

University of North Carolina Wilmington

Reading Strategies in Spanish

Course Information

Instructor: Dr. Amrita Das

Office: Leutze Hall 286

Office Hours: 12:00-1:00 TR or by appointment

Course: SPN 302-1/2

Time: TR 3:30-4:45/5:00-6:15

Location: Leutze Hall 104

Email: dasa@uncw.edu

Office Telephone: 962-2430

Course Prerequisites: "C" or better in SPN 202 or equivalent.

Course Description: This is a skill-development course with emphasis on reading. This is **not** a review course of grammatical structures. Students will read both fiction and non-fiction. There will be a large emphasis on fictional short pieces. All readings will be enhanced by vocabulary exercises, comprehension and discussion questions, and short writing activities.

Course Objectives: The student will be able to read Spanish texts efficiently with reduced dependency on a translator/dictionary. The students will be able to apply effective reading techniques and strategies to enhance comprehension of the given texts. The student will learn techniques and strategies to acquire and retain vocabulary. The student will be able to identify the basic aspects and styles of fiction. The student will also understand the basics of and practice literary analysis.

Course Materials**Required**

1. **Textbook:** Frantzen, Diana. Lazos: Gramática y vocabulario a través de la literatura. Pearson/Prentice Hall. 1st edition.

2. **Other texts:** Available on Course Blackboard Learn (Bb Learn) site.

3. **Access to UNCW Blackboard Learn site:** <https://learn.uncw.edu/>

4. **UNCW email account**

Recommended: A good Spanish-English-Spanish dictionary

Class Policies

NOTE: This syllabus will be reviewed on the first day of class. If the student was not present on the first day of class, it is the student's responsibility to read and review the syllabus, and then to come to my office for any questions or clarification.

Language: Spanish will be the language of instruction at all times, in-class, preparation, and exams. Use of any other language will affect your grade. (See below for Participation grading system).

Class behavior: No food is allowed in class. Use of any electronic gadget or engaging with material outside course work is strictly prohibited in class. Any student found using these gadgets or material will be penalized with 0 participation points for the day. Group activities are to be taken seriously and respect for group/class members is required for this class.

Attendance: Attendance is compulsory, however for emergency, like sickness, family emergency, school organized event a student may be absent up to two (2) classes with no questions asked. **Each absence after the second will reduce the final grade by 5% point and also earn 0 participation points for the missed class.** Tardiness will not be tolerated and being late to class will affect the participation grade. There are no excused absences.

Deadlines: No late work will be accepted. All assignments must be turned in class, and not left either in my mailbox, slipped under my office door, and certainly not sent via email. If the student is aware of an upcoming absence, he/she will be responsible for turning in the work earlier.

Written Assignments: HARD COPY ONLY. No electronic assignment will be accepted. All assignments must be identified with student's name (must have last name), class, section, assignment information etc. Hand-written assignments are acceptable as long they are legible. If a computer is used, please use double space, and a 12" font of Times and Times New Romans. In case of not following this policy, assignment will be graded with a 0.

Make-up Exam: There is NO make-up for missed homework or in-class quizzes. However for exams, absence validated by documentation will be considered.

Preparation and Home Work: Pre-class and Post-class assignments are essential for successfully accomplishing the objective of this course. Failure to do work assigned will affect the final grade.

Electronic resources: All documents related to this course will be available through Bb Learn. Please save all information posted on the course Bb Learn in a place and format that may be accessed during unavailability of Internet access or the Bb Learn site.

Office Hours: Students may seek assistance during office hours. Walk-ins are welcome and no appointment is necessary during this hour. If a student has a scheduling conflict, the student may ask for an appointment after class, or via email. A student may also use an email for general queries, but should not expect immediate response.

Electronic correspondence: Emails must be considered as a formal letter written to an instructor. Please use commonly accepted salutations, sentence phrasing, word choice, and sign offs, in either language. If in doubt contact the Learning Center. I will not respond to any email that does not do the above. Further more if information is already available on the syllabus or blackboard, I will not respond to those queries. Do not expect immediate responses to your emails.

