

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

**2019-2020 SPAN 373 B1: Spanish as a World Language**  
(Winter Term)

Instructor: Dr. Yvonne Lam  
Office: Arts 218-E  
Telephone: [none] Fax: 780-492-9106  
E-mail: yvonne.lam@ualberta.ca

Time: TR 2:00-3:20pm  
Place: HC 2-37  
Office Hours: TR 11:00-12:00  
or by appointment

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:  
<https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students>

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**Course Prerequisite:** SPAN 300 or SPAN 306 or consent of department  
It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

**Course-based Ethics Approval** in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes       No, not needed

**Community Service Learning Component:**

Required     Optional     None

**Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available:**

- Exam registry – Students' Union  
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (please specify)
- NA

**Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:**

This course examines the social history of the Spanish language and how a variant of Latin spoken in the north of the Iberian Peninsula became one of the most widely-spoken languages in the world. We will identify the main historical figures and events that contributed to the diffusion of the Spanish language. We will also look at how Spanish has influenced—and been influenced by—the other languages it has come into contact with.

At the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

- explain the origins of the Spanish language
- discuss how Spanish became a language spoken in five continents
- identify historical events and figures that played a key role in shaping the fate of the Spanish language
- analyze the impact that Spanish has had on other languages
- hypothesize about the future role of Spanish as a world language

### Course Format:

The objectives of the course will be met through class discussions, assigned readings, group activities, quizzes and exams, oral presentations, and written assignments.

### Texts (Required):

Moreno Fernández, Francisco (2015). *La maravillosa historia del español*. Spain: Booket.  
Available at the University bookstore; a copy is also on reserve at Rutherford Library.

### Additional Course Fees:

Yes       No

### Important Dates: [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

First Day of Class: January 6, 2020

Add/Delete Date: January 17, 2020

50% Withdrawal Date: February 5, 2020

Winter Term Reading Week: February 18-21, 2020

Withdrawal Date: April 1, 2020

Last Day of Class: April 8, 2020

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable): Please consult the following site:

<https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations> (Exams)

Deferred Final Examination: For information on how to apply for a deferred exam see [“I Missed my Final Exam, Now What?”](#)

### Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Component	Value	Due dates
Quizzes	15% (3 x 5% each)	to be announced
Biographical sketch	20% (10% oral + 10% written)	Feb 13
Oral presentation	10%	Mar 17
Written paper	15%	Apr 7
Take-home final exam	30%	Apr 22
Class participation	10%	ongoing

### **Explanatory Notes on Assignments:**

Further details will be given in class.

Quizzes: The purpose of the quizzes is to check understanding of the readings and the class discussions. Students will be allowed to consult the textbook and their notes, but the quizzes will have a time limit.

Biographical sketch: Students will prepare a biographical sketch of a historical figure who played a key role in shaping the fate of the Spanish language. Students will present a short version of the sketch orally to the class as well as hand in a written paper.

Oral presentation and written paper: We will hold a mock meeting of the *Hispanofonía*. In groups, students will represent a country/region/community where Spanish is spoken and give a short presentation on the current sociolinguistic situation. Following the meeting, students will individually prepare a written report on the country/region/community they represented and suggest possible future steps, based on what other delegates presented.

Take-home final exam: The final exam will be of the take-home type. The questions will be posted on eClass on April 7 at 2pm (the last day of class), and the answers must be submitted via eClass no later than April 22 at 12pm (the end of the regularly scheduled final exam time for this course).

Class participation: Participation is crucial for the success of the class. Students are expected to speak in Spanish as much as possible. Participation includes attending all classes, completing the assigned readings, collaborating on note-taking, and engaging actively in class activities. Students are allowed **one unexcused** absence; each additional unexcused absence will result in the deduction of 1 of the 10 points assigned to participation. Students are also expected to contribute to note-taking in at least **one** class (see eClass for sign-up); if a student does not contribute, 1 point of the 10 assigned to participation will be deducted.

### **Required Notes:**

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.

### **Student Responsibilities:**

#### ***Academic Integrity:***

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can

result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that the use of on-line translation to complete assignments constitutes a form of cheating as the student's own understanding and work is therefore not reflected. Also, students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, excessive editorial and creative help in assignments is considered a form of cheating that violates the Code of Student Behaviour.

***Learning and Working Environment:***

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

***Sexual Violence Policy:***

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

***Territorial Statement:***

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

***Recording of Lectures:***

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

***Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:***

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

**In this course**, attendance in every class is expected and will be taken into consideration as part of the participation grade. Excused absences (examples can be found [here](#)) are not automatic and are at the discretion of the instructor. Students are allowed **one** unexcused absence; each additional unexcused absence will result in the deduction of 1 point from the 10 points assigned to participation. If students miss a class, regardless of the reason, it is their responsibility to find out what was discussed and to ensure that they are caught up. If students miss a due date, they are responsible for contacting the instructor to discuss their options. Students may be asked to provide additional documentation and/or fill out a Faculty form. Assignments that are missed because of an unexcusable absence will automatically be assigned a grade of zero.

***Policy for Late Assignments:***

All assignments, including those submitted on eClass, are due at the **beginning** of the scheduled class time unless otherwise indicated. Students who consult **in advance** with the instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be given an alternate due date. In cases of medical or other emergency, the student is responsible for notifying the instructor by email within two days. The instructor has the final decision on whether to allow an alternate due date, deduct up to 5% per day of lateness, or refuse to accept the assignment in the case of unexcusable reasons. There will be no “extra” assignments for “extra” marks.

***Disclaimer:***

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

**Student Resources:**

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

***Accessibility Resources*** (1-80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

***The Academic Success Centre*** (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

***The Centre for Writers*** (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

***Health and Wellness Support***

There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

***Office of the Student Ombuds***

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

**Grading:**

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

**MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale**

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
<b>Excellent.</b> A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	<b>A+</b>	4.0	<b>97-100</b>
	<b>A</b>	4.0	<b>93-96</b>
	<b>A-</b>	3.7	<b>90-92</b>

<b>Good.</b> B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	<b>B+</b>	3.3	<b>87-89</b>
	<b>B</b>	3.0	<b>83-86</b>
	<b>B-</b>	2.7	<b>80-82</b>
<b>Satisfactory.</b> C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	<b>C+</b>	2.3	<b>77-79</b>
	<b>C</b>	2.0	<b>73-76</b>
	<b>C-</b>	1.7	<b>70-72</b>
<b>Poor/Minimal Pass.</b> D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	<b>D+</b>	1.3	<b>65-69</b>
	<b>D</b>	1.0	<b>60-64</b>
<b>Failure.</b>	<b>F</b>	0.0	<b>0-59</b>

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