



SPA 512 – 22668

“Spanish Grammar for Teaching”

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Cristina González

Optional class meetings: Wednesdays, 5:30pm (online through MyLeoOnline)

Office Location: David Talbot Hall (DTH) 311

Office Hours: Thursdays 1:00pm-3:30 pm or virtually, by appointment.

Office Phone: 903 886-5271.

University Email Address: cristina.gonzalez@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. Moreno Fernandez, Penadez Martinez & Urena Tormo (2020). *Gramática fundamental del español*. London & New York: Routledge. ISBN 9781138359611
2. Instituto Cervantes *Plan Curricular del Instituto Cervantes*. [CVC. Plan Curricular del Instituto Cervantes](#).
3. Compilation of articles, available at MyLeoOnline

Course Description

This online graduate course presents an advanced review of key topics of Spanish grammar, with focus on Spanish morphology and syntax. Students will reflect on their own learning of complex grammatical areas and analyze and evaluate different methodological approaches for teaching of Spanish grammar in second and heritage language classrooms. In addition, students will advance their understanding of

Spanish grammatical features considering issues of language variation and change. The course will be conducted in Spanish with readings in English and Spanish.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

1. Accurately describe Spanish grammatical features from different varieties, demonstrating deep understanding of morphological and syntactical features.
2. Analyze and categorize Spanish grammar topics to design and implement meaningful learning sequences based on standardized language learning frameworks (ACTFL, MCER).
3. Critically evaluate current pedagogical approaches to grammar teaching to select best approaches for particular classroom contexts.
4. Design and create an instructional video on a grammar topic of interest, implementing current pedagogical models explored in the course.

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" (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.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Presentation

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, multimedia materials, discussion threads, and video conferencing tools. The virtual meetings on Thursday will serve as a space to discuss core issues on the readings, revise activities and design materials.

Overall, the course is organized in two large sections: during the first part of the semester we will revise and analyze core grammatical topics from a functional and cognitive perspectives; the second part of the semester will focus on pedagogical approaches to grammar teaching, considering current perspectives that align with considerations on language variation and post-methods approaches to Spanish teaching.

Minimal Technical Skills

Students in this course are expected to be able to: a) manage TAMUC Library resources for advance academic research; b) competently use MSFT Office tools (Word, Excel, PPoint); c) access, navigate and use the diverse tools included in the course MyLeoOnline (D2L).

Student Responsibilities

Students' participation is essential and required to succeed in this course. Students are expected to: 1) actively engage in all activities, 2) read and prepare assigned materials by the due dates, 3) complete and submit assignments, and 4) interact with each other and the instructor on a regular basis.

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.

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 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 the short exams, article presentation and activities 72 hours after the assignment due date (see the 'Tentative Course Schedule' for details). Participation in the online meetings and discussion boards will be assessed through a comprehensive rubric (see the "Recursos" folder for details) twice times during the semester.

GRADING

Assignment and assessments

- **Content exams:** (30% of the final grade). Students will complete five short online exams on required readings and content presented in class. The exams will include theory and practice regarding the grammar topics and pedagogical implementations in the teaching of Spanish class.
- **Activities:** (20% of the final grade). Through the semester, students will work with different activities based on different Spanish varieties; the activities include sample analysis, corpus analysis, pedagogical materials critique and grammar teaching implementations. See more details in the "Recursos" folder in MyLeo Online.
- **Conversations online:** (20 % of final grade) Interaction and discussion of topics will be conducted by participating in the discussion forums. The forums will include original examples, cases, or set of

questions related to the readings and complementary materials. Students will participate by posting their answers with critical interpretations, offering counterexamples or discussing particular cases. Students are expected to complete a minimum of 3 postings per forum (initial response + interaction with classmates; about 300-350 words each, in academic Spanish). Postings will be evaluated for content understanding, reasoning, interaction with peers, and language conventions usage. Please see *Online Discussion Rubric* in the 'Recursos' folder for details.

