



CIEE Seville, Spain

Course title:	Contrastive Grammar: Spanish-English
Course code:	SPAN 4011 CSCS
Programs offering course:	Advanced Liberal Arts, Business and Society, Communications, New Media and Journalism Spanish, Liberal Arts
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. semester credits:	3.00
Contact hours:	45.00
Term:	Fall 2023

Course Description

The aim of this course is that the students gain a solid and practical understanding of Spanish through comparative analysis of English and Spanish. The students will focus on certain grammatical, syntactical and lexical aspects of the Spanish language which tend to present the greatest challenge for native English speakers. The ultimate goal of this contrast between the two languages is to improve the students' language level.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

Through the contrastive analysis of the most relevant syntactic aspects of Spanish and English students are expected to eliminate the transfer problem when switching code (English → Spanish), which should be conducive to a relevant gain in language proficiency concerning her/his master of Spanish. Similarly, students are expected to be aware of the fact that this contrastive analysis should result in a sound knowledge of the two languages as well as more coherent and precise usage to the language above.

Course Prerequisites

The course requires a good working knowledge of conversational Spanish, grammatical concepts and terminology (direct object, indirect object, prepositions, adverbs, adverbial phrases, etc.).

Methods of Instruction

This professor will provide succinct and contextual explications of the theoretical aspects of this course, to be followed by practical exercises. Together the class will enact everyday situations in which the student can implement the theoretical lessons learned in class.

Program

1. Articles: Definite and Indefinite. Contrasts. The article as a nominalizer.
2. Nouns. Countable and uncountable nouns. Agreement problems. Nouns in attributive position. Nominalization.
3. Adjective. Pre-nominal and post-nominal position. Confusing cases. Possessive and demonstrative adjectives.
4. Pronouns: Subject and object. Verbs + Indirect object construction (gustar, encantar, etc.)
5. The Spanish neuter LO. Neuter demonstrative pronouns.
6. Verbal miscellany: Preterit versus imperfect: uses. Present perfect: contrasts. The English modals verbs: a comparison with Spanish. There + be: contrasts.
7. Uses of "SE". Pronominal verbs. Becoming verbs (ponerse, volverse, quedarse, convertirse, etc.)
8. Noun and adverbial clauses: Problems of mood (indicative vs. subjunctive)
9. Conditional clauses: Types. Problems of mood
10. Relative clauses: Relative Pronouns. Problems of mood
11. Comparative structures. Adjectives and Adverbs
12. Prepositions and Conjunctions: Contrasts
13. Miscellaneous: common errors made by native English speakers.
14. Miscellaneous: colloquial expressions, English - Spanish
15. False friends English-Spanish

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to act in accordance with their university and CIEE's standards of conduct concerning plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Use of online translators for work in Spanish will result in an automatic failure.

Linguistic Resource Center: In this class, bring one whose objective is learning the language based on previous knowledge and skills, ALL STUDENTS ARE PROHIBITED FROM USING THE WRITING CENTER. All assignments turned in to the professor will be reviewed and handed back with comments; therefore, any previous corrections will detract from the learning process and objective of this course. The professor has office hours available where the student may consult any question or doubt, he/she may have. On the other hand, it is recommended that the student use the Spanish language tutoring services.

Assessment and Final Grade

1.	1st Exam	25%
2.	2nd Exam	30%
3.	Compositions (4)	25%
4.	Classroom Exercises	10%
5.	Participation	10%
	TOTAL	100%

Course Requirements

1st Exam

2nd Exam

Two exams will be given throughout this course (one mid-term exam and one final exam). The combined score of both exams will constitute **55%** of the student's final grade. The remaining **45%** of the final grade will be based on four compositions distributed throughout the course as well as classroom exercises and active participation.

Compositions (4)

Students are to write 4 compositions throughout the course covering the four types of textual typology, namely, description, narration, exposition and argumentation. These compositions, whose length will consist of 750 words, will be assessed in terms of textual coherence, grammar and lexical correctness, lexical variety, adequacy to the topic suggested and format. Each one of the aforesaid criteria will have a weigh of 20 points out of 100 points.

Classroom Exercises

Students are expected to complete different exercises covering a wide variety of grammatical aspects. Many of the aforesaid exercises should be completed at home and reviewed and analysed in detail during the lecture.

Participation

Students must participate actively during the class, inasmuch as this class implies a continuous and active effort to show the supposed improvement of the different skills practised in it.

