

(SPAN 225) ADVANCED SPANISH B
PROGRAM OF ARGENTINE AND LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
UNIVERSIDAD DE BELGRANO

Course Syllabus

Course Information

Contact Hours: 60

Semester

Course Description

The aim of the course is for the student to perfect their communicative competence, deepen their grammatical and lexical knowledge of the Spanish language and expand their cultural knowledge of Argentina and Latin America. In the course we will work with different types of materials from different discursive genres (literary texts, films, journalistic articles, advertisements, essays, etc.) that will encourage discussion and exchange of opinions and will allow student to refine their linguistic strategies for oral and written production and comprehension.

In addition, we will learn and discuss some social and linguistic phenomena related to Spanish, such as "voseo", "lunfardo" (local slang), the debate over inclusive language, the influence of other languages on Spanish vocabulary, among other topics.

Course Requirements

Students must meet the requirement of 75% attendance to class in order to avoid losing regularity. The attendance control system is electronic. The professor also keeps internal control of attendance, since it is part of the course grade (see Grading Policy). Lack of punctuality (arriving more than ten minutes late or leaving class early) will be considered half-absences. In case of not attending class, it is the students' responsibility to contact their classmates or their professor to find out and complete the assignment for the next class.

Students are expected to actively participate in class and make an oral presentation that must be accompanied by a written text (the topic and date will be agreed with the professor during the course). During the semester, students will have homework and papers assigned for each class, which will be evaluated as detailed below. It is at the professor's discretion to accept late submissions (having missed the previous class does not justify not completing the assignment).

Grading Policy

Class attendance and participation	15%
Oral Presentation	10%
Mid- Term exam	15%
Final Exam	40%
Short assignments/reports/homework	20%

Academic Calendar

- Week 1** Presentation of the course and personal presentations. Brief history of Spanish. The place of Spanish in the world. Characteristics of Río de la Plata Spanish. The "*lunfardo*" (local slang).
- Week 2** Communicative Content: Narrating and describing in the past. Resources for relating biographies.
Grammatical and Lexical Content: The past tenses of the indicative mood. Contrast between the Simple past and the imperfect past of the indicative mood. Uses of the Past perfect. Temporal expressions. Verbal phrases indicating beginning, end, progress, continuity, and repetition of action.
Sociocultural Content: Biographies of outstanding figures in Argentine history.
- Week 3** Communicative Content: Resources for narrating legends and traditional stories.
Grammatical and Lexical Content: Narrating and describing in the past (continuation). Uses of "*ser*" and "*estar*". Adjectives that change meaning depending on whether they are used with "*ser*" or "*estar*". Idiomatic expressions with "*ser*" and "*estar*".
Sociocultural Content: Traditional legends of America.
- Week 4** Communicative content: Express tastes, preferences and emotions.
Grammatical and lexical contents: Introduction to the subjunctive mood and its contexts of use.
Sociocultural contents: Buenos Aires customs and traditions.
History and architectural styles of the City of Buenos Aires.
Assignment 1: Narrative text.
- Week 5** Communicative contents: Express wishes and requests; expressions of influence and purpose. Write formal messages.
Grammatical and lexical contents: The subjunctive mood, its tenses and its contexts of use.
Sociocultural contents: Tango and Latin American popular music.
- Week 6** Communicative content: Express opinions and value judgments about the present, the past and the future.
Grammatical and lexical contents: The subjunctive mood, its tenses and its contexts of use. Expressions of tastes and emotions.
Sociocultural content: Debate on the media, social networks and controversial advertising campaigns.
Assignment 2: Formal Letter.
- Week 7** Communicative contents: Talk about hypothetical and impossible situations. Make reproaches and regrets. Make excuses. Set conditions.
Grammatical and lexical contents: Conditional structures with "*si*".
Hypothetical "*como si*" comparisons.

Sociocultural contents: Reading short stories by Gabriel García Márquez and Julio Cortázar.

