



## SPA 597 - 202250

### Introduction to Spanish Pragmatics

COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer II 2022

#### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Instructor:** Flavia Belpoliti, PhD

**Virtual class meetings:** First and final week via MyLeo-Zoom [dates TBA].

**Office Location:** David Talbot Hall (DTH) 311

**Office Hours:** Online, by appointment

**Office Phone:** 903 886-5271.

**University Email Address:** [flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu](mailto:flavia.belpoliti@tamuc.edu)

**Communication Response Time:** I will respond to emails within 24 hours during the work week and by the next business day on weekends and holidays.

#### COURSE INFORMATION

##### ***Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings***

1. Félix-Brasdefer, C. (2010). *Pragmática del Español*. New York & London: Routledge. ISBN 978-1-138-21580-1.
2. Compilation of articles, available in *MyLeoOnline*
3. Access to *Dancing with Words* at Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA): [The Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition](#)
4. To fully participate in the online meetings, a good headset with microphone and computer camera are required.

##### ***Course Description***

Broadly defined, Pragmatics is the study of language *in action*, as it happens embedded in particular and dynamic sociocultural contexts. Focusing on understanding the principles that shape verbal communication and interaction, Pragmatics makes explicit the underlying and integrative processes in the production and interpretation of meaning. Cognitive perspectives in Pragmatics analyze how representations of knowledge, integration of information, and inferential processes influence and bound

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production and interpretation of meaning. Sociocultural perspectives focus on the construction of social meaning considering the dynamic interaction among language users, situated communication events, and cultural frameworks.

This intensive graduate course explores core issues on Spanish Pragmatics, providing a review of cognitive and sociocultural perspectives on speech acts, implicatures, politeness, and addressing systems. The course will integrate intercultural and variationist approaches to better understand the broad repertoire of options that the Spanish language offer their users. Activities will consist mainly of guided readings, data analysis, group discussions and lesson planning. Readings will be in English and Spanish.

### ***Student Learning Outcomes***

1. Explain main approaches in Pragmatics studies, integrating theoretical principles, analytical models, and specific cases in Spanish.
2. Describe and analyze the interaction of different levels of meaning when interpreting Spanish utterances and discourse in context.
3. Compare and contrast speech acts, deictic signaling, politeness, and forms of address considering Spanish language varieties.
4. Integrate Pragmatics perspectives in curriculum design and instructional practices for teaching and learning Spanish.

### ***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" (<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.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### ***Student Responsibilities***

Students' participation is essential and required to succeed in this course. Students are expected to:

- a. read and prepare assigned materials by the due dates;
- b. complete and submit assignments by the due date; and
- c. interact with each other and the instructor on a regular basis.

In addition, students are expected to log-in into MyLeoOnline at least once a day during the workweek to check on messages, revise content, complete activities, and respond to forum postings.

### ***Interaction with Instructor Statement***

*a. Course communication.* Good communication in an online setting is a fundamental component of success. Please consider the different types of media available for communication with your instructor and classmates, in individual and group formats. Please follow [Netiquette rules](#) to keep our conversation professional, engaging, and polite.

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During the semester, we will use three main means of communication:

- *Announcements*: General tool for course communication; I will post short messages or reminders related to due dates or changes in the assignments.
- *Email*: Please only use the official TAMUC Leo Email to communicate with me and your classmates. I will send general emails with information related to the course, date changes, assignments modifications, etc. or with information that relate to our content. I will send individual emails as needed. I will respond to emails in 24 hs. during the work week and by the next business day on weekends and holidays. To setup the TAMUC email contact **HelpDesk** [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu) or call 903-468-6000; you may also access information at <https://leo.tamuc.edu>.
- *General Discussion Board*: Located in the “General Resources” folder, this board is open to all participants; anyone can post a comment, question or suggestion related or unrelated to the course. All students are encouraged to participate and post responses; I will visit this board regularly.

*b. Feedback and assessment*: You will be received detailed feedback on your HW, discussion posts and other tasks 72 hours after the activity is due (see the ‘Tentative Course Schedule’ for details). Participation in the online meetings and discussion boards will be assessed through a comprehensive rubric (see the “Course Resources” folder for details).

