

**Department of Modern Languages**  
**MODL 5301: Modern Languages for Graduate Reading (Spanish)**  
**Section 001**

**Summer II, 2018**  
**10:30 am-12:30 pm M-R; TH 21**

**Professor:** Dr. Amy Austin / 321 Hammond Hall / [amaustin@uta.edu](mailto:amaustin@uta.edu)  
Mentis Profile: <http://www.uta.edu/profiles/amy-austin>

**Office hours:** M-R, 12:30-1:00 pm, and by appointment

**Catalogue Course Description:**

An intensive one-semester course designed for Ph.D. candidates and other graduate students to fulfill departmental foreign language requirements. Sections may be offered in French, German, Russian, or other applicable or appropriate languages. Does not fulfill any graduate degree requirements.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will demonstrate a rudimentary acquisition of Spanish pronunciation by producing the principal sounds of Spanish (vowels, diphthongs, consonants) in a way that is comprehensible to a native speaker of Spanish.
- Students will learn how to manipulate bilingual lexical sources (e.g. print dictionaries) in order to effectively translate from Spanish to English.
- Students will demonstrate a passive knowledge of the principal grammatical structures of Spanish (noun-adjective agreement, verb tenses, verb moods, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, verbal constructions) by responding to content questions on reading exams and by translating passages from Spanish to English.
- Students will demonstrate a passive knowledge of a wide variety of Spanish vocabulary by responding to content questions on reading exams and by translating passages from Spanish to English.
- Students will be able to apply the knowledge acquired in the course to the analysis of a specialized text in their field of study.

**Required texts:**

Cash, Annette, and James Murray. 2006. *Spanish for Reading and Translation*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Bilingual dictionary (such as Harper-Collins or Oxford)

**Components:**

Attendance and participation	10%
Homework	15%
Exams	45%
Presentation	10%
Final project	20%

**Grading scale:**

A = 90-100    B = 80-89    C = 70-79    D = 60-69    F = < 60

**Attendance and participation:** Students are expected to attend class regularly and to participate actively in class; class participation should show the fact that the student has completed the readings and assignments for the day. Each student will receive a daily participation grade (0, 1, 2, or 3). Students are allowed a total of one (1) absence; missing class more than once will negatively affect the final grade in the course.

**Homework:** There will be various HW assignments throughout the course that will be handed in—translation homework (T1-3), as well as verb conjugations (V1-9); more details to follow.

**Exams:** There will be three reading exams (see dates below). Make-up exams will not be offered.

**Presentation and Final project:** The final project in the course will consist of an analysis of a specialized text in the student's field of study. The analysis will include an explanation of the difficulties of the text, the preparation of a glossary of terms, a summary of the text in English, as well as a translation of a portion of the text. Students will present their texts to the class during the last week of class.

*N.B.: Due dates and assignments may change slightly based on course progress and students' needs. Any change will be announced in a timely fashion.*

**Class plan:** [Details TBD]

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Topic/Class activity</b>	<b>Other HW</b>
10 July	Introduction. Preliminary Lesson	
11 July	Chapter 1	<b>V1</b>
12 July	Chapter 2	<b>V2</b>
<b>Week 2</b>		
16 July	Chapter 3	<b>V3, T1</b>
17 July	Chapter 4	<b>V4, V5</b>
18 July	<b>Exam 1</b>	
19 July	Chapter 5	<b>V6</b>
<b>Week 3</b>		
23 July	Chapter 6	<b>V7</b>
24 July	Chapter 7	<b>T2</b>
25 July	Chapter 7/8	<b>V8</b>
26 July	<b>Chapter 8</b>	<b>V9</b>
<b>Week 4</b>		
30 July	Exam 2	
31 July	Chapter 9	
1 August	Chapter 10	<b>T3</b>

2 August	Chapter 11	
<b>Week 5</b>		
6 August	Chapter 12	
7 August	<b>Exam 3</b>	
8 August	Presentations	
9 August	Presentations, Summary, and Evaluations	

**Final projects:** due Thursday, August 9 at 10:30 am

### **Official University Policies:**

**Disability Accommodations:** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).*

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).*

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted.

Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which can be accessed by exiting the door and proceeding the staircase to the left or right. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Students are also encouraged to subscribe to the MavAlert system that will send information in case of an emergency to their cell phones or email accounts. Anyone can subscribe at <https://mavalert.uta.edu/> or <https://mavalert.uta.edu/register.php>

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](#), [major-based learning centers](#), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](#), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](#). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

**More information:**

**Attendance:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have established the attendance policy described above (see "Attendance and participation") I take attendance on a daily basis, and students are assigned a daily participation grade, which is factored in the "Attendance and participation" portion of the final grade. Any absence above three (2) will negatively impact this portion of the grade.

**Grading:** The final grade for the course will be calculated by adding the average grade the student receives in the categories mentioned above in "Evaluation": Attendance and Participation (10%), Homework and Short Quizzes (15%), Quizzes (15%), Essays (10%), Exams (40%), Textual Analysis (10%).

