



SPAN 20300 1, SPAN 20300 1 - Language, History, and Culture III - Instructor(s): Diana Palenzuela Rodrigo

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **15**

Number of Responses: **12**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
I've been able to dig deeper into the intricacies of the Spanish language in terms of more difficult conjugations and vocabulary. I believe this class is the difference between being able to survive in Spain and being able to speak comfortably in Spain.
Grammar.
Lots of grammar, lots of subtle mistakes that english speakers make when translating to spanish and how to correct them, how cultural themes are reflected across spanish speaking countries
This class was super helpful in reinforcing my Spanish grammar skills and vocabulary. As someone who considers themselves a good Spanish speaker, this class felt like it had the right amount of aspects that I was already familiar with, but with some nuances that I did not know about.
I learned a lot of Spanish vocabulary and grammatical structures. I also learned a lot about cultural and political happenings in the Spanish-speaking world, like the guerra sucia.
I learned new grammar and sentence structures. I found this to be very important and helpful because I am now able to write and speak about more concepts because I have the ability to write and speak in different tenses and with different sentence structuring.
I learned about nuanced grammar structures, like how certain verb tenses are also used when expressing courtesy, as well as topics related to Latin American countries. I appreciated the TalkAbroad conversations as they helped me learn even more about Latino/Hispanic culture.
I learned vocabulary that helped me talk about more professional and serious topics such as culture and politics. I also learned more grammar including new verb tenses that can be used for more complex statements
The most important thing that I learned in this course was how to communicate better with Spanish speaking people by doing the Talk Abroad projects. These projects were very informative and fulfilling.
It was a great opportunity to learn a bit more about the culture of Spanish-speaking countries while solidifying some of my existing knowledge of Spanish.
I learned niche vocab words and grammatical principles through the class.

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
Lectures were very helpful, as the professor made sure to keep everyone engaged and to foster an environment that promoted speaking practice for grammatical ideas.
Studying for exams on my own from the textbook was the most helpful contributor to my learning.
The online homework helped practice grammar and had a good variety of readings/listening activities. Readings helped us get better at parsing longer/more literary texts. Talkabroads helped us practice our speaking skills by talking with native speakers about our unit themes. Classes helped clarify grammatical rules and gave us a chance to practice what we'd learned through partner activities.
This class has a lot of work, and requires a lot of outside efforts. That being said, the TalkAbroad assignments are great for practicing speaking and feeling comfortable with the language.
Talk abroads contributed to my learning by offering the ability to speak to a native speaker. Exercises in class practicing grammar also contributed. Additionally, the connect assignments were helpful to review new structures.
The listening quizzes helped me to be able to understand different accents without having to translate as much word for word. I also appreciated that the class was always fully in Spanish so that I could practice becoming more proficient in conversation.
The TalkAbroad conversations were helpful to practice speaking and learn about a different country every time. Class exercises when you broke out into groups and talked with them were also very helpful too. Exams reinforced grammar concepts and the in–class essay we had was also a great exercise.
The reading assignments were helpful in learning words that weren't directly apart of our vocabulary. The talkabroad activities were good speaking practice. Being in class really helped with my listening abilities.
The discussions we had about the challenging readings we had to do definitely helped me gain a better understanding of what we were learning.
The class was organized well, with a diverse set of activities packed in (including grammar, vocabulary, opportunities to practice speaking). TalkAbroads (conversations with native speakers) were definitely a cool part of the course; it was great to meet people from different backgrounds and discuss their experiences. The workload was definitely a lot, however.
There is a lot of work split between reading, listening, and writing. Homework and projects are an every night commitment. Through use, you Spanish gets better.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	58.33%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	50.00%	41.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	33.33%	58.33%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.33	4.50	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	41.67%	50.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	25.00%	58.33%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	50.00%	41.67%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
This course is definitely more work that 202, and the jump from 202 to 203 was not proportional to the jump between 200 and 201. However, as long as students are aware of that, they will be able to succeed in the course.
It is hard to come into if you haven't taken a college level language course
Diana Palenzuela is a wonderful professor and this classroom was the most enjoyable learning environment for me this quarter. I felt excited to go to class each day.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	8.33%	91.67%
Anyone interested in the topic	25.00%	75.00%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
The instructor's in-class practice exercises were incredibly helpful for me, and her feedback on assignments helped me to continue to improve.
posting slides about grammar on canvas
The expectations for the tests were well-outlined and she posted practice tests on Canvas. The canvas modules were really well-organized and it was always clear when and what assignments were due. Her explanations of grammatical concepts were clear and concise and she was always willing to clarify more.
I really enjoyed Diana's organization of the class. The ratio between instruction, classwork/collaboration, and other activities felt like the perfect balance. She was very prepared each class for the topic at hand and was very knowledgeable about common mistakes students make and how to avoid them. She is also EXTREMELY responsive to emails, which is very helpful for any outside questions one might have.
She was very upbeat and dedicated to teaching us the concepts.
She always provided constructive and helpful feedback. She was always open to meeting outside of class and was focused on helping us develop our weaknesses. She also emphasized things that would be most helpful to us if we were to travel or use Spanish in real life.
I appreciated how she encouraged us to communicate in class by letting us find the right words or grammar conjugations – she also gently corrected us if we were wrong. This encouraged risk-taking in class.
Profesora Palenzuela Rodrigo did a good job in her delivery of content. She is gesticulative which is very helpful in trying to understand a different language. I also thought that her slides were very clear and easy to reference for other assignments.
Her excitement to help.
Her enthusiasm for the subject was palpable and definitely made me more excited to learn. I loved the activities in class: from listening to music videos to practicing grammar concepts, it was definitely busy throughout but very productive. The class was very participation-based and she made all of us very comfortable to speak in Spanish, even if we made mistakes.
The class is 100% in Spanish and she gives us the slides to each class.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
The instructor could work to make sure the expectations of assignments are fully explained, as there was some confusion about assignments within the class.
more opportunity for casual discussion in class between students that doesn't require use of grammar we literally just learned.
Nothing!
Nothing– great professor!
n/a
There were a lot of assignments, which at some level I understand helps us reinforce the learning of the language, but tailoring them to pick which assignments help the most could be helpful. For example, we had 2 projects after TalkAbroad conversations but it took so long to make those and didn't help in reinforcing the language. In its stead, I would prefer having to do 2 more TalkAbroad conversations without any assignment afterwards. Or 2 more oral exercises, in-class essays, etc.
Incorporating some examples of different accents would be helpful.
N/A
The readings she assigned were very long and, relative to their length (even long by English class standards, at least for the last two of three), I don't think I got as much value out of them given their difficulty. I would have preferred shorter readings which would have been much more manageable, even if they were longer.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.33	4.50	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	41.67%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.33	5.00	8.33%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	58.33%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.42	5.00	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	33.33%	58.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	25.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	33.33%	58.33%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.42	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	41.67%	50.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.42	5.00	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	33.33%	58.33%	0.00%

