SPAN 2220 (section 501) – Spanish as a Heritage Language 4



El Cerro de Tomé with Isleta Pueblo and Albuquerque to the northeast

Instructor: Dominique Rodríguez
Email: rodriguezde@unm.edu
Office hours: MW 12pm-2pm
or by appointment
Office: Arts and Sciences #106
Canvas: https://canvas.unm.edu/
Meeting times: M 10:30am-11:45am
Four Saturdays 9am-1pm
Room: Student Center Complex 200

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Founded in 1889, the University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico - Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache- have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain stewards of this land through the generations and acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This Spanish 2220 course for students with conversational Spanish skills will be conducted with a focus on developing language skills through an exploration of local & Latin American history and culture foundational to the identities of Spanish-speakers in our region. The course is rooted in community-based learning in partnership with Tomé Land Grant. This course will be comprised of instruction and activities on Mondays in our classroom and fieldwork sessions on Saturdays for experiential learning in the local community.

Through this hands-on, community-centered course, students will work together to build their understandings of New Mexico's unique linguistic and cultural history. Throughout the semester, our focus will be on building strong relationships between students and with local community leaders to create a final service project that will be of use to the community for years to come. Across class meetings and the Saturday working sessions, students will design and conduct oral history interviews that will preserve local history. The final project for this class will be a bilingual Digital Cuento that synthesizes the history shared with us into a format that can be presented by community organizations across their digital platforms.

Required Saturday Fieldwork Sessions: @ Tomé Community Center 9AM-1PM

- Saturday, September 5th Community History and Tour
- Saturday, September 26th Meeting with Community Elders for Oral History Preparation
- Saturday, October 17th Oral history interviews
- Saturday, November 14th Sharing and revising Digital Cuento drafts

Catalog description: Spanish as a Heritage Language IV is a fourth-semester course designed for students who have been raised in a Spanish-speaking environment and speak, or understand, Spanish as a result of having heard it in the home and/or in the community. It is also for students with a cultural connection to heritage language speech communities or who have achieved proficiency from study in previous courses. This course will help the student build confidence in their Spanish abilities and expand the language use in the areas of writing, reading, oral

production and listening comprehension. In addition to scaffolding skills that students already have, in this class they will expand their ability to describe abstract and hypothetical situations. Students will build their language skills through an exploration of bilingual communities in the U.S. Students will also examine formal and informal contexts of language use in speaking and writing. By studying the cultural and historical background shared by students as part of the program, students will develop an increased critical awareness of Spanish language speech communities.

OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Interpersonal Communication: Students can exchange information on a wide variety of familiar topics in which the students use appropriate vocabulary to describe their daily lives, narrate events in the past, describe future events, and present a simple hypothetical situation with some degree of ease and confidence.
2. Written expression: Students can produce writing in the target language that states their viewpoint about familiar topics and give some reasons to support it, using sentences and series of connected sentences.
3. Interpretive listening: Students can usually understand the main idea and flow of events expressed in various time frames in conversations and discussions.
4. Interpretive reading: Students can usually follow the main message in various time frames in straightforward, and sometimes descriptive, paragraph-length informational and fictional texts.
5. Critical cultural awareness: Students can recognize and explain some of the issues facing bilingual communities in accordance with the instructor expertise and articulation with previous and subsequent courses.

REQUIRED TEXTS

All of the course materials will be available on UNM Canvas. You will work through your understanding of the readings and lectures in the assigned exercises and class discussions for each unit.

POINT SYSTEM & ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments	Points
Canvas homework assignments (reading, documentaries, practice activities)	30%
Attendance and Participation for class and fieldwork meetings	30%
Midterm Project – personal archive	10%
Oral history interviews – documenting local history	10%
Final Project – Digital Cuento	20%
TOTAL	**100%**

Canvas Homework Assignments: Students will engage with a variety of Spanish-language materials centering histories of local communities including readings, archival materials, short digital stories, and documentaries. Spanish grammar and writing skills will be presented through a selection of resources and practice activities.

Midterm Project: The midterm project centers the development of archival skills focusing on documenting students' own lived history. In this course, students will select one item from their family/life to describe in detail in Spanish. The narrative that they craft will situate the item within their familial history and within the broader linguistic, historical, and cultural context covered in this course.

