

(SPAN 220) ADVANCED SPANISH A
PROGRAM OF ARGENTINE AND LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
UNIVERSIDAD DE BELGRANO

Course Syllabus

Course Information

Contact Hours: 60

Semester

Course Description

The aim of the course is for students to achieve a general mastery of the Spanish linguistic system in a diversity of communicative contexts that allows them to function successfully in their academic and social lives.

Course Requirements

Students must meet the requirement of 75% attendance to class in order to avoid losing regularity. The attendance control system is electronic. The professor also keeps internal control of attendance, since it is part of the course grade (see Grading Policy). Lack of punctuality (arriving more than ten minutes late or leaving class early) will be considered half-absences. In case of not attending class, it is the students' responsibility to contact their classmates or their professor to find out and complete the assigned tasks for the next class.

Students are expected to actively participate in class and make an oral presentation that must be accompanied by a written text (the topic and date will be agreed with the professor during the course). During the semester, students will have homework and papers assigned for each class, which will be evaluated as detailed below. It is at the professor's discretion to accept late work (having missed the previous class does not justify not completing the assigned task).

Grading Policy

Attendance and class participation	15 %
Written assignments	15 %
Oral presentation	10 %
Written Mid - Term exam	20 %
Final oral and written exam	40 %

Academic Calendar

- Week 1** Presentation of the course. Characteristics of the Spanish of Rio de la Plata.
- Week 2** Review 1: contrast between past tenses of the Indicative mood (Simple Past, Imperfect Past and Perfect Past).
Journalistic text: foreigners in Buenos Aires. Telling anecdotes and life stories.
Imperfect Conditional with temporal value.
- Week 3** Review 2: Logical and temporal connectors. Review 3: Reflexive and object pronouns. Oral practice: Secrets and confessions.
- Week 4** Humorous text: Argentines at the wheel. Errors in job interviews. Affirmative and negative imperative.
Email messages. Recommendations. Present Subjunctive with expressions of influence.
- Week 5** Greeting cards. Present subjunctive with expressions of desire.
Journalistic text: What most angers Argentines. Present subjunctive with expressions of emotion, valuation and preferences. Behind the news: Headlines and leads. Perfect past of subjunctive. Review and uses of prepositions.
- Week 6** Formal letters. Expressions of purpose.
Recreational activity: The celebrities opine.
- Week 7** Journalistic text: Dangerous breeds of dogs. Expressions of opinion, doubt and possibility.
Note of opinion: The new types of families. Group discussion based on surveys.
- Week 8** Express hypotheses about the present, the past and the future.
Questions about the mid-term exam.
Mid-Term written exam.
- Week 9** Journalistic text: Study or work? Temporal adverbial phrases with Indicative and Subjunctive.
Literary text: "*La nube y la duna*" (*the cloud and the dune*). Bribe and blackmail.
Real conditional phrase in the present/future. Conditional conjunctions.
Oral presentation.
- Week 10** Recreational activity: Obvious questions, wise answers.
Personality Test. Phrases of unreal condition in the present/future.
Imperfect past of the subjunctive.

- Week 11** Journalistic text: "freeganos." Chain of imaginary conditions and consequences.
- Week 12** Recreational activity: a different world. Phrases of unreal condition in the past. Past pluperfect of the subjunctive. Reproaches and regrets. Group debates on controversial cases.
- Week 13** Interviews and anecdotes. Temporal correlations with subordinate verbs in the Subjunctive mood.
- Week 14** Equivalences between the Indicative and Subjunctive modes. Review and questions for the final exam. Practice for the oral exam.
- Week 15** **Written final exam.**
Oral final exam. Review of written exams and delivery of final grades. Signing of minutes and status sheet (mandatory attendance).

Required Textbooks and Materials

Destefanis, María Eugenia y María de las Mercedes Sanrame; *En camino. Nivel AvanzadoA*, Editorial de Belgrano, Buenos Aires, 2015.

Suggested Course Materials

AA.VV.; *Gramática básica del estudiante de español*, Barcelona, Difusión, 2005. Diarios (Clarín, La Nación, Página/12)

Diccionario monolingüe de español.

Gómez Torrego, Leonardo, *Gramática didáctica del español*, Madrid, Ediciones SM, 2002.

Lieberman, Dorotea Inés; *Temas de gramática del español como lengua extranjera*, Buenos Aires, Eudeba, 2007.

Matte Bon, *Gramática comunicativa del español*, Madrid, Edelsa, 1995.

Suggested web sites

- Real Academia Española <http://www.rae.es/>

The site includes three monolingual dictionaries for free consultation: Dictionary of the Spanish Language, Pan-Hispanic Dictionary of Doubts and Essential Dictionary.

- WordReference <http://www.wordreference.com/>

Monolingual and bilingual dictionaries with usage examples and pronunciation models. Linguistic consultation forums for native speakers of different languages. Free application available for IOS and Android.

- Linguee <http://www.linguee.com/>

Bilingual dictionaries and translation search engine. Includes corpus of translations of authentic texts (not automatically generated), to search for words and phrases in context.