

*The University of Western Ontario*  
**Department of Modern Languages and Literatures**  
**SPANISH - SP 2214G**  
**“Comparative Grammar of English and Spanish”**  
Course Description



Instructor: J. Bruhn de Garavito UC 154

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Winter Term, M 2:30-4:30; W 2:30-3:30, UC204

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 2200 or 2200W/X, or 223 or 3301

**Antirequisite:** None

**Constraints:** Oral and written comprehension and production in Spanish

**Course Content and Aims:**

We all know that learning a second language is difficult, and this is often due to differences, both big and small, between languages. What kind of differences do we find when we compare English and Spanish? That is the main question we will try to answer in this course. We will examine the sounds of the two languages, the way words are formed, and the way we create sentences. **Classes are conducted in Spanish.**

There is no textbook. The course is based on class notes and PowerPoints.

**Learning outcomes:**

At the end of the course the student should recognize differences and similarities between English and Spanish regarding:

- The vowel system
- The consonant system
- Word constructions: morphology
- The expression of tense and aspect
- Subordinate clauses
- Subject and object pronouns
- Negation
- Question formation
- Word order

### **Marks Breakdown:**

Assignments, readings, preparation, participation	20
4 problem sets	20
Mid term exam	30
Final exam	30

### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offense Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). The University of Western Ontario uses plagiarism checking software. Student may be required to submit their written work in electronic form for plagiarism checking.

### **Required work**

*Participation.* Students should come to class prepared to discuss the issues. Assignments should be completed on time, as they will often lead to class discussions.

*Assignments:* Students will be asked to think and write about certain aspects of the languages we are studying. These will be mini-problem sets.

*Problem sets:* Students will analyze linguistic data with a view to explaining it.

*Exams.* Will cover material from the class discussions, the problem sets and the PowerPoints used in class.

Because attendance is so important, **any student who, in the opinion of the course coordinator, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course (see UWO Academic Calendar).**

- **Absenteeism:** Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.
- UWO's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness: (<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>)
- Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading

## References

### PLAN DE CURSO\*

#### Enero

LUNES/MARTES	MIERCOLES/JUEVES
<b>4 Introducción al curso.</b> El plural: la fonología, la morfología y la sintaxis	<b>6</b> El plural: inglés, español, y otras lenguas
<b>11 Fonología:</b> Las vocales y las consonantes. La ortografía.	<b>13 Fonología:</b> Las vocales y las consonantes.
<b>18 Fonología:</b> la sílaba	<b>20 Morfología:</b> El género <i>Entrega de Problemas 1</i>
<b>25 Morfología:</b> formación de palabras	<b>27 Morfología:</b> los verbos

#### Febrero

LUNES/MARTES	MIERCOLES/JUEVES
<b>1 Morfología y sintaxis:</b> los pronombres de sujeto	<b>3 Morfología y sintaxis:</b> los pronombres de objeto <i>Entrega de Problemas 2</i>
<b>8 Examen 1</b>	<b>10 Morfología y sintaxis:</b> El tiempo y el aspecto
<b>15 Libre</b>	<b>17 Libre</b>
<b>22 Morfología y sintaxis:</b> El tiempo y el aspecto	<b>24 Morfología y sintaxis:</b> El tiempo y el aspecto

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\* Este plan de curso puede cambiar.

### Marzo

LUNES/MARTES	MIERCOLES/JUEVES
<b>1 Morfología y sintaxis:</b> El tiempo y el aspecto	<b>3 Sintaxis:</b> La interrogación y la negación
<b>8 Sintaxis:</b> La interrogación y la negación	<b>10 Sintaxis:</b> el orden de palabras <i>Entrega de problemas 3</i>
<b>15 Sintaxis:</b> El orden de palabras	<b>17 Morfología/semántica:</b> Las frases subordinadas
<b>22 Morfología/semántica:</b> Las frases subordinadas	<b>24 Morfología/semántica:</b> Usos de <i>se</i>
<b>29 Morfología/léxico:</b> Usos de <i>se</i> <i>Entrega de problemas 4</i>	

### Abril

LUNES/MARTES	MIERCOLES/JUEVES
	<b>31 Morfología/léxico:</b> Verbos preposicionales
<b>5</b> Repaso para el examen final	<b>7</b> Repaso para el examen final