- **Instructional grammar video:** (30% of the final grade). The main goals of this final project are manyfold: 1. conduct scholarship research on an area of Spanish grammar pedagogy; 2. increase digital literacy; 3. perform critical analysis and evaluation of instructional materials; and 4. support Spanish language learning beyond the classroom. Each student will select a specific Spanish grammar topic which they are interested in, seeking to design, implement and record an instructional video on that topic. Students will research current perspectives on the content and its possible pedagogical implementations to create the basic outline (research summary). Then, they will revise and evaluate common instructional videos about the topic found online, which will serve as models to create their own video. Finally, students will record their grammar presentation using one of the suggested tools, following a clear script. The video will be later improved via peers' feedback. See more details in the "Recursos" folder in MyLeo Online.

Grade distribution

Exams =	30% (5 x 6%)
Activities =	24% (6 x 4%)
Conversations online =	16%
Grammar Video =	30% (10% research summary and video evaluation; 20% video)
Total=	100%

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

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures

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). 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 Department 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").

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/generallInformation/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. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

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

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
 Gee Library- Room 162
 Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
 Fax (903) 468-8148
 Email: 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, 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.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week	Activities	Readings & Assignments
1/13	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	
Week I 1/13-1/19	Introducción al curso. Conceptos centrales: gramática/s; gramaticalidad; gramática y comunicación	Revisar y familiarizarse con el uso del sistema D2L_ MyLeoOnline. Escribir una presentación personal en el Foro General para compartirla con la clase Completer el pre-test

		Revisar la presentación inicial 'Pensar en gramática/s'
Week 2 1/19-1/26	Formación de palabras y análisis morfológico; clases de morfemas.	Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Participar en el Foro I
Week 3 1/26-2/2	El sintagma nominal. El sustantivo	Revisar la presentación sobre el sustantivo Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Entregar actividad I
Week 4 2/2-2/9	El sintagma nominal. Los determinantes. El adjetivo	Revisar la presentación sobre los determinantes Leer Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Test 1
Week 5 2/9-2/16	El paradigma verbal: el verbo; formas no personales; aspecto y modo.	Revisar la presentación sobre el sistema verbal Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Participar en el Foro II
Week 6 2/16-2/23	El paradigma verbal: modo; tiempo	Revisar la presentación sobre sobre el sistema verbal Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Entregar actividad II
Week 7 2/23-3/2	El paradigma verbal: clases; perífrasis. Repaso general	Revisar la presentación sobre sobre el sistema verbal Leer <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Test 2
Week 8 3/2-3/9		Revisar la presentación sobre el sistema pronominal Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Participar en el Foro VI
Week 9 3/10-3/14	<i>Spring Break</i>	
Week 10 3/2-3/16	El sistema pronominal; el pronombre 'se' y sus funciones.	Revisar la presentación sobre el sistema pronominal Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Entregar actividad III
Week 11 3/16-3/23	Preposiciones. Adverbios Enunciado y oración	Revisar la presentación sobre la oración y las funciones sintácticas Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline

		Test 3 Entregar el resumen de investigación y reporte analítico
Week 12 3/23-3/30	Enunciado y oración. La oración simple Las funciones sintácticas.	Revisar la presentación sobre la oración y las funciones sintácticas Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Entregar actividad IV
Week 13 3/30-4/6	Enseñanza de la gramática; conocimiento gramatical; reflexión metalingüística y metalenguaje	Revisar la presentación sobre sobre pedagogía gramatical Leer <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Participar en el Foro V Test 4
Week 14 4/6-4/13	Enfoques pedagógicos; atención a la forma; funcionalismo; cognitivismo	Revisar la presentación sobre técnicas pedagógicas Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Entregar actividad V
Week 15 4/13-4/27	Enseñanza de la gramática: actividades y ejercicios gramaticales	Revisar la presentación sobre técnicas pedagógicas Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Participar en el Foro VI
Week 16 4/27/1-5/2	Enseñanza de la gramática: actividades y ejercicios gramaticales	Revisar la presentación sobre técnicas pedagógicas Leer: <i>TBA</i> Completar las preguntas y ejercicios en MyLeoOnline Entregar actividad VI
Finals Week 5/8-5/13	Test 5 [Due on Friday, May 12 by 11:50pm.] Entrega de video instruccional [Due on Wednesday, May 10 by 11:50pm.]	

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

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.

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

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of 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>