



CIEE Seville, Spain

Course name:	Introduction to Spanish Linguistics
Course number:	SPAN 3101 CSCS
Programs offering course:	Liberal Arts, Advanced Liberal Arts, Business and Society and Communications, New Media and Journalism – Spanish Programs
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. semester credits:	3 credits
Contact hours:	45 hours
Term:	Spring 2020

Course Description

This course is specially designed for students who do not have previous training in the field of linguistics. Taking the Spanish language as a point of reference, it aims to answer the following questions: What is a language and how does it work? How is human language different from other communication systems? How are languages structured? How are languages similar to each other? This course also explores the history of the Spanish language and its dialectal variation as well as topics related to sociolinguistics such as language contact and bilingualism.

Learning Objectives

The objectives of the course are the following:

1. Familiarization with the objectives and methodology of the language sciences.
2. Introduction to the concepts, terminology and basic linguistic procedures applied to the study of the Spanish language.
3. Description and analysis of the main aspects of the structure of Spanish: combination of sounds, word formation, sentence creation, etc.
4. Analysis of the history of the Spanish language.
5. Identification and comparison of dialectal and social varieties of Spanish.
6. Study of phenomena resulting from the contact of Spanish with other languages.

Course Prerequisites

To make the most of the course, it is essential for students to have a medium-high level of Spanish that allows the student to understand, without difficulty, the required readings as well as those derived from the process of searching for material for the final class paper. Likewise, it is essential that the student be able to participate in class discussions as well as write both classwork and other major assignments coherently.

Methods of Instruction

The didactic approach will be based on in-class discussion of the course contents. Thus, students are expected to participate actively in and out of class. Students must complete the readings and the associated exercises before attending class. Special emphasis will always be placed on the practical application of the concepts analyzed.

Assessment and Final Grade



CIEE classes are not graded on a curve nor is there extra credit work. The final grade will be based upon the following criteria:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| ● Midterm Exam | 20% |
| ● Final Exam | 25% |
| ● Final Paper | 25% |
| ● Oral Presentations (3) | 10% |
| ● Written Papers (4) | 10% |
| ● Participation | 10% |

Course Requirements

EXAMS

Students will take a midterm and a final exam. Both will be practical exams in which students will have to use their theoretical and practical knowledge in class to perform exercises similar to those that are done throughout the course. The exams are designed in such a way that, on the one hand, they will serve to consolidate the knowledge acquired in the subject and, on the other, they will allow the students to be aware of what they need to accomplish in order to achieve the established objectives.

CLASSWORK, WRITTEN PAPERS, FINAL PROJECT AND ORAL

PRESENTATIONS

Students will perform tasks for each class day consisting of (i) **analyzing readings** on the topics to be addressed and (ii) **performing practical application exercises** of the concepts analyzed previously. These tasks will be corrected in the class itself and will count towards the participation grade.

Furthermore, throughout the semester, students must submit **4 short written assignments**, two before the midterm and two before the final exam. One of the two assignments before each exam will be used to prepare a brief oral presentation.

Also, students must submit a final written paper in which they demonstrate their ability to analyze any of the linguistic phenomena studied in class. It is expected that the student reviews the recommended bibliography of the course to select a topic of interest. Students can also check the bibliography of the class textbook. This paper will be due the same day as the final exam. Each student will briefly present their final paper to the class.

ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM

Students will complete two compulsory activities outside the classroom. The first is a visit to the Phonetics Laboratory of the University of Seville, where they will participate in a workshop on the acoustic analysis of the spoken chain and its application to language learning (both at the teaching level and at the level of individual improvement). The second activity will consist in the compilation of data on the characteristics of the Andalusian dialect in the Sevillian university population. The results will be delivered in writing and presented in class orally. As optional activities, students will be invited to attend the numerous conferences and workshops that take place throughout the semester at the Faculty of Philology of the University of Seville.



GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Despite the eminently practical nature of the subject, it is imperative that students demonstrate in all activities (written or oral) that they are able to use the appropriate terminology correctly. This includes spelling.

Exams: Give that linguistics is a science, the correct application of the concepts learned and practiced in class will be evaluated.

Written tasks: The correction in the application of the theoretical concepts and, where appropriate, the structuring of the information and the use of the appropriate bibliography will be assessed. Written assignments submitted after the deadline will receive a failing grade. Spelling mistakes or grammatical errors will be scored negatively.

Final Work: The ability to detect interesting phenomena related to Spanish will be evaluated. Likewise, aspects such as the structuring of the information, the complete analysis of the data and the appropriate use of supporting bibliography will be taken into account. The existence of spelling mistakes or grammatical errors will be scored negatively.

Oral presentations: Due to their brevity, the student's ability to provide the necessary information in the allotted time will be evaluated. Likewise, the use of the concepts analyzed in class will be assessed. The use of audiovisual content will be assessed based on its contribution to understanding the content of the presentation. The existence of spelling mistakes or grammatical errors will be scored negatively. Students should not read from a text during the presentation.

Participation: Attendance, completion of the readings as well as the practical exercises assigned for each day of class and, especially, the active participation during all the activities that take place in class will be taken into account.