- Week 8** Review for the mid-term exam.
Mid-Term exam.
- Week 9** Communicative Content: Argumentation. Presenting, commenting on, and expressing opinions on a topic. Expressing cause, consequence, and purpose.
Grammatical and Lexical Content: Information organizers. Causal, consecutive, and final connectors.
Sociocultural Content: Issues and challenges of life in major Latin American cities.
- Week 10** Communicative Content: Argumentation. Presenting, commenting on, and expressing opinions on a topic.
Grammatical and Lexical Content: Connectors for adding, qualifying, contrasting, and refuting information.
Sociocultural Content: Debate on various current issues. Reading of journalistic articles.
Assignment 3: Argumentative text I.
- Week 11** Communicative Content: Argumentation. Presenting, commenting on, and expressing opinions on a topic (continuation).
Grammatical and Lexical Content: Adversative and concessive connectors. Reduplicative structures.
Sociocultural Content: The debate on inclusive language and other topics related to language use.
Oral presentation.
- Week 12** Communicative Content: Description of historical sites and well-known monuments. Expressing different points of view on the same fact.
Grammatical and Lexical Content: The passive voice using "ser" + past participle.
Sociocultural Content: Monuments and historical sites of Buenos Aires.
Assignment 4: Argumentative text II.
- Week 13** Communicative Content: Talking about customs. Generalizing. Omitting authors of an event. Explaining processes.
Grammatical and Lexical Content: The passive voice with "se" and the impersonal "se". Vocabulary related to cooking.
Sociocultural Content: Argentine gastronomy.
Oral Presentation.
- Week 14** Review of content for final exams.
- Week 15** **Final exams** and grade submission.
End of the course.

Required Textbooks and Materials

The required material for the course will be available on the Universidad de Belgrano's online campus (LMS).

The course content is based on the book:

Berman Yael y Lichtmann Yael; *Sin fronteras, nivel Avanzado B*, Universidad de Belgrano, Buenos Aires, 2015.

Supplementary Resources:

On the history of Spanish, Lunfardo, and contemporary Spanish. --

<https://www.fundacioncomillas.es/actualidad/noticias/view/el-origen-del-idioma-esp%C3%B1ol/>

- https://www.cervantes.es/imagenes/File/espanol_lengua_viva_2019.pdf
- https://www.cultura.gob.ar/en-el-dia-del-lunfardo-conoce-de-donde-vienen-muchas-de-las-palabras-que-usamos-a-diario_4604/
- <https://www.pagina12.com.ar/105340-el-lunfardo-es-un-fenomeno-linguistico-unico>

Resources for Telling Anecdotes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_13F-OZpl0 Indigenous Legends

- La flor del ceibo: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cobaxdzns4o>
- El cerro de los 7 colores:
<http://www.aborigenargentino.com.ar/leyenda-del-cerro-los-siete-colores/>
- El ñandú: <http://pueblosoriginariosargentinos.blogspot.com/p/leyendas-2.html>
- El fruto del calafate

Videos on Prominent Argentine Women of the 20th Century: *Videos about Victoria Ocampo, Cecilia Grierson, Alicia Moreau de Justo, and Lola Mora from channel "Canal Encuentro."*

Latin American Music and Tango:

- Solo le pido a Dios, Mercedes Sosa.
- Mi Buenos Aires querido, Carlos Gardel.
- Cambalache de Enrique Santos Discépolo.

Texts and videos on inclusive language: *Disidencias y estridencias. La lengua en disputa 2*, Feria de Editores, Buenos Aires 2020.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8PxLu0kLG4>

- <https://glotopolitica.com/2018/09/08/debate-por-el-lenguaje-inclusivo-nuestro-idioma-en-el-banquillo-por-machista/>
- <https://www.cronica.com.ar/info-general/Lenguaje-inclusivo-Moda-politica-o-una-lucha-mas-contra-la-desigualdad-20190807-0101.html>

Architectural Styles of Buenos Aires:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3KvptF9wRfo>

Argentine Gastronomy: Series "*Comidas regionales*" from channel "Canal Encuentro".

<https://www.youtube.com/user/encuentro/search?query=comidas+regionales>

Suggested Course Materials

- AA.VV.; *Gramática básica del estudiante de español*, Barcelona, Difusión, 2005.
- Lieberman, Dorotea Inés; *Temas de gramática del español como lengua extranjera*, Buenos Aires, Eudeba, 2007.

- Matte Bon, *Gramática comunicativa del español*, Madrid, Edelsa, 1995
- Gómez Torrego, Leonardo, *Gramática didáctica del español*, Madrid, Ediciones SM, 2002.
- Moreno Concha, Hernández Carmen y Miki Kondo Clara, *En gramática Avanzado B2*, Madrid, Anaya, 2007.