

**Tennessee Tech University**  
**Department of Foreign Languages**  
**Spring 2020 (TR)**  
**SPAN 4810 – Introduction to Spanish Translation**  
**SPAN 4810.001 (1/21/20-5/7/20) TR 12:00-1:20 p.m. OKLY 212 (3crs)**

### Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Mark Groundland  
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Office: 227 Oakley Hall  
Office Hours: MW 7:30-9:00 a.m., TR 1:30-2:30 p.m.

### Prerequisites

SPAN 3010 is the prerequisite for SPAN 4810.

### Required texts

- Washbourne, Kelly. *Manual of Spanish-English Translation*. Boston: Prentice-Hall, 2010.
- [Student Manual Webpage](#)
- Appropriate Spanish / English dictionary

### *Departmental Course Description*

SPAN 4810—Special Topics: Introduction to Spanish Translation. Prerequisite: SPAN 3010. In this course, students will learn the craft of translation from Spanish to English and English to Spanish. It will introduce students to different aspects related to the field of translation, giving them practical translation experience.

### Course components

#### Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will

1. acquire a basic knowledge of translation theory and terminology  
[Connections: Acquiring information and diverse perspectives]
2. learn that translation is a thoughtful process (a negotiation of meaning) meant to bring practical communication from one language into another  
[Cultural: Relating cultural products to perspectives]  
[Connections: Acquiring information and diverse perspectives]  
[Comparisons: Language comparisons / cultural comparisons]
3. use dictionaries as a tool for translation practice  
[Connections: Acquiring information and diverse perspectives]
4. improve their Spanish and English Language proficiency  
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Write, Listen)]  
[Communication: Presentational (Speak, Write, Listen)]
5. Develop research techniques necessary in translation  
[Connections: Acquiring information and diverse perspectives]

## **Course Requirements**

A serious commitment to the study of Spanish translation is expected from each student. Students must promptly complete assignments BEFORE class. Punctuality and speaking Spanish in class are expected and required.

This course is conducted in Spanish, unless when working with English translation.

## **Methodology and topics**

Students are required to read the assigned pages in the text. The professor will review relevant aspects of the reading and apply them in translation exercises. Hence class discussions, group work, in-class task-based translation are different pedagogical methods employed to optimize student learning.

The topics are found in the Schedule of Assignment section of this syllabus,

## **Evaluation**

The following grade criteria will be used to determine the final grades for this course:

A: 90-100      B: 80-89      C: 70-79      D: 60-69      F: 59 and below

GRADING BREAKDOWN: The course grade will be determined as follows:

(2) Exams = 40%

(3) Participation = 12%

Homework / pop quizzes: 5%

Specialized glossary: 3%

(2) Individual translations: 20%

(2) Group translations: 20%

Exams: There will be a mid-term and a final exam as marked in the schedule of assignments. These exams will include translations as well as assess student knowledge of translation terminology, issues in translation, and other topics covered in the assigned readings.

Participation: Students will receive a participation grade every day based upon their preparedness and active participation in class. Speaking in English is not acceptable. Unexcused absences count as a 0 for the missed day. The participation grades will be given as shown in the schedule of classes.

Homework / pop quizzes: Some homework will be assigned in class and collected for a grade. Also, pop quizzes will be given to assure that students are reading the assigned pages and learning the material.

Glossary: Students must prepare a specialized glossary of no fewer than 100 terms based on their anticipated future profession.

Individual translations: Students will receive a document to translate a week in advance. These translations must be typed and double-spaced. Furthermore, these translations must be annotated using a pen other than black ink. These annotations will offer explanations of choices made when translating certain words or phrases. These annotations will be evaluated and included in the grading process. Students will not have the opportunity to revise their translations (as this is not common practice in the profession), so they should proofread their work carefully. All translations must be submitted in a timely manner, according to the Schedule of Assignments.

Group translations: Students will work in groups of three to translate a longer document. These translations must be typed and double-spaced with the names of all translators on one document. Students will receive the document well in advance in order to divide up the work and proofread each other's translation. The students in the group will receive the same grade, so it is imperative that students work together efficiently to create the best translation possible.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory. The student is allowed three (3) absences, whether they are excused or unexcused. After the third absence, one point will be deducted from the student's final grade for each subsequent UNEXCUSED absence. Excessive tardiness will count as an unexcused absence.

ALL unexcused absences will count as a zero (0) for the day's participation grade.

An excused absence is one that occurs due to the student's illness or injury, or a death in the student's immediate family. The student must verify these circumstances with official letters as soon as they return to class. No excuses will be accepted one week after the circumstance occurred.

Please note: If you are participating in any university-sponsored event in which you must be absent from class, an official letter from a Tech faculty or staff member must list these dates and be presented to Dr. Groundland at the beginning of the semester.

### **Make-up Exam Policy**

Students must take the mid-term and final exam as scheduled. There are no make-up exams.

### **Student Academic Misconduct Policy**

Maintaining high standards of academic integrity in every class at Tennessee Tech is critical to the reputation of Tennessee Tech, its students, alumni, and the employers of Tennessee Tech graduates. The Student Academic Misconduct Policy describes the definitions of academic misconduct and policies and procedures for addressing Academic Misconduct at Tennessee Tech. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 217 – Student Academic Misconduct at [Policy Central](#).

### ***Disability Accommodation***

Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the first week of the course. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 340 – Services for Students with Disabilities at [Policy Central](#).