### **Minimal Technical Skills**

Students in this course are expected to:

- a. access, navigate and use the diverse tools included in the course shell (MyLeoOnline -D2L). This includes how to turn-in assignments, how to upload video and audio recordings, how to participate and respond in the discussion boards, and how to access and use the quiz tool. See the *Introduction* folder for more details.
- b. manage TAMUC Library resources for academic research. See the *Resources* folder for details;
- c. competently use MSFT Office tools (Word, Excel, PPoint).

### **Course Content and Activities**

This online course will be delivered through TAMUC’s MyLeoOnline (D2L) platform. You will use your TAMUC MyLeo account to access the platform and navigate the course content, which includes short video presentations, readings, multimedia materials, discussion threads, and video conferencing tools. The course is organized around six learning units which focus on relevant aspects of Spanish Pragmatics, as follow:

- Unit 1: Core concepts; pragmatics as interdisciplinary field; historical background
- Unit 2: Speech acts; speech acts compositionality; speech acts classifications. Speech acts in Spanish-speaking communities around the world.
- Unit 3: Deixis; person, time, and space representations; deixis processing in the Spanish-speaking communities around the world.
- Unit 4: Language politeness; politeness norms and linguistic variation in Spanish-speaking communities.
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- Unit 5: Inferential communication; implicit meaning; relevance theory.

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Unit 6: Pragmatics in teaching and learning Spanish.  
Each unit will require about 12-15 hours to complete.

## Activities & assessments

**1. Participation** (30% of final grade). Participation in this course will be completed by engaging in the weekly discussion boards (*Foros de Conversación*), and in the two in-person virtual meetings during the first and final weeks of the semester.

Based on the weekly readings, videos, and assignments, you will participate in four discussion boards sharing your ideas on the content. The discussion board topic will include cases-studies, podcasts/ videos, 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 expected to complete a minimum of 3 posting for each week (original post + 2 responses or more, each post about 250 words). Postings will be evaluated for content understanding, reasoning, collaboration, and language conventions usage. See the *Discussion Board Rubric* in the 'Resources' folder for more details.

In addition, students are expected to participate in two virtual meetings (first and final week); the first meeting will focus on questions about course content and tasks; the second meeting will serve to informally present the lessons plans and discuss future plans to implement pragmatic teaching the Spanish classroom.

Please follow [Netiquette rules](#) to keep our conversation professional, engaging, and polite.

**2. Unit tasks** (40% of the final grade) You will be assigned diverse activities to better understand the concepts presented and discussed in each content unit; these activities include analyzing corpus data, critically revising interview segments, and seeking complementary resources or examples about a specific feature of Spanish pragmatics. Some of the activities will be based on the textbook. Activities will be evaluated based on completion, accuracy, and originality. For more details, see the 'Recursos' folder.

**3. Lesson planning** (30% of the final grade). You will plan and write three (3) week-long lesson plans to present and practice pragmatic content in a Spanish language course. You will need to revise the course material and supplementary readings related to the topics for each lesson (including but not limited to: Spanish deixis; discourse markers in Spanish and English; speech acts; politeness in the Spanish-speaking world; humor and irony interpretation; among other themes). The lesson plans will be informally presented during the last course meeting to receive feedback from peers. See detailed instructions, resources, and templates in the 'Recursos' folder.

## Grade distribution

Participation [discussion boards & virtual meetings]	30%
Unit tasks	40% (4 x10%)
Lesson planning	30% (3 x 10%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

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# COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

## Course Specific Procedures

### ***Participation***

- Participation and interaction are fundamental to succeed in this course. You are expected to actively engage with the course content, your instructor and your classmates while completing the weekly activities in order to achieve the learning outcomes of this course. Please be prepared to login in MyLeoOnline daily to complete the HW activities, check for updates, and communicate with your classmates.
- Student athletes, band members and members of other university sanctions should provide 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.

### ***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.

### ***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.

### ***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](mailto: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").

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## **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](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>

### ***Academic Integrity***

*Plagiarism* is borrowing 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. Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work.

### ***Students with Disabilities - ADA Statement***

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

Waters Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

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

### ***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,

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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.

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.

### ***Pandemic COVID-19 Response Statements***

A&M-Commerce recommends the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories. Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly to your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

# TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

This course schedule is subject to revisions and changes as the instructor deems necessary. Any changes to the course schedule will be announced in class and on the course website in advance.

