

**UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE**

SPN 367K

History of the Spanish Language

Instructor: Dr. Melissa D. Murphy

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Semester: Spring 2014

Unique number: 47597

****This course will be taught in Spanish****

I. PREREQUISITE: 345L (Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics)

II. REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Pharies, David A. 2007. *Breve historia de la lengua española*. U of Chicago Press.
- Additional readings and texts for analysis will be provided in class or on Canvas.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In what ways is the Spanish we speak today different than spoken Latin? And, perhaps more importantly, how can we account for these developments? This course provides an overview of the evolution of the Spanish language, focusing on the most significant phonetic/phonological, morphological, and syntactic changes that have occurred over the last two millennia. In addition to studying specific linguistic features as they relate to the Spanish language, in particular, students will also gain a broad knowledge of some of the most widespread diachronic processes, as well as several major theories of language change. Furthermore, since a main goal of this course is to elucidate the processes themselves, students will acquire a deeper insight into language change that will enable them to recognize and understand developments occurring in the Spanish language today.

IV. COURSE STRUCTURE:

The course is divided into three units. The first unit includes an introduction to historical linguistics, a brief external history of the Spanish language, and an overview of Classical and Vulgar Latin. The second includes detailed analyses of various phonetic and morpho-syntactic changes that have taken place from Latin to Modern Spanish. The third course unit focuses on several diachronic processes and theories of language change (*e.g.* reanalysis, grammaticalization, repair mechanisms, the synthetic/analytic “cycle”, typological drift), along with specific illustrative case studies.

Class sessions will include both lecture and discussion formats, as well as collaborative activities. In order to benefit from these sessions, all assigned work must be completed before coming to class, since at-home reading assignments and in-class discussion are meant to complement each other rather than repeat each other.

V. COURSE ASSESSMENTS:

1. **Exams:** There will be three exams in this course (one after each unit). They will include content from at-home readings as well as any additional material covered in class and/or as homework. These exams are, of necessity, cumulative, but will focus primarily on the material covered in the most recent course unit. Exam formats will be posted on Canvas one week before each exam.
2. **Homework & Quizzes:** You will have daily reading assignments, which must be completed before class. You will also have other assignments such as written activities and discussion questions to be turned in for a grade. Make sure to dedicate enough time outside of class in order to keep up with the course material and receive a high homework grade. There will be several announced and “pop” quizzes during the semester. These quizzes will help you evaluate your progress in order to better prepare for exams.
3. **Critical Summaries:** At least once per unit, you will be asked to write a critical summary of an at-home reading (e.g. article, book chapter). Your summary should be well organized, highlighting the main argument(s) presented in the text along with the most relevant supporting evidence, and should be approximately two pages in length (in Spanish, typed, double spaced). The rubric used to determine your grade on these summaries will be posted on Canvas.
4. **Participation:** Participation is a vital component of this course, as it not only serves as a review of assigned readings and activities, but also encourages critical dialogue, through which ideas are shared and perspectives are broadened. You are therefore expected to participate regularly in class discussions and will be graded based on the quantity and quality of your contributions (in Spanish). You will receive two participation grades: one mid-semester and one during the last week of classes. The rubric used to determine your participation grades will be posted on Canvas.
5. **Presentation:** In March, you will choose an academic article or book chapter related to the history of the Spanish language, which you will read and analyze over the following weeks. During the last few class sessions, you will present the material to the class, including a handout in outline/bullet form, containing the most essential points. Presentations will be done either individually or in pairs, depending on the number of students enrolled in the course. Your grade will be based on a combination of content, organization, preparedness/fluency, and the quality of your handout. The grading rubric will be posted on Canvas.

