

Tennessee Tech University

Department of Foreign Languages

Spanish 3020: Oral Communication in Spanish Fall 2019

Instructor: Dr. Michael K. Olsen

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Horas de oficina: lunes, miércoles, viernes, 2:30-3:30 and by app., OKLY 215A

Horas de clase: lunes, miércoles, viernes 1:25-2:20

Required text and accounts

- Blanco, José A., (2018). *Revista: Conversación sin barreras* (5th edition). Boston: Vista Higher Learning.
- VHL Central WEB-SAM account that accompanies Revista (5th edition). The passcodes are included if you buy the text NEW. If you buy the text USED, your passcodes for WEBSAM are sold separately in the bookstore. You may also purchase access to WEB-SAM online by going to <http://vistahigherlearning.com/store/tntech.htm/>.
- TalkAbroad account. You will need to open an account on this conversation platform at <https://talkabroad.com> and join our section: Olsen2019-699762

Prerequisites: SPAN 2020 or an equivalent

Course description

Oral Communication in Spanish continues to strengthen your communication skills in Spanish. The main goals of this course are to further develop language proficiency and communicative oral competence of students. The main course activities will include discussion, conversations, and presentations. During the semester we will work on improving fluency, pronunciation, comprehension skills, strategic competence such as paraphrasing skills, and expanding vocabulary. Although the emphasis is on speaking and listening skills, reading and writing assignments are an important part of this course as well. While certain grammar points are reviewed, students' proficiency is not measured by grammatical competence alone. Students will often work in groups and pairs so it is imperative that they be willing to interact with one another and be tolerant of one another's opinions.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Participate actively in conversations in most informal and some formal settings on topics of personal and public interest.
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Listen)]
- Narrate and describe in major verb tenses with some control of aspect
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Listen)]
[Communication: Presentational (Speak)]
- Assert opinions on topics of current relevance in modern society
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Listen)]
[Communication: Presentational (Speak)]
[Cultures: Relating cultural practice and products to perspectives (Investigate, Explain, Reflect)]
[Connections: Making connections and acquiring information and diverse perspectives (Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Evaluate)]
- Deal effectively with unanticipated complications through a variety of communicative and coping devices
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Listen)]
[Communication: Presentational (Speak)]
- Sustain communication by using, with suitable accuracy and confidence, connected discourse of paragraph length
[Communication: Presentational (Speak)]
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Listen)]
- Demonstrate confidence in initiating and sustaining conversations in Spanish, regardless of the interlocutor's identity
[Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Listen)]
[Comparisons: Language comparisons and cultural comparisons (Investigate, Explain, Reflect)]
[Communities: School and global communities (Use language within and beyond the classroom)]

Evaluation

Participation and attendance	15%
Homework and Readings	11%
TalkAbroad Conversations (6)	12%
Presentation	10%
Mid-term Conversation	12%
Chapter Exams (6)	20%
Final Conversation	20%

Participation and attendance 15%

1. Students will be graded based on their active participation in class activities (whole class, group work, pair work) and use of Spanish. We are here to learn; so contribute with your thoughts and concerns! Respectful behaviour is expected (**no use of cell phones** in the class).
2. Attendance is obligatory. When absent, participation is not possible and therefore results in a loss of participation points. Absences that are justified by a doctor's note are excused. In case of an emergency (i.e., due to grave illness, hospitalization, funeral of a family member, etc.), you must let me know as soon as possible. Send me an email, or leave me a note in my mailbox. Written documentation/evidence of extenuating circumstances must be given to me within one week of the absence.
3. Arrive on time. When students arrive late, they disrupt the class and may miss important announcements.

Homework and readings 11%

Students are expected to come to class prepared by having read the Lectura for that day. Some of the readings consist of pre-reading/watching and analysis activities. We will complete many of these activities in class; however, reading over and thinking about the questions and vocabulary activities will help students be prepared to carry out the conversations and other activities in class. Showing up for class unprepared will result in lower participation points and ultimately a lower course performance.

Tareas will consist of grammar practice exercises and extensions of reading analysis activities designed to help students practice and reflect upon the content that we will be covering in class. The homework will be assigned in class and the due dates will be given at that time.

