

SAN JOAQUÍN DE FLORES INSTITUTE

COURSE	Linguistics
CREDITS	3
CLASS HOURS	3
CLASS SCHEDULE	
PERIOD	
COURSE START AND END DATE	
PROFESSOR (include email address)	
OFFICE HOURS	

DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to the basic characteristics of the linguistic system of the Spanish language, which will be contrasted with other languages, particularly English. Some similarities and differences between regional and social variations will also be discussed. The linguistic study of the language will focus on sounds (phonetics and phonology), word formation (morphology), sentence constructions (syntax) and the history of the language, taking into account the different varieties (historical and regional).

OBJECTIVES

GENERAL:

Provide students with specific conceptual tools to understand and analyze different linguistic facts.

SPECIFIC:

- 1- Offer an introductory vision about different concepts from the language.
- 2- Provide basic knowledge about the phonetic, phonological, morphological and syntactical levels of the Spanish language.
- 3- Provide a panoramic view of the social, historical and regional variations of the Spanish language.
- 4- Explore the development, status and perspectives of Spanish in contrast with American English.

CONTENTS

1. Definition of language

1.1 Different theoretical approaches about the definition of a language: structuralism, generativism and functionalism.

1.2 Linguistic disciplines that study language: sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, pragmatics and discourse analysis.

2. Spanish Phonetics

2.1 Fundamentals of articulatory phonetics.

2.2 Definition of Spanish sounds by point of articulation.

2.3 Definition of Spanish sounds by manner of articulation.

3. Spanish Phonology

3.1 Differences between phonetics and phonology

3.2 Basic concepts of Spanish phonology: characteristics, phonemes, allophones, distribution, opposition and neutralization.

4. Spanish Morphology

4.1 Basic concepts of Spanish morphology: morpheme, suffix, infix, prefix, among others.

4.2 Types of words: nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, pronouns, articles, conjunctions, prepositions and interjections.

4.3 Word formation in the Spanish language: derivation, affixation, suffixation, composition and portmanteau words.

5. Spanish Syntax

5.1 Simple sentences and their components.

5.2 Complex sentences and their components.

6. Semantics

6.1 Linguistic sign

6.2 Semantic fields

6.3 Homonym, synonym, antonym

6.4 Euphemism and dysphemism

7. Slang

7.1 Definition of slang

7.2 Costa Rican youth slang

EVALUATION

Use of target language. Students must only speak Spanish during class. The use of English will be reason to lose points.	5%
Homework. Homework will be assigned each week, including readings, research of a specific subject, interviews to different people, etc.	10%
Attendance and punctuality. Students must be present and on time for each class.	5%
Participation. Students must have a spontaneous and active participation in all class discussions.	5%
Exams. Three exams will be applied during the course duration with a value of 25% each.	75%

METHODOLOGY AND CHRONOGRAM OF EVALUATIONS

Lectures imparted by the professor will be complemented with discussions about the materials used in class. Students are expected to come prepared after reading the different assigned materials. These texts are considered a requisite and are part of the evaluation. Attendance is also mandatory (students will fail the course after three accumulated absences, which will only be justified with a medical certificate).

Dates

Exam 1	Week 4
Exam 2	Week 8
Exam 3	Week 12

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Alvar, Manuel. 2000. *Introducción a la Lingüística española*. Barcelona: Editorial Ariel.

Miranda, José Alberto. 1994. *La formación de palabras en español*. Salamanca: Ediciones Colegio de España.

Obediente Sosa, Enrique. 1997. *Biografía de una lengua: nacimiento, desarrollo y expansión del español*. Cartago: Editorial Tecnológica de Costa Rica.

Ross, Ronald L. 1982. *Investigando la sintaxis del español*. San José: Editorial de la Universidad Estatal a Distancia.

Thomas, J. M.-C., Bouquiaux, L. y Cloarec-Heiss, F. 1986. *Iniciación a la fonética*. Madrid: Editorial Gredos.

Ramírez, Arnulfo G. 1992. *El español de los Estados Unidos: El lenguaje de los hispanos*. Madrid: Editorial MAPFRE.

Quesada Pacheco, Miguel Ángel. 2002. *El español de América*. Cartago: Editorial Tecnológica de Costa Rica.