Course Information

Lecture: Tuesdays (1.30-3.30 pm), Thursdays (2.30-3.30 pm) in UC

Contact Information

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Office: UC 2313
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Course Description

REQUISITES: Pre-or Corequisite(s): Spanish 2200 or Spanish 2200W/X or permission of the Department.

The course provides an introductory comparative analysis between English and Spanish languages. During the semester, students will discover main differences between the two languages, by covering topics, such as gender and number, tense and mood distinction (e.g., preterit vs. imperfect, indicative vs. subjunctive), word order in different sentence types. The classes will be held in Spanish.
**Course Goals and Objectives**

This course aims to achieve the following:

- Develop linguistic awareness by comparing two languages.
- Compare English and Spanish linguistic features in order to deepen student’s understanding of the structure of Spanish.
- Improve the student’s Spanish knowledge by using English as a point of comparison.
- Learn basic theoretical linguistic concepts.
- Develop basic translation skills.

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Identify the most common mistakes in the interlanguage of a learner of Spanish.
- Memorize the basic linguistic concepts in Spanish.
- Understand why some grammar topics of Spanish are more difficult than others for a speaker whose first language is English.
- Improve student’s Spanish skills by reflecting on the grammar of the two languages.

**Course Material**


**Course Evaluation**

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Final exam</td>
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<td>Seminar leadership</td>
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<td>Written handout</td>
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<td>Seminar leadership</td>
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<td>Reflection Paper</td>
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<td>Participation</td>
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Seminar Leadership (20%)
The weekly seminars will take place during our Thursday meetings and will address the topic introduced on Tuesday during the lecture. For the seminars, the class will be broken up into small groups of no more than 5 students and each week a different member of your small group will be responsible for leading your small group’s seminar (15 min x 3 times).

For your seminar, you will prepare a handout for each of your group mates. You must also provide a printed copy of your handout to me before the start of your seminar. You will have approximately 15 minutes for your seminar, in which time you will undertake the following tasks:

1) Review and summarize the major concepts discussed during the lecture on Tuesday with your group members
2) Be responsible to answer any questions that your group members might have
3) Lead your group through 2-3 short exercises based on your assigned topic. You might decide to have your group mates work in pairs and then share their work with your full small-group.

Seminar Reflection Paper (15%)
You are required to submit electronically (upload onto OWL) a 1.5-2 page (double-spaced, 12 point font, 1 inch margins) written reflection paper in which you critically examine your seminar preparation and leadership in Spanish. Your reflection paper will be due the following Tuesday after you have conducted your seminar. Your seminar reflection paper must include a copy of your seminar handout and your -page critical analysis focusing on:

1) the effectiveness of what you prepared for your seminar (if you were to do your seminar again, what would you change and why, and what would you keep the same and why);
2) an overview of the ideas generated by your group mates in response to what you prepared (did any key terms generate any important comments, and what ideas did your group mates come up with in response to your discussion questions and activity);
3) MOST importantly, an analysis of any changes in your ideas and understanding of the topic as a result of the group discussion.

Midterm (20%)
The midterm will be INSERT DATE and will be 50 min long. The midterm will take place during regular class time. It will include the material up until INSERT DATE. The format for the midterm is the following: fill in the blanks, short answer, and multiple-choice.
Final exam (30%)
A two-hour exam will take place during the exam period. The exam will be cumulative but most of the exam questions will be from the material discussed after the midterm. The format will be similar to the midterm.

Participation (15%)
You are expected to attend all the classes and participate actively during the discussion period. This will also include coming prepared to class with completed homework! Inconsistent attendance (including frequent absences and late arrivals) will negatively impact your level of participation and will significantly affect your final Participation grade. Attendance without active participation will lead to a poor final participation grade.