\*PE= *Pragmática del español*

	Content & Activities	Readings & Assignments
Week I		
Monday July 11	Course presentation So... what is pragmatics?	Complete <b>Student Survey</b> in MyLeo by 11:50pm. Fill <b>Doodle Survey</b> for first meeting Revise <b>Intro unit</b> to become familiar with the course organization, processes, and schedule. Print and read the <b>syllabus</b> .
Tuesday July 12	Key concepts in Pragmatics Foundational concepts. Theoretical models.	Revise unit I content and read pgs.PE 4-20.
Wednesday July 13	Foundational concepts. Theoretical models. Deixis in Spanish	Revise unit I content and read Martí Sánchez 2011. Prepare weekly HW.
Thursday July 14	Deixis in Spanish	Revise unit II content and read pgs. PE 27-47. Prepare weekly HW. <b>Foro de conversación I</b> opens at 12:00am.
Friday July 15	Deixis in Spanish	Revise unit II content and read Benveniste 1972 Turn in <b>weekly HW</b> in MyLeoOnline by 11:50pm. Participate in <b>Foro de conversación I</b>
Week II		
Monday July 18	Deixis in Spanish	Revise unit III content and read PE pgs.53-60 <b>Foro de conversación I</b> closes at 11:50pm.
Tuesday July 19	Speech acts	Revise unit III content and read PE pgs.61-73
Wednesday July 20	Speech acts	Revise unit III content and read Bravo 2019. Prepare weekly HW.
Thursday July 21	Speech acts in Spanish	Revise unit III content and read Solís Castro 2005. Prepare weekly HW.

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		<b>Foro de conversación II</b> opens at 12:00am.
Friday July 22	Speech acts in Spanish	Revise unit IV content Turn in <b>weekly HW</b> in MyLeoOnline by 11:50pm
Week III		
Monday July 25	Politeness. Core concepts and models.	Revise unit IV content and read PE pgs. 151-165. <b>Foro de conversación II</b> closes at 11:50pm
Tuesday July 26	Politeness. Core concepts and models.	Revise unit IV content and read PE pgs. 166-174.
Wednesday July 27	Politeness. Core concepts and models.	Revise unit IV content and read PE pgs. 215-224. Prepare weekly HW.
Thursday July 28	Politeness in the Spanish-speaking world.	Revise unit IV content and read PE pgs. 225-241. Prepare weekly HW <b>Foro de conversación III</b> opens at 12:00am.
Friday July 29	Politeness in the Spanish-speaking world.	Revise unit IV content and read Landone 2009. Turn in <b>weekly HW</b> in MyLeoOnline by 11:50pm.
Week IV		
Monday August 1	Inferential meaning.	Revise unit V content and read PE 79-87. <b>Foro de conversación III</b> closes at 11:50pm. Fill <b>Doodle Survey</b> for final meeting.
Tuesday August 2	Inferential meaning.	Revise unit V content and read PE 88-97.
Wednesday August 3	Implicatures Relevance theory	Revise unit V content and read PE 98-103. Prepare weekly HW
Thursday August 4	Implicatures Relevance theory	Revise unit V content and read PE 104-112 Prepare weekly HW <b>Foro de conversación VI</b> opens at 12:00am.
Friday August 5	Pragmatics for teaching and learning Spanish	Revise unit VI content and read PE pgs. 251-262. Turn in <b>weekly HW</b> in MyLeoOnline by 11:50pm. Prepare lesson plans
Week V		

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Monday August 8	Pragmatics for teaching and learning Spanish	Revise unit VI content and read PE pgs. 264-267 <b>Foro de conversación III</b> closes at 11:50pm. Prepare lesson plans
Tuesday August 9	Pragmatics for teaching and learning Spanish	Revise unit VI content and read PE pgs. 271-276 Prepare lesson plans
Wednesday August 10	Pragmatics for teaching and learning Spanish	<b>Turn in <i>Lesson Plans</i></b> in MyLeoOnline, by 12:00pm (noon).
Thursday August 11	<i>Last day of classes</i>	<b>Final meeting: informal presentations [TBA]</b>

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

- LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

- LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

- YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

### ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

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](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**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.

### COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

#### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of D2L-Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

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## **Browser support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

## **Desktop Support**

<b>Browser</b>	<b>Supported Browser Version(s)</b>	<b>Maintenance Browser Version(s)</b>
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

## **Tablet and Mobile Support**

<b>Device</b>	<b>Operating System</b>	<b>Browser</b>	<b>Supported Browser Version(s)</b>
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.

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Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

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.
- Webcam and microphone

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.

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.