Final Project: The final project will be completed across multiple stages. First, students will meet with community leaders and form relationships that will guide their work throughout the semester. They will collaborate with the community members to design, conduct, and preserve oral history interviews. Students will produce a 5-minute Digital Cuento (short story-telling film) synthesizing the community knowledge shared in the interviews in relation to their experiences throughout the process. Drafts of these digital cuentos will be shared with the community leadership to revise and workshop them collaboratively during the fourth Saturday working session. The revised final interviews and Digital Cuentos will be returned to the community to be shared and preserved.

Grade Scale		
Grade	Points	Description
A	90-100	Excellent. Greatly exceeds requirements. Shows high levels of creativity, skill, initiative, and effort.
B	80-89	Good. Exceeds requirements. Shows substantial creativity, skill, initiative, or effort.
C	70-79	Average. Meets, but does not exceed requirements.
D	60-69	Below Average. Meets some requirements but deficient in others
F	0-59	Poor. Deficient in all requirements

COURSE POLICIES

Class Format: This cross-listed course meets in-person throughout the semester once per week with four Saturday field trips. All assignments will be submitted through Canvas. The course takes a flipped classroom approach in which the majority of grammatical instruction and practice occur through homework assignments and class time is used to apply these concepts in practice. Students will have weekly Spanish-language readings on community history and preservation methods. Readings must be completed before our class meetings; we will discuss the readings together during class time. To be successful, it is very important that you organize your time, keep up with deadlines, and come to class having reviewed the material to be discussed.

Participation: This is an interactive class, and you are expected to actively participate in our language-learning community. Language acquisition happens through personal effort; you should push yourself to speak and participate in any way you can, even if it means leaving your comfort zone. Come to class prepared, homework assignments completed, ask questions and work cooperatively in groups; the more creative you are with assignments, the more fun you will have. You need to be present in order to receive credit.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance policies are strictly enforced. You will receive participation points each day (on-time attendance, in-class participation). You must be present to receive credit.

You are allowed 2 unexcused absences throughout the semester without impact to your grade (Saturday sessions are weighted based on the contact hours and count for more than one class meeting). Students may make up attendance points by attending office hours or extra credit activities including the weekly Spanish and English conversation group.

Office Hours: Office hours are opportunities to discuss questions about the class, class projects and/or subjects related to the course. Walk-in office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 12pm-2pm or by appointment. If

you would like to meet by Zoom or make an appointment outside these hours, please use this link or send me an email: https://calendly.com/rodriguezde-unm/30min

Communication: The best way to reach me is by email. Do not wait until the last minute to email me with questions, concerns or problems.

Netiquette: Refers to a set of guidelines in online communication that help to ensure positive interactions. These guidelines seek to keep online components of this class a positive learning environment for everyone. http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/students/pdf/discussion-netiquette.pdf

Late Assignments: If for whatever reason something prevents you from completing your weekly assignments, communicate with me as far in advance as possible. I will do my best to provide reasonable accommodation. **Note that I will not accept assignments after the final deadline of December 6th, 2026.**

Technical Skills: In order to participate in this class, you will need to be able to perform the following basic technical tasks:

- Use UNM Canvas, **"How to Use Canvas"** link on the left side of the home page.
- Use email – including attaching files, opening files, downloading attachments
- Copy and paste within applications including Microsoft Office
- Open a hyperlink (click on a hyperlink to get to a website or online resource)
- Use Microsoft Office applications
- Create, download, update, save and upload MS Word documents
- Download, annotate, save and upload PDF files

Technical Requirements:

- A high speed Internet connection is highly recommended.
- Supported browsers include: Internet Explorer, Firefox, and Safari. Detailed Supported Browsers and Operating Systems: http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/students/
- Any computer capable of running a recently updated web browser should be sufficient to access your online course. However, bear in mind that processor speed, amount of RAM and Internet connection speed can **greatly** affect performance. Many locations offer free high-speed Internet access including UNM's Computer Pods.
- For using the Media Tools inside Canvas, be sure you have downloaded and installed the latest version of Java, Flash, and Mozilla Firefox. They may not come preloaded.
- Microsoft Office products are available free for all UNM students (more information on the UNM IT Software Distribution and Downloads page: http://it.unm.edu/software/index.html)
- For UNM Technical Support: (505) 277-0857 (24/7) or use the "Create a Support Ticket" link in your course.

