



Instituto Universitario
de Investigación en
Estudios Norteamericanos
“Benjamin Franklin”

Introduction to Textual Analysis and Composition

Professor	Zuleima González
Class hours	M-F 12:30 – 14:30 (some Fridays off)
Classroom	Jorge Guillén
Office Hours	By appointment
Language of instruction	Spanish
Type of teaching	In person

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed for intermediate Spanish students to enhance their written communication skills through composition. For this purpose, students will reflect upon cultural topics presented in a variety of authentic Spanish language texts. In addition to developing their written communication skills, in this course students will also review key grammatical points and continue to build their Spanish vocabulary.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students will have acquired the following competences:

Competence 1: Ability to create original written texts in Spanish in various styles and formats.

Competence 2: Ability to evaluate the grammatical structure and content of texts in Spanish.

Competence 3: Proficiency in reading Spanish and learn new aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures.

Competence 4: Ability to express individual opinions in Spanish, both orally and in written format.

ASSESSMENT

Class attendance and participation	20%
Class activities and homework	15%
Written assignments	30%
Midterm exam	20%
Final oral presentation	15%

GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-96	B+ = 85-81	C+ = 70-67	D+ = 57-54
A = 95-91	B = 80-76	C = 66- 62	D = 53-50
A- = 90-86	B- = 75-71	C- = 61-58	
F = 49%			

ASSESSMENT

1. Attendance and Participation 20%

Attendance is mandatory. If the student is absent for more than the allowed limit (one class absence in the Spring program), the final grade will reflect a decrease of 10 points for each non-attendance that has not been excused by a doctor's certificate or by your Program Director. It is the individual responsibility of the student to make up any missed content about the subject taught in class the day the student was absent. Regular class attendance is essential for successful completion of the course and attendance begins from the moment the student is officially registered for the course.

You are expected to **participate** in class by asking and answering questions, and by actively contributing to group discussions. You need to be prepared for these activities (do your homework, take notes, do the readings, etc.) to contribute to the class and to receive full participation credit. It is important to have an environment that is not competitive, but rather collaborative, in which students help one another to accomplish the tasks.

2. Class activities and homework 15%

Students are expected to complete homework assignments before class. Homework may include readings, grammar review, vocabulary building, and research assignments on the Spanish-speaking world. Also, students are expected to complete class activities in the classroom to learn and enhance their Spanish communication skills.

3. Written works 30%

Students will create original written texts in Spanish in various styles and formats in order to practice an accurate spelling, syntax, and morphology in Spanish. These written works are meant to develop their writing skills in Spanish and should be well organized and demonstrate students' engagement with the cultural topics presented in the course readings.

In order to evaluate these written works, the following aspects will be taken into consideration:

- Correct use of grammatical structures learned in class
- Correct use of vocabulary
- Spelling and punctuation
- Correct use of citations, references, and general presentation format regarding margins, font, and organization

PLAGIARISM: If the professor detects any copying or plagiarism on the exams, analytic critiques, and/or research paper and oral presentation the student will receive a total grade of zero (0) and will not be allowed to complete any type of make-up or extra credit work.

4. Midterm exam 20 %

The midterm exam will be a comprehensive evaluation of the grammar and other significant material studied in class.

5. Final Oral Presentation 15%

Students will prepare an oral final presentation about their last written work. Details regarding this project will be provided in class.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Students with special needs should contact Antonio Fernández: antonio.fernandezm@uah.es Instituto Franklin-UAH can accommodate these students who show through a medical note or a note from their academic advisor that require help to fulfill the program.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Technology in the classroom is essential today. However, if used inappropriately, it can be detrimental to student learning. For example, checking email, chatting with other users, surfing the web for purposes other than class content, etc. Misuse of these tools can also distract other classmates, so only taking notes on the computer is allowed. For any other use, permission must be requested from the professor.

WE SPEAK ONLY IN SPANISH

In the class we will only speak in Spanish. The use of English in the class would prevent the total immersion of the student in the Spanish learning process. In addition, it is important to emphasize that in order to understand and enjoy the class we ask you to make an additional effort to adapt the terminology with the sole purpose of familiarizing yourself with the characteristic languages of the subject. For a better understanding of the class, we recommend an intermediate level of Spanish.

	CLASS SCHEDULE MAY 2022	
	Material a ser discutido en clase	Tarea para la siguiente clase

Monday 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducción al curso • La escritura como forma de expresión • Los blogs • Gramática: Ser vs estar 	Leer: Madrid, capital gastronómica
Tuesday 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusión de lectura • Práctica ser y estar • Gramática: Pretérito • Instrucciones para el trabajo escrito #1 	Leer: La raíz del grito
Wednesday 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusión de la lectura • La biografía • Gramática: Imperfecto 	
Thursday 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gramática: Pretérito vs imperfecto • El género epistolar: las cartas • Cartas formales vs informales 	Leer: Cartas famosas Entregar trabajo escrito #1: Una entrada de blog
Friday 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusión sobre la lectura Cartas famosas • Gramática: Por vs para • Inicio taller sobre tildes • Entregar trabajo escrito #1 	Leer: Cuento TBA

Monday 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrucciones para el trabajo escrito #2 • ¿Por qué escribimos cuentos? • Discusión de lectura • Continuación de taller de tildes 	Leer poema "Me gusta cuando callas" de Pablo Neruda
Tuesday 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gramática: El condicional • El uso de adjetivos • Escritura corta en clase: Una estrofa de poema 	
Wednesday 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00-13:00 Vista al hotel Laredo / Museo Cisneros (La clase de composición empezará a las 13:30). • Revisión para el examen de mitad de curso 	Entregar trabajo escrito #2: Biografía de famoso
Thursday 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entregar trabajo escrito #2 • Instrucciones para el trabajo escrito #3 • Examen de mitad de curso 	
Friday 20	NO HAY CLASE	Investigar sobre el inicio de los folletos
Monday 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El folleto • Gramática: Indicativo vs subjuntivo 	Leer folletos sobre turismo en España

Tuesday 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comentar en clase sobre el folleto escogido por el estudiante • Continuación indicativo vs subjuntivo • Escritura corta en clase: Expresando opiniones 	
Wednesday 25	Esta clase se cancela por la visita a la fábrica de Cervezas la Cibeles (9:30-15:00h)	Entregar trabajo escrito #3: La carta
Thursday 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entregar trabajo escrito #3 • Gramática: Los mandatos 	
Friday 27	NO HAY CLASE	Entregar trabajo escrito #4: El folleto
Monday 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrega trabajo escrito #4 • Presentaciones orales 	

****This program is subject to change****