Academic Honor Code: THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT All work must be the student's own work. Plagiarizing, on-line translators, help from tutors, native speakers, classmates etc or any other source other than permitted, used is prohibited. Please read the following document for the details about UNCW's honor code <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/doso/documents/Code.Of.Student.Life.pdf>

Disability Services: Students with disabilities will be accommodated with prior notification to the instructor. Please contact UNCW's Disability services <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/disability/> for further information.

Safety on campus: UNCW practices a zero-tolerance policy for violence and harassment of any kind. For emergencies contact UNCW CARE at 962-2273, Campus Police at 962-2222, or Wilmington Police at 911. For University or community resources visit <http://uncw.edu/wrc/crisis.htm>.

Other resources: University Learning Services information (<http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/>)

Evaluation

Grading Scale:

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|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 93-100 A | 83-86 B | 73-76 C | 60-62 D- |
| 90-92 A- | 80-82 B- | 70-72 C- | 63-66 D |
| 87-89 B+ | 77-79 C+ | 67-69 D+ | 0-59 F |

Note: If you plan to continue with Spanish, it is necessary to obtain a C or higher to move on to the next course.

Class Participation and Preparation: 15%-Student will be graded on a 10-point scale for each week. Each component needs to be met with satisfaction for a score of 10: On time, prepared with notes and homework, completion of all instructions, active participation (volunteer to answer, work productively individually and in groups), and use of target language (Spanish) at all times. **If a student is absent, sleeping, using material not pertinent to class, the student will receive no points for that class.**

Graded Homework: 15%-Students are expected to complete all work assigned, which is part of the class preparation component, however only some homework will be collected for a grade. The work must reflect comprehension and completion of the task assigned. Grammar errors will not be the sole criteria for a grade, and will affect the grade only if it impedes comprehension.

Quiz: 20%- A short unannounced vocabulary quiz, based on vocabulary list. The quiz will be given after the vocabulary has been reviewed in class.

Self-Assessment: 10%- A self-assessment of one's reading skills will be completed every three weeks of class (4 in total). An electronic copy of the form will be made available on Bb Learn. Please fill electronically and print a hard copy for evaluation. Please keep all returned assessments. They must be referred to for the final assessment, and turned in with it. This allows the student to be a responsible learner and track his or her effort to achieve the objectives of this course. This assessment also allows the instructor for one-on-one guidance.

Cultural Event: 10%- Participation or volunteering in any 3 approved cultural events. A list of possible events will be provided. A typed report of the event is due within 2 days of the event and not on the deadline. Please plan accordingly and attend the events over the course of the semester. See IMPORTANT DATES for due dates. An electronic copy of the report form is available in Bb Learn.

Exams: 30% - One mid-term and one final exam. Exams will include activities to evaluate reading skills, vocabulary, application and identification of reading strategies.

Extra Credit: A student may earn up to 5% points for completing extra reading activities. 1% point will be awarded for every extra-reading completed, and will be added to the final grade. The readings and the accompanying activities are available on BlackBoard. Only ONE extra credit will be awarded for each due dates (5 in total). See IMPORTANT DATES for due dates.

IMPORTANT DATES

September 20: Extra Credit Reading # 1 due

September 20: Self Assessment # 1 due

October 4: Cultural Event # 1 Deadline

October 6: Extra Credit Reading # 2 due

October 13: Mid Term Exam

October 18: Self Assessment # 2 due

October 20: Extra Credit Reading # 3 due

November 1: Extra Credit # 4 due

November 3: Cultural Event # 2 Deadline

November 8: Self Assessment # 3 due

November 17: Extra Credit Reading # 5 due

December 1: Self Assessment # 4

December 6: Cultural Event # 3 Deadline

December 13: Final Exam

STUDENT-INSTRUCTOR AGREEMENT

I (student's name) _____ have read the SPN 302-01/02 Fall 2011 syllabus, and I understand the policies. Failing to follow the policies of this course will hinder my success in this course.

Signature _____

_____ Date

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