through the department head. If the department head and instructor wish, it should be brought to the attention of the Dean of the college for study

and review before being referred to the University Discipline Committee (adapted from Texas A&M University-Commerce Procedure A13.04, "Plagiarism").

Instructors may also choose to refer cases directly to the University Discipline Committee (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 6.a [2]).

5. Statement for Course Outlines. Instructors of record in the Department of Literature and Languages are required to include an Academic Honesty statement in all course outlines. The following language is suggested for that statement:

Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. 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])

6. This Policy supersedes Department of Literature and Languages Policy #12, "Plagiarism," dated October 10, 1990, and will be effective until further notice.

7. The Head of the Department of Literature and Languages is responsible for maintaining this policy current.

Dr. Hunter Hayes, Head of the Department of Literature and Languages

April 28, 2003