Attendance policy

Students are not allowed to miss class. For each absence, the participation portion of the grade will be lowered. Hence, it will be very difficult to receive a 100 in the class. Please keep this in mind.

If a student misses class twice without a valid excuse (a *note from a physician in the event of an illness*), then the professor will automatically lower the final grade by 5 points (on a 100-point scale) for each class missed thereafter. Students with 6 or more absences will fail the course.

Students should arrive to class on-time. Arriving late for a class will count as an absence.

*Notes from a physician will only be valid and admitted by the Resident Director if the doctor confirms that the visit could not have been arranged at another time, or that the student was too ill to attend class that day.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to act in accordance with their university and CIEE's standards of conduct concerning plagiarism and academic honesty. Use of online translators for work in Spanish will result in an automatic failure.



Linguistic Resource Center

Students can go to the Language Resource Center for help with the writing of class activities and final work.

Weekly Calendar

Week 1

Topic 1. Linguistics: The science of language.

Reading of the chapter 1 of Pinker (2005)

Presentation of the course and the tasks required throughout the course.

Week 2

Topic 1. The nature of human language: competence and performance.

Reading of chapter 1 of Hualde, Olarrea and Escobar (2009)

Week 3

Topic 2. Spanish phonetics and phonology

Difference between phonetics and phonology: Phoneme and allophone

The classification of sounds in Spanish

Reading of chapter 2 of Hualde, Olarrea and Escobar (2009)

Task 1 DUE

Oral presentations 1

Week 4

-Topic 2. Practical phonetics and phonology exercises

Oral presentations 1

Week 5

- Topic 3. Spanish lexicology: The concept of the word

Derivational morphology and inflectional morphology

Derivation and composition in Spanish: lexemes, suffixes and prefixes

Reading of chapter 3 of Hualde, Olarrea and Escobar (2009)

Task 2 DUE

Week 6

- Topic 3. Practical Word Creation Exercises

Out of class activity 1

Midterm exam

Week 7

- Topic 4. The structure of the sentence: syntax

Grammatical categories.

Constituents and Phrases

Reading of chapter 4 of Hualde, Olarrea and Escobar (2009)

Week 8



- Topic 4. Types of verbs and sentences
Practical exercises of syntactic analysis
Continuation of the reading of chapter 4 of Hualde, Olarrea and Escobar. 2009
Task 3 DUE

Week 9

- Topic 5. Spanish semantics: meaning
Semantic relationships
Practical exercises
Reading of chapter 5 of Hualde, Olarrea and Escobar (2009) (chapter 6 in the second edition of 2010)

Week 10

- Topic 6. Varieties of Spanish
Out of class activity 2: Compilation of data on the Andalusian of Sevillian university students
Reading of the corresponding sections in Hualde, Olarrea and Escobar (2009).
Task 4 DUE
Oral presentations 2

Week 11

Oral presentations (final work)

Week 12

General review
Oral presentations (final work)

Final Paper DUE

Final exam

Important note: the course calendar can be modified depending on factors such as interests, pace or the number of students in each group.

Course Materials

Required Reading

- Hualde, José Ignacio, Antxon Olarrea y Anna María Escobar. 2001. *Introducción a la lingüística hispánica*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Pinker, S. 1995. *El instinto del lenguaje*. Madrid: Alianza

Recommended Reading

- Alvar, M. 1996. *Manual de dialectología hispánica: El español de América*. Barcelona: Ariel.
- Alvar, M. 1996. *Manual de dialectología hispánica: El español de España*. Barcelona: Ariel.
- Bernárdez, E. 1999. *¿Qué son las lenguas?* Madrid: Alianza ensayo.
- Escandell, Victoria y otros. 2014. *Claves del Lenguaje Humano*. Madrid: Editorial Universitaria



- Ramón Areces.
- García Mouton, P. 2002. *Lenguas y dialectos de España*. Cuadernos de Lengua Española. Madrid: Arco Libros
 - Jiménez Fernández, R. 1999. *El andaluz*. Madrid: Arco/Libros.
 - Medina López, J. 2002. *Lenguas en contacto*. Cuadernos de Lengua Española. Madrid: Arco Libros
 - Moreno Fernández, F. 1998. *Principios de sociolingüística y sociología del lenguaje*. Barcelona: Ariel.
 - Penny, R. 2001. Gramática histórica del español. Colección Ariel Lingüística. Barcelona: Ariel.
 - Siguan, M. 2001. *Bilingüismo y lenguas en contacto*. Madrid: Alianza.
 - Vinagre Laranjeira, M. 2005. *El cambio de código en la conversación bilingüe: la alternancia de lenguas*. Cuadernos de Lengua Española. Madrid

Other reference materials

- Demonte, V. y Bosque, I. 1999. Gramática descriptiva de la Lengua Española. Madrid: Espasa Calpe.
- Diccionario Monolingüe de español (el de la Universidad de Salamanca, el de la Universidad de Alcalá, el DRAE o cualquier otro de utilidad para el alumno)