



The University Of
T A M P A

Syllabus

Spanish 251 – Special Topics – Spanish for the Medical Field

Fall 2019

Course Information:

Name: SPA 251
Location: SFB 150
Date/Time: MW 4-5:50pm
Credits: 4

Instructor Information:

Name: Dr. Alyssia Miller, Assistant Professor of Spanish
Email: amiller@ut.edu
Office: SFB 250
Office Hours: TR 2-4pm; W 3-4pm

Course Description:

This course combines the Spanish language and culture into a medical Spanish academic research course to help prepare students to communicate with Spanish speakers in a health care context. Students will learn medical Spanish vocabulary, basic health care practices, and aspects of Hispanic culture relative to health care. This course will also expose students to Hispanic health care practices with an emphasis on cultural norms and values; social determinants of health; and economic, political, and social issues. This course can be counted towards fulfilling the Humanities/Fine Arts (HFA) and Non-Western and International/ Global Awareness (NW/IG) components of the Baccalaureate Experience. This course may also be counted towards the Spanish major or minor.

Prerequisites: SPA 101, 102 and/or SPA 105; three or more years of high school Spanish; or equivalent skills; SPA 122; and instructor permission is required for this course.

Required Texts/Materials:

Blood Pressure Cuff and Stethoscope – available on Amazon for about \$20

Recommended: *Spanish and the Medical Interview* by Pilar Ortega Second Edition – ISBN: 9780323371148

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Use medical Spanish to speak with patients
2. Demonstrate knowledge of basic health care practices
3. Identify Hispanic cultural norms and values
4. Define social determinants of health to persons living in Spanish-speaking countries
5. Explain Hispanic economic, political, and social issues

This course also focuses on the 5 Cs of the Standards for Foreign Language Learning:

1. *Communication*: Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes.
 2. *Cultures*: Interact with cultural competence and understanding
 3. *Connections*: Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations
 4. *Comparisons*: Develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence
 5. *Communities*: Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world
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Grading Scale:

A	93-100%
AB	88-92.99999%
B	83-87.99999%
BC	78-82.99999%
C	73-77.99999%
CD	68-72.99999%
D	60-67.99999%
F	0-59.99999%

Course Components:

This course is comprised of the following components:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
Asistencia/ Attendance	25 pts
Tarea/ Homework	100 pts
Evaluación de Lengua/ Languages Ropes Course	100 pts
Proyectos	300 pts
Participación/ Participation	350 pts
Pruebas/ Quizzes	400 pts
Proyecto de Investigación/ Research Project	725 pts
TOTAL	2000 pts

ASISTENCIA/ ATTENDANCE (25 pts)

Attendance begins the first day of class. If you register for the class after the first day, your first day of attendance will be the first class meeting after your registration.

Each day of class attendance will count as 1 point towards each student's attendance grade. It is understood, however, that students may experience difficulties beyond their control that result in the inability to attend class. For this reason, a student may miss a week's worth of class periods for any reason (e.g. illness, funerals, personal issues, family trips, jury duty, employment commitments, etc.) without their attendance grade being penalized. **This means that a student may miss two (2) classes.**

No excused absences: Because students are given a week's worth of classes, **doctor's notes and other excuses are not accepted for absences.** In other words, students should use these allowed absences wisely as there are no excused absences.

Tardiness: Students must be physically present in the classroom for the entire class period each day to receive full attendance credit. Any day a student arrives late or leaves early, the instructor will mark them tardy and their daily attendance grade will be lowered by either a quarter or a half point. Students should not make a habit of arriving late or departing early as it will always have a negative effect on their grade. **Two tardies will convert into one (1) absence.**

University-related absences: If a student participates in an officially sanctioned university extracurricular activity (e.g. as a member of athletic, academic, or other extracurricular teams) and will miss class because of their involvement in those activities, the student must provide

written documentation on official letterhead to their professor at the beginning of the semester. Absences for university functions will not count against the allowed absences.

Religious holidays: Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professor in writing at the beginning of the semester. Absences for religious holidays will not count against the allowed absences.

Excessive absences: For every absence beyond the original allowed absences, a student's final grade will be reduced by five (5) points. For example, if a student misses three classes, their final grade will be reduced five (5) points (e.g. from a 93 to an 88, from an 82 to a 77, etc.), whereas four absences will be a reduction of 10 points (e.g. from a 93 to an 83, from an 82 to a 72, etc.), and so on.

TAREA/ HOMEWORK (100 pts)

Homework activities will be due on Blackboard by 11:59pm the night before a quiz. The homework will act as a review of quiz material.

No make-up homework: Since online homework is accessible at any time and from anywhere with Internet access, you **will not be allowed to make up any online homework** that you miss. It is in your best interest to plan ahead to complete any online homework before it is due.