As part of the homework grade, each student will sign up to give the Bienvenida at the beginning of class twice throughout the semester. The Bienvenida will take 3-4 minutes and must include the following: 1) a brief welcome to the classmates, 2) the date and weather, 3) a current event in the city, state or world, 4) some answers to get-to-know-you questions posed by your classmates. NO WRITTEN NOTES.

TalkAbroad Conversations 12%

Throughout the semester students will carry out conversations with 6 different native speakers via *TalkAbroad*. Each conversation will be 30 minutes minimum and must be recorded in video and submitted to the instructor for evaluation. More information about TalkAbroad can be found in the *TalkAbroad* Student Manual found on their website.

TalkAbroad completes a thorough screening of the native speakers that work for them but, for safety purposes, you are required to follow these policies:

1. If your assigned partner makes you feel uncomfortable in any sense, please stop the communication and report it to your instructor as soon as possible.
2. No exchange of money or goods with you partners is allowed.

3. Under no circumstance should you send any personal information to your partners (i.e., social security number, address, bank account number, credit card number, date of birth, email address, passwords of any kind, phone number, social network IDs, etc.)

All assignments including homework and conversations will be due on the class period they appear on the calendar or the given due date at the beginning of class unless otherwise stated. Late assignments will receive a 10% reduction each day they are late.

Presentation 10%

Students will give an individual presentation near the end of the semester. Presentations can either be teaching the class how to do something or presenting something that you are interested in. I will need to approve the topic before you begin your preparations.

The presentations will be given in class and will be 13-15 minutes in length. The use of PowerPoint, posters, photos, artwork, or other props during the presentation is encouraged as long as they contain no text other than titles. A 3x5" note card with bullet points may be used. Individual presentations should be well rehearsed. No direct reading from the note card is allowed and will result in a drastic reduction of the grade. A grading rubric for the presentation will be posted on iLearn.

Mid-term Conversation 12%

Students will carry out a 'Conversación Parcial' at mid-term with a partner. On the day of the conversation, one conversation topic will be randomly selected from a set of conversation topics previously provided to the students. Further details of the mid-term conversation will be provided in class.

Chapter Exams 20%

There will be three (6) chapter exams. Make-up exams will not be given. No exceptions. For students who have an excusable absence for the date of the missed exam, the average grade of the other exams will replace their missed exam grade. Do not make any travel plans without checking the class calendar.

Final Conversation 20%

The final exam will be a conversation with the instructor about the topics covered during the semester. The conversation should be between 9-10 minutes in duration. Do not make any travel plans without checking the final exam schedule. Pre-existing travel plans will not be considered a reasonable cause for missing a chapter exam or the final exam.

Accessibility Services

Any student who believes that he or she will require accommodations to meet the course requirements should consult the Accessibility Education Center located in the Roeden University Center (RUC) Rm. 112 (931-372-6119) preferably during the first week of classes so that reasonable accommodations can be made to ensure that everyone may participate in the course. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 340 – Services for Students with Disabilities at [Policy Central](#).

Academic Misconduct

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](#)

Grading Scale

A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C: 70-79 D: 60-69 F: 0-59

IMPORTANT: This syllabus is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. However, I reserve the right to make midcourse changes to the readings, assignments, or exam dates as needed.

Calendar

This calendar is tentative. Students are responsible for checking iLearn and their university email accounts. Assignments, guidelines, and other deadlines will be posted and sent there.