#### **E-Culture Policy:**

Email may be used for the following reasons in this course:

- For the professor to inform and remind students of assignments, deadlines, events, and activities
- For the professor to deliver class assignments and exercises
- For students to set up a face-to-face appointment with the professor if they wish to ask questions regarding course materials, clarification, or concerns about their progress in the course
- For students to inform the professor of absences

Please do not use email for the following:

- To request class notes from the professor or that s/he email students course handouts
- To ask the professor what students missed in class

When sending email messages, please consider the following:

- Use salutations at the beginning and signatures at the end of the messages.
- Try to use proper punctuation and capitalization (email and texting are different!).
- Be courteous.

**Classroom Comportment Policy:** Students should come to class prepared with their textbooks or assigned reading and maintain a respectful disposition toward the learning process. Sleeping during class, texting, and otherwise disrupting class (e.g. getting up and leaving while class is in session) is not acceptable behavior in a University environment.

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

#### **Official Class Policies:**

##### **E-Culture Policy:**

Email may be used for the following reasons in this course:

- For the professor to inform and remind students of assignments, deadlines, events, and activities
- For the professor to deliver class assignments and exercises
- For students to set up a face-to-face appointment with the professor if they wish to ask questions regarding course materials, clarification, or concerns about their progress in the course
- For students to inform the professor of absences

Please do not use email for the following:

- To request class notes from the professor or that s/he email students course handouts
- To ask the professor what students missed in class

When sending email messages, please consider the following:

- Use salutations at the beginning and signatures at the end of the messages.
- Try to use proper punctuation and capitalization (email and texting are different!).
- Be courteous.

#### **Class preparation:**

Attached is a syllabus for the entire term indicating the readings, assignments, exams, deadlines for papers, etc. You are responsible for preparing all lessons BEFORE class and for looking up and learning unfamiliar vocabulary. Do not hesitate to talk to the professor if you have doubts, questions or comments. Do not wait until the day of the exam

or the last week of classes to discuss the material or your performance in the course.

**Studying:** To succeed in this course you must develop a habit of studying every night. First, this will enhance your ability to participate in class discussions, as well as your overall participation grade. Second, consistent engagement is the only way to improve your language skills. Third, if you are not consistent in your study practices, you will find yourself in the unfortunate position of having to cram for your tests, or hastily write your compositions and other homework, both of which often yield poor results.

**Reading:** You cannot understand the whole text after a single reading. Read the text a first time to get a general idea of its meaning. Then, read the text a second time. Use the dictionary for the words you do not understand. Learn these new words and significant expressions that will enable you to retell and discuss the text. Read the text several times until you are able to answer questions on it and summarize it in your own words without looking at it. If you are not sure whether you have indeed understood the material, make notes and bring your specific questions to class (in all likelihood, other students in class will have similar questions!). It is your responsibility to make sure that you master the material. Please discuss with the professor opportunities for extra help (from her and/or a tutor) if you feel you need it. Again, please do not wait until the day before the exam or too close to the end of the term to ask for help.

#### **Leaving class during the class period:**

Please avoid this practice except in cases of extreme emergency. If this becomes a habit, it risks being calculated as a late arrival, and will affect the final participation grade.

#### **Cell phones:**

Class time is precious, and I ask you to turn off all cell phones upon entering the classroom. If your cell phone rings or if I find you texting, I reserve the right to ask you to leave for the day. You will be counted absent for that day.

#### **Email/Blackboard**

It is UTA policy that all official correspondence must be done through UTA emails. Please make certain that you check your UTA email and Blackboard daily, as I will send all information regarding the course to your account on file at the University.

#### **Class participation:**

Active oral participation is a vital part of this course. **Quantity** (i.e., frequency of involvement in class discussions, pair practice, group work, class presentations) and **quality** (i.e., accuracy and pronunciation) will be considered for your evaluation. Participation will be graded according to the following scale and it will be assessed daily:

- 4 (A) Clear evidence of preparation and frequent voluntary participation.
- 3 (B) Evidence of preparation and some significant participation.
- 2 (C) Student participates mostly when asked.
- 1 (D) Student is present but does not participate.
- 0 (F) Student is often absent and when present, only in body.

**Appropriate class participation:** Unless directed otherwise, please address all questions, comments and concerns to the professor. By asking the person sitting next to you (who may not know the answer), both of you may be missing important information being delivered at that moment. Unless doing group work, only one person should be speaking in class at any given time and everyone else offering full and polite attention. If something is unclear, please raise your hand and wait for the professor.

#### **Meeting with the professor:**

Finally, please do not hesitate to see me if you have doubts, questions, or comments. Do not wait until the day of the exam or the last week of classes to talk to me about your performance, to discuss material or to seek help. If you have a conflict during my office hours, please contact me to arrange another time to meet with me.

**Classroom Comportment Policy:** Students should come to class prepared with their textbooks or assigned reading and maintain a respectful disposition toward the learning process. Sleeping during class, texting, and otherwise disrupting class (e.g. getting up and leaving while class is in session) is not acceptable behavior in a University environment.