EVALUACIÓN DE LENGUA/ LANGUAGE ROPES COURSE (100 pts)

The language ropes course will be conducted at the end of the semester. Students will go through a "skills lab" and will be graded on patient interaction and Spanish communication.

No make-up language ropes course: There is **no make-up for the language ropes course**. If you miss the language ropes course for any reason, you will receive a zero.

PROYECTOS/ PROJECTS (300 pts)

The primary purpose of the projects is to assess students' ability to express themselves and communicate in Spanish according to the level of their class and the material covered. This includes focusing on the continued development of both speaking and writing skills in Spanish, as well as engaging with cultural aspects of the Spanish-speaking world. Each student will complete three projects during the semester. All projects will take place during the designated class period. If a student will be missing class and has a legitimate excuse (e.g. doctor's note, jury duty, etc.) on a project day, the student may make up the project *if and only if* the following conditions are met:

1. The student emails the professor at least two (2) hours **before** the start of class.

2. The student provides the professor with a legitimate and official excuse.

If the previous conditions are met, a student may make up a project with the following additions:

1. The project must be made up within five (5) business days during the professor's office hours.
2. The make-up project will be double the original assignment. This means if the original assignment had a speaking duration of two (2) minutes, the make-up project will be four (4) minutes, etc. If the original assignment was 15 sentences, the make-up will be 30 sentences, etc.

PARTICIPACIÓN/ PARTICIPATION (350 pts)

Active participation is fundamental to a student's learning and acquisition of a language. The participation grade that a student earns will be based on consistent participation during class. Approximately seven (7) times throughout the semester, each student will complete a self-evaluation of their participation. More details about the assignment of participation points will be addressed by the professor, but in general, it will include the following: class preparation, level of engagement, use of English in the classroom, use of electronic devices in the classroom, respecting others, etc.

No make-up participation: There is no make-up participation. If a student fails to turn in a self-evaluation, they will receive a 0.

Electronic devices: Please note that any sort of electronic device during class time without first asking the professor for permission is not allowed. Please store all electronic devices out of sight until class has been dismissed. The use of such devices without permission is disrespectful and will affect the participation grade.

PRUEBAS/ MEDICAL SPANISH QUIZZES (400 pts)

There will be four (4) medical Spanish quizzes throughout the course of the semester. All quizzes will take place during the class period.

All graded quizzes will be returned to students during class. The professor will then recollect the exams and keep them in a locked office. If a student has questions or wishes to review the exam more, the student may visit the professor during office hours.

No make-up quizzes: There are **no make-up quizzes**. Of the four quizzes in this course, **the top three scores will be used to calculate your grade**. If you miss a quiz for any reason, you will

receive a zero. This will then be your lowest grade, which will be dropped. Any subsequent missed quizzes will be counted as zeroes and factored into your grade.

Dropped grade: Please note that all grades will remain visible in Blackboard even if it is considered a dropped grade.

PROYECTO DE INVESTIGACIÓN/ RESEARCH PROJECT (725 pts)

This particular section of Spanish for the Medical Field is a research section. This means that students will be designing and conducting a research project on a topic of their choice as it relates to Spanish and health. Specific information will be provided throughout the semester. There will be multiple assignments and stages of the research project for which students will earn points. The series of assignments is worth a total of 725 points.

Course Policies:

DROPPED GRADES POLICY

Please note that all grades will remain visible in Blackboard even if it is considered a dropped grade. Furthermore, the calculation of each student's grade is automatically dropping the lowest grade throughout the course. This means that Blackboard will start calculating the dropped grades as soon as there are multiple grades in the same category. This means that after the second homework grade is entered, an individual student's overall grade will be calculated by dropping the lower grade of the two homework grades. This process is the same for all categories.

LANGUAGE POLICY

The emphasis in this class is on learning Spanish for practical purposes. The professor will speak entirely in Spanish from the first day of class. She will use gestures, pictures, cognates and context to facilitate comprehension. Students may not understand very much at first, but comprehension will improve as the class progresses. In fact, if a student understands 60% of what the professor is saying, that is sufficient. It is important to understand the main ideas of language and not the small details.

Use of English by students is expected to be a last resort. Don't worry. Making mistakes is a part of the learning process. Students must first try to express themselves in Spanish. Any use of English during class will be reflected in the participation grade.

EMAIL POLICY

Contact your professor using your spartans.ut.edu email. Note: Emails received after 5pm will go unanswered until the next business day. This includes emails received on Friday at 5pm. These will go unanswered until Monday.

Make sure to include the following information in your email:

1. A subject for your email, which also includes the course title – "SPA 251"
2. A greeting/form of address
3. The body of your email should state clearly your question or problem.
4. A closing/your name

A sample email is below:

Subject - SPA 251 Question

Hola Dra. Miller,

I have a question about the language ropes course. Could I come talk to you during your office hours tomorrow?