Canvas Site: Canvas will be an integral part of this course. The class syllabus and any changes hereafter will be posted there. In addition, more detailed descriptions of class assignments, as well as useful guides for the class will also be posted.

UNM POLICIES

Credit Hour Statement: This is a three credit-hour course. Class meets for one 75-minute session and four monthly 4-hour sessions of direct instruction for sixteen weeks. Please plan for a minimum of six hours of out-of-class work (or homework, study, assignment completion, and class preparation) each week. The purpose of

Tarea (homework) is to provide opportunities to practice the material we study in class to better prepare you for course assessments and mastery of learning objectives. https://online.unm.edu/readiness/index.html

Academic Integrity: Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in coursework may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

Accommodations: UNM is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an inclusive classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact the UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu. Also available is the Accessibility Resource Center at UNM-Albuquerque at arcsrvs@unm.edu or 505-277-3506.

You are always welcome to contact me for support with any learning needs. I can be reached via email or scheduled appointments through https://calendly.com/rodriguezde-unm/30min

UAP 2720 and 2740: Our classroom and university should foster mutual respect, kindness, and support. If you have concerns about discrimination, harassment, or violence, please seek support and report incidents. Find confidential services at LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center, the Women's Resource Center, and the LGBTQ Resource Center. UNM prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex (including gender, sex stereotyping, gender expression, and gender identity). All instructors are "responsible employees" who must communicate reports of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence to Compliance, Ethics and Equal Opportunity. For more information, please see UAP 2720 and UAP 2740.

Support: LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center and the support services listed on its website, the Women's Resource Center and the LGBTQ Resource Center all offer confidential services and reporting. While Pasos is not a confidential resource, they can direct you to confidential resources in Valencia County.

Citizenship and/or Immigration Status: All students are welcome in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. Your professor will respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. UNM as an institution has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community.

Respectful Conduct Expectations: I am committed to building with you a positive classroom environment in which everyone can learn. I reserve the right to intervene and enforce standards of respectful behavior when classroom conduct is inconsistent with University expectations [and/or classroom community agreements]. Interventions and enforcement may include but are not limited to required meetings to discuss classroom expectations, written notification of expectations, and/or removal from a class meeting. Removal from a class meeting will result in an unexcused absence. Three or more unexcused absences may result in permanent removal and a drop from the course (see Drop Policy). The University of New Mexico ensures freedom of academic inquiry, free expression and open debate, and a respectful campus through adherence to the following policies: D75: Classroom Conduct, Student Code of Conduct, University Policy 2240 – Respectful Campus, University Policy 2210 – Campus Violence.

Drop Policy: Students may be dropped from the course after 3 weeks if there has been no response to inquiries or if the student has 3 or more unexcused absences.

Safety: UNM offers several resources to help keep Lobos Safe. LoboGuardian, https://loboguardian.unm.edu is a mobile app that increases user safety by creating a virtual safety network of friends and family. The entire UNM campus has blue light emergency phones. UNM Police Department, tel.: (505) 277-2241, offers a free escort service for safety. Lobo Alerts https://loboalerts.unm.edu is UNM's emergency text messaging system that can inform you of any occurrences that impact safety. Get Help Now at LoboRespect
Advocacy Center https://loborespect.unm.edu/Get%20Help%20now/index.html for concerns such as sexual misconduct, hate/bias, bullying, hazing. Student Health Services https://shac.unm.edu provides counseling and health services to all students.

UNM Policies: This course falls under all UNM policies for the last day to drop courses, etc. Please see http://www.unm.edu/studentinfo.html or the UNM Course Catalog for information on UNM services and policies. Please see the UNM academic calendar for course dates, the last day to drop courses without penalty, and for financial disenrollment dates.

UNM RESOURCES

CTL Tutoring Services: CTL is a free-of-charge educational assistance program available to UNM students enrolled in classes. Online services include the Online Writing Lab, Chatting with or asking a question of a Tutor.

https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/learning-commons/index.html

https://caps.unm.edu/services/auth-access/olc.php?_gl=1*8ok57c*_gcl_au*MTQ3NjcwNzMyNi4xNzEwMTkxNTE1

UNM Libraries: http://library.unm.edu

Student Health & Counseling (SHAC) Online Services
http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/support/shac