VI. GRADE DISTRIBUTION & GRADING SCALE:

Exams (3)	45%	Participation	10%
Critical summaries	15%	Presentation	15%
Quizzes & Homework	15%		

There is no curve or extra credit! The following scale will be used to determine your final grade in the course:

93-100 = A	83-86.99 = B	73-76.99 = C	63-66.99 = D
90-92.99 = A-	80-82.99 = B-	70-72.99 = C-	60-62.99 = D-
87-89.99 = B+	77-79.99 = C+	67-69.99 = D+	0-59.99 = F

VII. POLICIES:

1. **Canvas:** This course uses Canvas as its course management system. I will post grades, as well as all PowerPoint presentations, articles, handouts, and exam formats on Canvas (<http://canvas.utexas.edu/>).
2. **Attendance:** Due to the nature of this course, regular class attendance is required for successful completion. You are allowed 3 absences with no penalty. For each additional absence, 1 full percentage point will be deducted from your final semester average.
3. **Make-ups:** No make-ups will be allowed, except in case of an emergency or university-sponsored activity. Students should notify the instructor as soon as possible and must present documented evidence of the excuse in a timely manner.
4. **Plagiarism:** Submitting any assignment that is not your own original work may be considered plagiarism and will be dealt with according to University policy. For more information, visit Student Judicial Services (SJS) at <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/>.
5. **Technology:** Laptops may be used during class (for class-related work). Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off.
6. **Accommodations:** I will be available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations for students with a disability. Before course accommodations can be made, students will be required to provide documentation prepared by the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (SSD): <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssd>.
7. **Emergency Evacuation:** Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside. Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building. Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class. In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office. Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at <http://www.utexas.edu/emergency/>.

CALENDARIO DEL CURSO			
SEMANA	FECHA	TEMA(S)	LECTURA(S)
UNIDAD UNO			
1	14/1	Introducción al curso	Pharies Intro. (1-5)
	16/1	El cambio lingüístico	Pharies cap. 1 (7-19)
2	21/1	El cambio lingüístico	Aitchison caps. 10 & 11 (Canvas)
	23/1	La genealogía del español	Pharies cap. 2 (21-32)
3	28/1	La genealogía del español	Campbell cap. 5 (Canvas)
	30/1	Historia externa de la Península Ibérica hasta el siglo XIII	Pharies cap. 3 (33-52)
4	4/2	La lengua latina	Herman cap. 1 (Canvas) Pharies cap. 4 (53-59)
	6/2	La lengua latina	Pharies cap. 4 (59-69)
5	11/2	La lengua latina	Pharies cap. 4 (69-73)
	13/2	EXAMEN #1	
UNIDAD DOS			
6	18/2	Del latín al castellano medieval: Fonología	Pharies cap. 5 (77-85)
	20/2	Del latín al castellano medieval: Fonología	Pharies cap. 5 (85-95)
7	25/2	Del latín al castellano medieval: Fonología	Pharies cap. 5 (95-101)
	27/2	Del castellano medieval al español moderno: Fonología	Pharies cap. 7 (141-156)
8	4/3	Del latín al castellano medieval: Morfología	Pharies cap. 6 (104-120)
	6/3	Del latín al castellano medieval: Morfología	Pharies cap. 6 (120-128)
<i>Spring Break</i>			
9	18/2	Del latín al castellano medieval: Sintaxis	Pharies cap. 6 (128-140)
	20/2	Del castellano medieval al español moderno: Morfología y sintaxis	Pharies cap. 7 (156-166)
10	25/2	EXAMEN #2	

UNIDAD TRES			
10	27/2	La analogía; el reanálisis; la gramaticalización	Hopper & Traugott (Canvas)
11	1/4	El “ciclo” de síntesis / análisis; la armonía y el cambio (drift) tipológicos	Schwegler (Canvas)
	3/4	Estudio de caso #1: Los artículos (ILLE) & los adverbios (MENTE)	Read article for presentations
12	8/4	Estudio de caso #2: El futuro	Fleischmann (Canvas)
	10/4	Estudio de caso #3: Los tiempos compuestos (HABERE)	Klausenburger (Canvas)
13	15/4	Estudio de caso #4: El cambio en el orden de palabras	Continue working on presentations
	17/4	Estudio de caso #5: La distribución de modos	Harris (Canvas)
14	22/4	Dialectología española	Pharies cap. 9 (189-210)
	24/4	Presentaciones	
15	29/4	Presentaciones	
	1/5	EXAMEN #3	