L: Lectura **TA:** TalkAbroad

Semana	Fecha	Tema	Lecturas y tareas
1	26 de agosto	Introducción al curso	L: Plan de estudios (Syllabus)
	CAPÍTULO 1: ¿Realidad o fantasía?		
	28 de agosto	<u>Cortometraje:</u> Viaje a Marte	L: Capítulo 1, pp. 2-9
	30 de agosto	<u>Estructuras:</u> Ser y estar	L: Capítulo 1, pp. 10-11
2	2 de septiembre	NO HAY CLASE	Día del trabajo
	4 de septiembre	<u>Estructuras:</u> Preposiciones	L: Capítulo 1, pp. 12-13
	6 de septiembre	Celebración de la fantasía	L: Capítulo 1, pp. 14-17
3	9 de septiembre	Tertulia/Repaso	L: Capítulo 1, p. 33
	11 de septiembre	Examen 1	Preparar para el examen
	CAPÍTULO 2: Una cuestión de personalidad		
	13 de septiembre	<u>Cortometraje:</u> Diez minutos	L: Capítulo 2, pp. 34-41 TA: Conversación 1

4	16 de septiembre	<u>Estructuras</u> : Narración en el pasado	L: Capítulo 2, pp. 42-45
	18 de septiembre	Las cuatro fórmulas científicas de la felicidad	L: Capítulo 2, pp. 46-50
	20 de septiembre	La intrusa	L: Capítulo 2, pp. 55-59
5	23 de septiembre	Tertulia/Repaso	L: Capítulo 2, p. 63
	25 de septiembre	Examen 2	Preparar para el examen
	CAPÍTULO 3: La influencia de los medios		
	27 de septiembre	<u>Cortometraje</u> : Namnala	L: Capítulo 3, pp. 64-71
6	30 de septiembre	<u>Estructuras</u> : Pronombres de objeto y los adjetivos	L: Capítulo 3, pp. 72-75 TA: Conversación 2
	2 de octubre	Cara y cruz de las tecnologías de la información	L: Capítulo 3, pp. 81-85
	4 de octubre	Tertulia/Repaso	L: Capítulo 3, p. 95
7	7 de octubre	Examen 3	Preparar para el examen
	9 de octubre	Práctica para la conversación parcial	Preparar para el examen
	11 de octubre	Conversación Parcial	Preparar para el examen
8	14 de octubre	NO HAY CLASE	Vacaciones de otoño
	CAPÍTULO 4: Las garras del poder		
	16 de octubre	<u>Cortometraje</u> : ¿Quién es Echegoyen?	L: Capítulo 4, pp. 96-103 TA: Conversación 3
	18 de octubre	<u>Estructuras</u> : El subjuntivo y pronombres relativos	L: Capítulo 4, pp. 104-107
9	21 de octubre	La tortilla	L: Capítulo 4, pp. 108-111
	23 de octubre	Tertulia/Repaso	L: Capítulo 4, p. 125
	25 de octubre	Examen 4	Preparar para el examen
10	CAPÍTULO 5: Misterios del amor		
	28 de octubre	<u>Cortometraje</u> : Porsiemprejamón	L: Capítulo 5, pp. 126-133
	30 de octubre	<u>Estructuras</u> : El subjuntivo y usos de se	L: Capítulo 5, pp. 134-137
	1 de noviembre	Lo que dure el amor	L: Capítulo 5, pp. 142-146 TA: Conversación 4

11	4 de noviembre	Tertulia/Repaso	L: Capítulo 5, p. 155
	6 de noviembre	Examen 5	Preparar para el examen
	CAPÍTULO 6: Modos de vivir		
	8 de noviembre	<u>Cortometraje</u> : El sándwich de Mariana	L: Capítulo 6, pp. 156-163
12	11 de noviembre	<u>Estructuras</u> : Oraciones con si y usos de se	L: Capítulo 6, pp. 164-167
	13 de noviembre	Padre, papá, papi	L: Capítulo 6, pp. 173-177
	15 de noviembre	Tertulia/Repaso	L: Capítulo 6, p. 186
13	18 de noviembre	Examen 6	TA: Conversación 5
	20 de noviembre	Presentaciones	
	22 de noviembre	Presentaciones	
14	25 de noviembre	Presentaciones	
	27 de noviembre	NO HAY CLASE	Día de acción de gracias
	29 de noviembre	NO HAY CLASE	Día de acción de gracias
15	2 de diciembre	Presentaciones	
	4 de diciembre	Ecuador	TA: Conversación 6
	6 de diciembre	Práctica para la conversación final	
	Conversación Final	lunes, 9 de diciembre	1:00-3:00