

Spanish Language in America

Code: 100610
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500248 Spanish Language and Literature	OT	3	0
2500248 Spanish Language and Literature	OT	4	0

Contact

Name: Josep Maria Brucart Marraco
Email: JosepMaria.Brucart@uab.cat

Use of Languages

Principal working language: spanish (spa)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: No
Some groups entirely in Spanish: Yes

Prerequisites

The students that course this matter have previously approved the credits corresponding to basic and obligatory matters, which guarantee that basic competences have been adequately acquired. Consequently, the students have to be able to speak and write with formal property. Orthographic and expression mistakes will imply the lowering in the final qualification.

The student who performs any irregularity (copy, plagiarism, identity theft...) that can lead to a significant variation of the qualification of an evaluation act, will be qualified with 0 this act of evaluation. In case there are several irregularities, the final grade of the subject will be 0.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The course "American Spanish" takes part of the general matter *Variation and diachrony in Spanish Language* and can be coursed as an optional matter in the 3rd or 4th year of the degree of Spanish Language and Literature.

The goal of the course is to describe and analyze the linguistic traits of American Spanish in the general context of Spanish Language. Students have be able to identify the main American variants of Spanish, to describe their main characteristics and to recognize concrete instances of them, both textual and oral. The course will present a characterization of the linguistic situation corresponding to the different American countries and the contacts between Spanish and other languages. The course perspective is basically synchronic, but some historical aspects that are at the base of the different varieties will also be studied, as well as the theories that have been proposed to explain its process of formation.

Competences

Spanish Language and Literature

- Analyze the main phenomena of Spanish linguistic variation (historical, geographical, social and pragmatic variation).
- Demonstrate knowledge of the history and development of the Spanish language, and identify the main periods of evolution and fundamental linguistic characteristics of each.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.

Learning Outcomes

1. Carrying out oral presentations using appropriate academic vocabulary and style.
2. Describe the history of the formation of the Spanish in America.
3. Distinguish the general features of American Spanish.
4. Identify oral texts of different varieties of American Spanish.
5. Solving problems autonomously.
6. Submitting works in accordance with both individual and small group demands and personal styles.
7. Summarising acquired knowledge about the origin and transformations experienced in its several fields of study.

Content

1.- A brief history of the expansion of Spanish language in America. Hypothesis on the formation of American Spanish. The current situation of Spanish in America. The main varieties of American Spanish. The linguistic maps. Linguistic legislation in the different countries. The name of the language: Spanish, Castilian and National Language.

2.- General traits of American Spanish. Phonetic and phonological aspects: vowel system, *seseo*, *yeísmo*, *rehilamiento*, aspiration and other consonantic phenomena. Morphosyntax: possessive and personal pronouns, prepositions, verbal tenses and verbal complexes. Address systems: *voseo*. Syntactic phenomena. The lexicon: indigenisms and dialectalisms. The influence of other European languages (Italian, Portuguese, English and French).

3.- American Spanish and the Hispanic norm. The NGLE and the DPD. Linguistic atlases and other research projects on the variation of the American Spanish. The dictionaries of americanisms.

4.-The sociolinguistic situation in Latin America. The contacts between Spanish and American Languages. The linguistic policy of American countries. Pidgins and creoles with an Hispanic component.

5.- The American heritage in the history of Spanish grammar. Bello, Sarmiento, Cuervo, Henríquez Ureña, Lenz. The Buenos Aires school. The Caro and Cuervo Institute. The Mexican anthropology school. The Nord-American hispanism.

Methodology

The students activities are distributed as follows:

- Teacher-directed activities (35%): they include classroom classes, practical classes and seminars, with a combination of theoretical presentations and discussion of all kind of texts.
- Tutorials (10%): devoted to the comment and correction of problems and exercises.

- Autonomous and cooperative activities, which include individual study, the elaboration of reports and exercises and the resolution of problems, as well as the preparation of an oral presentation.
- Evaluation activities (5%)

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Theoretical and practical classes	60	2.4	2, 3, 1, 4, 6, 7
Tutorials	15	0.6	2, 3, 1, 4, 6, 7
Type: Autonomous			
Class and proofs preparation	45	1.8	2, 3, 1, 4, 6, 7

Assessment

The final assessment of the course includes three components: a written examination in the classroom (50%), a classroom presentation (20%) and an individual or small-group coursework (30%). All three activities are compulsory to pass the course. In exceptional circumstances, the oral presentation can be replaced by a synthesis essay. Any student lacking any assessment component will be qualified as "No evaluable". In order to pass the course it is necessary to obtain (a) as a minimum 5/10 in the weighted average of the three activities, and (b) as a minimum 4/10 in the written examination. In the event that this qualification is not reached, the student can do the reassessment.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Classroom presentation	20%	5	0.2	3, 1, 4, 5, 7
Individual or small group coursework	30%	15	0.6	2, 3, 1, 4, 6, 7
Written examination in the classroom	50%	10	0.4	2, 3, 4, 5, 7

Bibliography

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