Saludos,

Your Name

Email is considered a formal and official means of communication. It is not appropriate to send an email that looks like a text message. This includes emojis and shorthand. Your email will go unanswered if it does not have at least these four parts and/or looks like a text.

OFFICE HOURS POLICY

Please schedule a time to stop by my office hours. Use this link to schedule online: <https://www.picktime.com/alyssiamiller>. I have over 120 students this semester, and my office hours fill up quickly. I do not want to waste your by being in another meeting when you plan on coming to my office. Make sure to schedule an appointment using the link above.

TRANSLATOR POLICY

The use of translators is strictly prohibited in this course as it is a form of cheating and academic misconduct. The best resource to use is an English/Spanish or Spanish/English dictionary. For an online dictionary, www.wordreference.com is highly recommended. If a

student is found to be using a translator on an assignment, the student will automatically be reported to the Associate Provost for academic misconduct.

University Policies:

REPORTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE/ TITLE IX MATTERS

Sexual violence includes nonconsensual sexual contact and nonconsensual sexual intercourse (which is any type of sexual contact without your explicit consent, including rape), dating violence, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, and stalking. You may reach out for confidential help (see contact info below) or report an incident for investigation.

If you choose to write or speak about an incident of sexual violence and disclose that this violence occurred while you were a UT student, the instructor is obligated to report the incident to the Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students. The purpose of this report is to provide a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all students. The Deputy Coordinator or his or her designee will contact you to let you know about the resources, accommodations, and support services at UT and possibilities for holding the perpetrator accountable. If you do not want the Title IX Coordinator notified, instead of disclosing this information to your instructor, you can speak confidentially with the individuals listed below. They can connect you with support services and discuss options for holding the perpetrator accountable.

There is an exception to this required reporting for preventative education programs and public awareness events or forums. While the instructor is not required to report disclosures during these instances, unless you make or initiate a complaint, during these programs or events, the instructor or another University official will ensure that the students are aware of the available resources at UT, such as counseling, health, and mental health services, and it will provide information about Title IX, how to file a Title IX complaint, how to make a confidential report, and the procedure for reporting sexual violence.

For more information, see The University of Tampa's [Title IX](#)¹ webpage and the Student Services [Title IX and Sexual Misconduct Procedures](#)² webpage.

To make a confidential report of sexual violence, please contact:

- The Victim's Advocacy Hotline: (victimadvocacy@ut.edu) (813) 257-3900
- Dickey Health & Wellness Center (wellness@ut.edu) (813) 257-1877
- Health and Counseling Center (healthcenter@ut.edu) (813) 253-6250

¹ <http://www.ut.edu/titleix/>

² <https://www.ut.edu/studentconduct/titleix/>

ADA STATEMENT

Students with disabilities: If there is a student who requires accommodations because of any disability, please go to the Academic Success Center in North Walker Hall for information regarding registering as a student with a disability. You may also call (813) 257- 5757 or email disability.services@ut.edu. Please feel free to discuss this issue with me, in private, if you need more information.

CAMPUS CLOSURE STATEMENT

Course interruption due to adverse conditions: In case of any adverse condition or situation which could interrupt the schedule of classes, each student is asked to access [UT Homepage](#)³ for information about the status of the campus and class meetings. In addition, please refer to [UT Blackboard](#)⁴ for announcements and other important information. You are responsible for accessing this information.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

Academic integrity: Cheating, plagiarism, copying and any other behavior that is contrary to University standards of behavior will not be tolerated.

Students caught violating any aspect of the University of Tampa's Academic Integrity Policy will be penalized in all cases. Penalty ranges from "0" on an assignment to "F" for the course without regard to a student's accumulated points. Students may also face expulsion. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the policies of the university regarding academic integrity and to avoid violating such policies. Policy information is found at [Academic Integrity Policy](#)⁵.

CLASS DISRUPTION STATEMENT

Disruption policy: Every student has the right to a comfortable learning environment where the open and honest exchange of ideas may freely occur. Each student is expected to do his or her part to ensure that the classroom (and anywhere else the class may meet) remains conducive to learning. This includes respectful and courteous treatment of all in the classroom. According to the terms of the University of Tampa Disruption Policy, the professor will take immediate

³ <http://ut.edu>

⁴ <https://utampa.okta.com>

⁵ <http://ut.smartcatalogiq.com/en/current/catalog/Academic-Policies-and-Procedures/Academic-Integrity-Policy>

action when inappropriate behavior occurs. Details of the policy may be found at [Disruption of the Academic Process](#)⁶.

FERPA DISCLAIMER

Following the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), no third-party person will be able to serve as a proxy for matters pertaining to this course. Communication will be between the professor and teacher. If a matter cannot be resolved, the chair of the department will help mediate a resolution.

GENERAL DISCLAIMER

The professor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as necessary.

⁶ <http://ut.smartcatalogiq.com/en/current/catalog/Academic-Policies-and-Procedures/Disruption-of-the-Academic-Process>