

## SPNS 305: SPANISH PHONETICS (AND PHONOLOGY) (Fall 2019)

MWF 2:00-2:50 p.m., Room LA 307

Instructor: Dr. Dora LaCasse

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Office: LA 429

Office hours: M/W/F Mon. 3:00-4:30 Wed. 9:30-11:00, by appointment

(Please e-mail me to schedule an appointment at a different time)



### Course Description<sup>1</sup>

In this course we will study the linguistic sound system of Spanish, contrasting parts of this system with the sounds of English. So, in this class you will be challenged to improve your Spanish pronunciation and to learn the technical terminology and symbols that we use to describe the sounds of a language.

### Course Objectives

By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. Describe the Spanish sound system (e.g. vowels, consonants, stress patterns).
2. Transcribe isolated words and phrases using the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet.
3. Identify which parts of the sound system of Spanish are the most difficult for speakers of English and explain why.
4. Define basic theoretical concepts of the sound system of any language (front vowel, fricative, etc.)
5. Identify and explain in your own words some topics of Spanish dialectology and sociolinguistics.

### Materials

1. Schwegler, Kempff & Ameal-Guerra (2018). *Fonética y Fonología Españolas 5th Edition*. Wiley & Sons.
2. Materials on website that accompanies book (free):  
<http://bcs.wiley.com/he-bcs/Books?action=index&itemId=1119395712&bcsId=11361>
3. Moodle website for class will include PowerPoint lectures, announcements and updates in course schedule (if necessary), gradebook, and digital dropbox for depositing audio files.
4. Digital recordings. You must have a way of recording your voice and creating sound files that you will deposit in the digital dropbox on Moodle for our recording project. This can be done with a computer, cell phone, or a digital voice recorder.

### Course Requirements and Grading

<sup>1</sup> Image credit: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/a/a8/Tipa\\_phonetics.svg/2000px-Tipa\\_phonetics.svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/a/a8/Tipa_phonetics.svg/2000px-Tipa_phonetics.svg.png)  
<http://res.freestockphotos.biz/pictures/15/15679-illustration-of-a-cartoon-speech-bubble-pv.png>

In this class we will be using a point system. This means that for each assignment you will receive points. You can easily predict the performance on the course as the semester unfolds by adding up the points you have so far and compare that to the table below:

### Grading scale

Letter grade	Points	Letter grade	Points
A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

Now, let's see which are the graded assignments and requirements:

- **Recording Project (25 points of final grade):** Students will complete a recording project to track their progress. In addition to voice recordings, the project includes two written analyses, which must demonstrate the ability to apply technical knowledge covered in class to analyses of speech. See document 'Recording Project' for further details.
  - a) STEP 1: Grabación (**5 points of final grade**): September 5<sup>th</sup>
  - b) STEP 2: Grabación + Ensayo\_Las vocales (**10 points of final grade**): September 24<sup>th</sup>
  - c) STEP 3: Grabación + Ensayo\_Las consonantes (**10 points of final grade**): November 7<sup>th</sup>
  
- **Exams (40 points of final grade):** If you have to miss an exam (only in case of serious emergencies, for which you must provide documentation), you must call/email in advance so as to reschedule the exam. Make-up exams will be essay-based, whereas in-class exams will include various types of questions (multiple choice, fill-ins, etc.).
  - a) *Midterm* (**20 points of final grade**): October 10<sup>th</sup>
  - b) *Final exam* (**20 points of final grade**): Date/ Time TBD
  
- **Quizzes (20 points of final grade):** There will be 4 quizzes (5pts. each). If you need to miss one due to a valid reason, make sure to let me know via email or in person in advance. If you miss one due to an emergency, contact me as soon as possible.
  - a) Quiz 1 (**5 points of final grade**): September 17<sup>th</sup>
  - b) Quiz 2 (**5 points of final grade**): October 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - c) Quiz 3 (**5 points of final grade**): October 31<sup>st</sup>
  - d) Quiz 4 (**5 points of final grade**): December 3<sup>rd</sup>
  
- **Active class participation and preparation (15 points of final grade):** Your participation is key to the success of this course. Your grade will be calculated as follows:
  - a) Spot Quizzes (**10 points**)
 

This part of your grade is based on your faithfulness to the reading assignments, your preparation for class and the attention you pay in class. At the beginning or end of many classes, you will be asked to answer brief questions or complete a short activity related to the reading or the topic we have been discussing in class. If you have carefully read the assignment and

prepared for class by reviewing relevant class notes, it will not be difficult to receive good grades on these quizzes. These assignments are meant to help both you and me know how well you are grasping the material. **You cannot makeup these assignments or take them later in a class period if you leave class early or arrive late.** Spot quizzes will be graded as Pass/Fail.

b) **Quality of in-class participation (5 points)**

This part of your participation grade is based on the quality of daily in-class participation, an important component of this course. In order to receive full credit in this area, students must *regularly* demonstrate knowledge of the readings by answering questions in class, consistently participate in in-class activities and discussions in a way that shows unwavering focus and dedication, and refrain from distracting, disrespectful, or otherwise objectionable behaviors (like using a cell phone).