Out of class activities: Students will attend an acoustic concert where several prestigious Sevillian musicians will perform an unplugged concert. We will compare the lyrics of popular Spanish songs to those of popular English songs. Similarly, students will compile typical Spanish colloquial expressions given by the professor and try to find their meaning by interacting with native speakers on the streets. Finally, they are expected to find out the equivalent in their language in order to give a 10-minute presentation by explaining their meaning in Spanish and their translation into English.

Attendance

To encourage engaged learning, regular class attendance is required throughout the program. This includes any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as internship, service-learning, or other required field placement.

An excused absence in a CIEE course will only be considered if approved by a CIEE Center Director/Academic Director (not the Instructor), and:

- it is a self-certified absence for illness (only once per course, requires formal request before or within 24 hours, cannot miss assessment worth more than 5% of final course grade)
- a doctor's note from a local medical professional is provided
- evidence of a family emergency is provided
- it is a pre-approved observance of religious holiday

Unexcused absences include personal travel and/or travel delays, as well as missing more than 25% of a single

class period (including tardiness and early departure). Assessments missed due to unexcused absences will be marked as zero. Students with over 10% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff. Students with over 20% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff, receive a formal warning letter (shared with their home institution) and lose 10% of the final course point total (e.g., a final A grade of 93% will be lowered to a B grade of 83%).

For more detail, please consult your CIEE Academic Manual.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to a positive and inclusive teaching and learning environment. All students are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness, respect, and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in grade penalties or disciplinary action. See the CIEE Student Academic Manual for further information on academic integrity.

N.B. Course schedule and co-curriculars are subject to change. The final duration and distribution of content and assignments will be determined and presented to students at the onset of the course.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class: 1.1 Articles: Definite and Indefinite. Contrasts.

Class: 1.2 The article as a nominalizer.

Reading pp 1-3 from *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

Week 2

Class: 2.1 Nouns. Problems of concordance.

Class: 2.2 Verbs with indirect objects

Reading: pp 4-7 from *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

Week 3

Class: 3.1 Adjectives. Problems of position.

Class: 3.2 Comparative Clauses

Reading: pp 10-14, 49-53 from *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

To hand in the first composition

Week 4

Class: 4.1 Pronouns. Position. Object pronouns.

Class: 4.2 Verbs with double objects.

Reading: pp 14-18 from *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

Week 5

Class: 5.1 The neutral "lo". Syntagmatic realizations.

Class: 5.2 Uses

Reading: pp 19-22 from *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

Week 6

Class: 6.1 Miscellaneous verbal. Periphrastic constructions

To hand in the second composition

Reading: pp 23-24, *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

Class: 6.2 Mid-term Exam

Week 7

Class: 7.1 Preterites. Uses

Class: 7.2 Uses of the verb HABER.

Reading: pp 25-27, *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

Week 8

Class: 8.1 Modal verbs. Uses of se.

Class: 8.2 Becoming Verbs

Reading: pp 28-32, *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

To hand in the third composition

Week 9

Class: 9.1 Miscellaneous subjunctive (I)

Class: 9.2 Emotional reaction verbs, verbs related to suggestions (I)

Reading: pp 33-41, *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

Week 10

Class: 10.1 Miscellaneous subjunctive (II)

Class: 10.2 Opinion verbs, value judgements, purpose clauses

Reading: pp 33-41, *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

Week 11

Class: 11.1 Conditional sentences. Conditional conjunctions. Relative clauses.

Class: 11.2 Relative clauses (pronouns and mood)

Reading: 42-48, *Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Española - Inglés*

To hand in the fourth composition

Week 12

Class: 12.1 Final Review

Class: 12.2 Final Exam

Course Materials

Readings

- Hill, S. y Bradford, William. Bilingual Grammar of English-Spanish Syntax. University Press of America. Maryland.1991.
- Butt, John y Benjamin, Carmen. A New Reference Grammar of Modern Spanish.
- Edward Arnold, Thompson, A.J. and Martinet, A.V. A Practical English Grammar. Oxford. OUP,2001
- Solé, Yolanda y Solé, Carlos.Modern Spanish Syntax. DC Heath and Company
- Whitley,S. Spanish -English Contrasts.Georgetown.University Press, Washington,DC,1986

- Stockwell, R. et al. The Grammatical Structures of English and Spanish. University of Chicago.
- Prado, Marcial. Diccionario de Falsos Amigos Inglés-Español. Gredos, Madrid, 2001
- Rodríguez, Antonio. Apuntes de Gramática Contrastiva Inglés-Español. (this will be used as a textbook for class)
- Rodríguez García, Antonio. Ejercicios de Gramática Contrastiva Inglés- Español (this will be used as a textbook for class)