

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

**SPAN 475 B1: SPANISH IN SOCIETY  
WINTER TERM 2016**

Instructor: Dr. Yvonne Lam  
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Time: TR 9:30am-10:50am  
Place: T B 117  
Office Hours: TR 11:00-12:00, or by appointment

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**Course Prerequisite:**

SPAN 320 and an additional \*3 in SPAN at the 300-level excluding 300 or 306, or consent of Department

**Course Description and Objectives:**

Although there are many places where Spanish is used, it is rare for Spanish to be the sole language spoken there. In this course, we will examine what happens when Spanish coexists with other languages, either as the dominant language, as in Spain and Latin America, or as a minority language, as in the United States and Canada. We will learn about both the linguistic and the social effects of language contact. We will also conduct a survey on language ideologies among Hispanics in Canada.

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- explain how languages in contact can influence each other linguistically and provide examples
- identify social factors that influence language use in contact situations
- compare the sociolinguistic outcomes of different contact situations
- design, conduct and analyze a basic survey

**Text:**

Klee, C. & Lynch, A. (2009). *El español en contacto con otras lenguas*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.

**Additional Mandatory Instructional Fees** (approved by Board of Governors):

Yes       No

**Grade Distribution:**

Component	Value	Due dates
Tests	60% (3 tests x 20% each)	Feb 2, Mar 15, Apr 7
Survey project	30%	various mini-deadlines along the way; full project due Mar 29
Article presentation	10%	Feb 23 & 25

## Explanatory Notes on Assignments and Tests:

Tests: The tests will be based on the textbook, any related assigned readings, and class discussions, covering the specified chapters only. The tests must be taken on the scheduled date. In cases of potentially excusable absences, a make-up test will be administered at the earliest mutually convenient time and date. If the student fails to show for the make-up test, a grade of zero will be recorded. For an unexcusable absence, a mark of zero will be recorded. There is no final exam in the course.

Survey project: Students will design a survey examining the language ideologies of Hispanics in Canada. Each student will be responsible for recruiting at least one participant to complete the survey online. Students will then work in groups to analyze the results and prepare a PowerPoint presentation with their analysis. Further instructions will be provided in class and posted on eClass.

Presentation: A list of articles will be provided by the instructor. You will be asked, in pairs, to select one of the articles for a “pecha kucha” style presentation. Further instructions will be provided in class and posted on eClass.

## Grading:

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages. Letter grades will be assigned only to the final distribution of mark totals for the course. "Grades reflect judgements of student achievement made by instructors and must correspond to the associated descriptor. These judgements are based on a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class." (University Calendar 23.4(4)) There is no pre-determined quota of letter grades (i.e. a “curve”) in a course (University of Alberta Assessment and Grading Policy, <http://www.policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

Letter	%	Pts	Descriptor
A+	95-100%	4.0	<b>Excellent</b> : Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4.0	<b>Excellent</b> : Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	<b>Excellent</b> : Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	<b>Good</b>
B	75-81%	3.0	<b>Good</b> : average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74%	2.7	<b>Good</b>
C+	66-69%	2.3	<b>Satisfactory</b> : Basic understanding of the subject matter
C	61-65%	2.0	<b>Satisfactory</b>
C-	58-60%	1.7	<b>Satisfactory</b>
D+	55-57%	1.3	<b>Poor</b> : Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	50-54%	1.0	<b>Minimal Pass</b> : Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0.0	<b>Failure</b> : Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

**Course-based Ethics Approval** in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes: Pro00061149, expires Dec. 3, 2016       No, not needed, no such projects approved

**Community Service Learning Component:**

Required       Optional       None

**Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available:**

- Exam registry – Students' Union  
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exams>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class or posted on eClass
- Other
- N/A

**Required Notes:**

Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University Calendar.

*Academic Integrity*

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

*Learning and Working Environment*

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students, faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the Student Ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca>). Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at <https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110>.

**Academic Honesty:**

All students should consult the information provided by the Office of Judicial Affairs (<http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/Students.aspx>) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook <http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en/Students/UndergraduateHandbook.aspx> and Information for Students

<http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/Students.aspx> ). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” Students should also be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who has reason to believe that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the Academic Discipline Process (<http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/TheDisciplineProcess.aspx> ).

### **Recording of Lectures:**

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

### **Attendance and Absences:**

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify the instructor by email within two days. Approval for an excused absence from term work is at the discretion of the instructor. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Unexcused absences may result in partial or total loss of the grade for the attendance and participation component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed in or completed as a result. Regardless of the reason for an absence, the student is responsible for the material covered in class.

### **Policy for Late Assignments and Tests:**

All assignments must be submitted at the beginning of the scheduled class time and all tests must be written on the specified date unless arrangements have been made **in advance** with the instructor. In cases of medical or other emergency, the student is responsible for notifying the instructor by email within two days, and written documentation may be requested. The instructor reserves the right not to accept a late assignment or to deduct up to 5% per day of lateness. There will be no “extra” assignments for “extra” marks.

### **Student Accessibility Services:**

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let the instructor know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Student Accessibility Services, contact their office immediately (1-80 Student Union Building; email [sasrec@ualberta.ca](mailto:sasrec@ualberta.ca); phone 780-492-3381; online <http://www.ssds.ualberta.ca> ).