## Other Policies and Information

**E-mail/Companion site/Moodle:** All students must frequently access their email, the student companion site to the textbook, & our Moodle site. What kind of technical assistance is available for students?

- UOnline Help Desk: 406-243-4999, 1-866-225-1641 or [umonline-help@umontana.edu](mailto:umonline-help@umontana.edu).
- Accessibility issues with Moodle: Marlene Zentz at 406-243-6434 or [marlene.zentz@umontana.edu](mailto:marlene.zentz@umontana.edu).
- NetID and email accounts and general computer technical assistance: IT Central Help Desk, 8am-5pm: 406-243-4357
- General registration information: Contact the Registrar's Office in the Lommasson Center at 406-243-2995

**Extra credit:** Don't expect extra credit assignments in this class.

**Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:** All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. See: [http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student\\_conduct.php](http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php)

**Special Considerations and/or Disabilities:** The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

**Office hours:** One of the best ways to take full advantage of learning in this course is by coming to my office hours. Take advantage of the hours listed above or email me for an appointment if those times do not work for you.

**Cell-phone, Tablet, and Laptop Use:** You may not use cell phones in class, and you may only use laptops and tablets for class-related activities. Checking email, texting, Facebook, etc. is distracting for you and for me. If you need to use your phone during class, please inform me beforehand. Note-taking on the computer will be very difficult in this class since you will be using special symbols not readily available in computer keyboards (i.e. it's much faster by hand). At some point in class

(when we have “Taller de Ensayos”) you will be asked to bring your laptops if you don’t want to print my feedback.

## Course Schedule<sup>2</sup>

Fechas	Temas	Lecturas / Grabaciones y ensayos
8/26	Introducción: (programa de clase, requisitos, la página de web, etc.). ¿Qué es la fonética?	
8/28	El acento prosódico(fonético), El acento ortográfico	Ch. 1: pp 1-11 y 16-18 Documentos en Moodle: 1. El acento prosódico (read this one first) 2. El acento ortográfico (read 2nd)
8/30	Repaso del acento ortográfico	<b>Traer impresos los ejercicios sobre la tilde para trabajar en clase</b>
9/2	Labor Day – No Classes, Offices Closed	
9/4	Fonética articulatoria: (Las vocales)	Ch. 2 <b>Entregar STEP 1: Grabación</b>
9/6	División silábica	Ch. 3: pp 35-48
9/9	Diptongos, triptongos, el hiato	Ch. 3: pp 48-59
9/11	Las consonantes [j], [w], Diptongos crecientes/decrecientes, semivocales	Ch. 4: 61-82
9/13	<b>Revision for Quiz 1</b>	
9/16	<b>Quiz 1</b>	
9/18	Práctica oral, Taller de ensayos	
9/20	Consonantes: Punto y modo de articulación	Ch. 7: pp. 121-138
9/23	Consonantes: Punto y modo de articulación	Ch. 7: pp. 121-138 <b>Entregar STEP 2: Grabación + ensayo (Análisis de vocales)</b>
9/25	Consonantes: Sonoridad	Ch. 7: pp. 139-149
9/27	Encadenamiento	Ch. 5
9/30	<b>Revision for Quiz 2</b>	
10/2	<b>Quiz 2</b>	
10/4	Repaso para el examen parcial	
10/7	Repaso para el examen parcial	
10/9	<b>EXAMEN PARCIAL (midterm)</b>	

<sup>2</sup> This schedule may change. Changes will be announced in class and updated written versions of this syllabus will be uploaded to Moodle as often as possible.

10/11	Prof. LaCasse at research conference, no class	
10/14	Introducción a la fonología: fonemas & alófonos	Ch. 9
10/16	/p, t, k/, /tʃ/ & Práctica oral	Ch. 10
10/18	/b,d,g/ y repaso de la letra 'g'	Ch. 12
10/21	Las vibrantes: /r/ simple & /r/ múltiple	Ch. 13
10/23	Las vibrantes: /r/ simple & /r/ múltiple cont'd	Ch. 13
10/25	/l/	Ch. 14
10/28	/s/, /x/	Ch. 15: pp. 254-272
10/30	<b>Revision for Quiz 3</b>	
11/1	<b>Quiz 3</b>	
11/4	Transcripción	
11/6	Transcripción + Taller de ensayo	
11/8	El español Peninsular	Ch. 19
11/11	Veterans Day – No Classes, Offices Closed	
11/13	El español Americano	Ch. 20
11/15	El Sistema vocálico del inglés	Ch. 17
11/18	El español en EE.UU.	Ch. 21
11/20	El español en EE.UU. (cont'd)	
11/22	<b>TALLER ENSAYOS</b>	
11/25	Codeswitching	HW: Read paper on CS <i>Entregar STEP 3: Grabación + ensayo (Análisis de consonantes)</i>
11/27	Student Travel Day – No Classes	
11/29	Thanksgiving Break – No Classes, Offices Closed	
12/2	<b>Quiz 4</b>	
12/4	Repaso para el examen final	
12/6	Repaso para el examen final	
12/10	<b>Final Exam 1:10-3:10</b>	