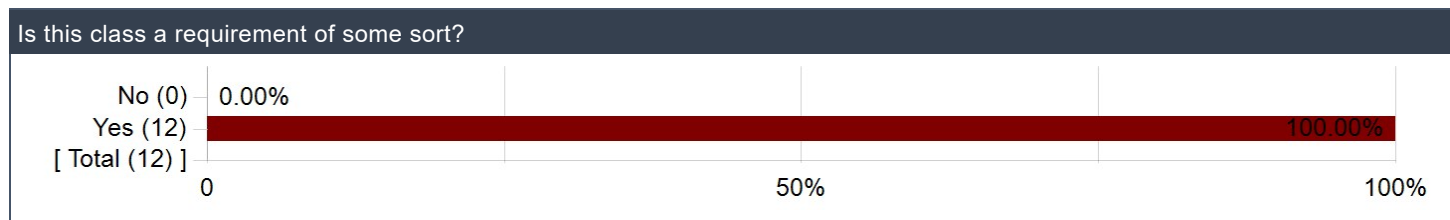
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Field Trips	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

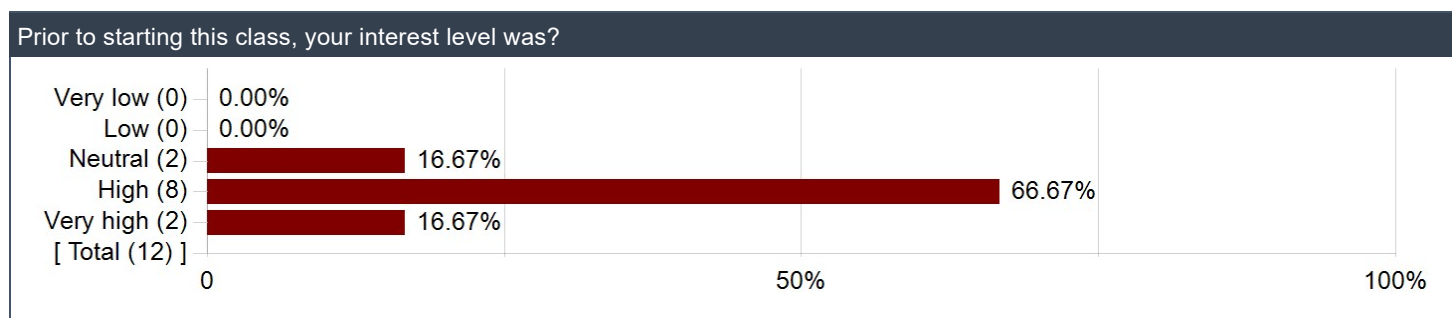
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
Talkabroad assignments, attendance at one Cafecito event, oral assessments outside of class time
The Cafecito events were really nice – I enjoyed the ones I went to a lot. I may not have thought about going to them if 1 wasn't required, but I ended up going to more than 1 because it was fun.

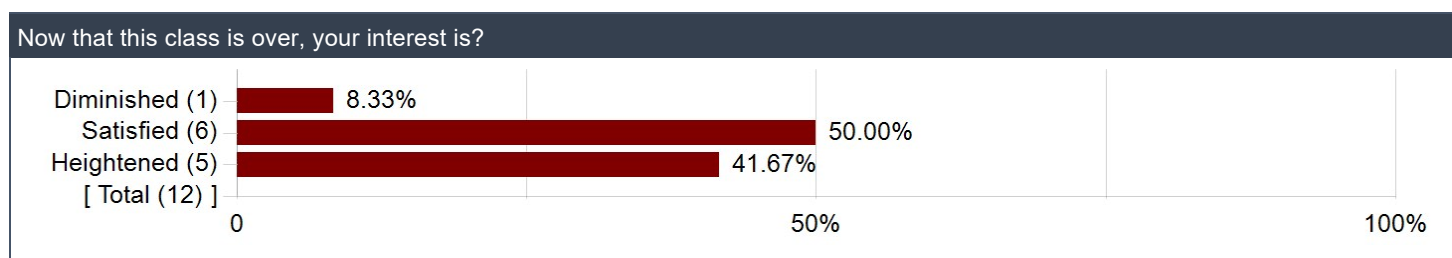
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



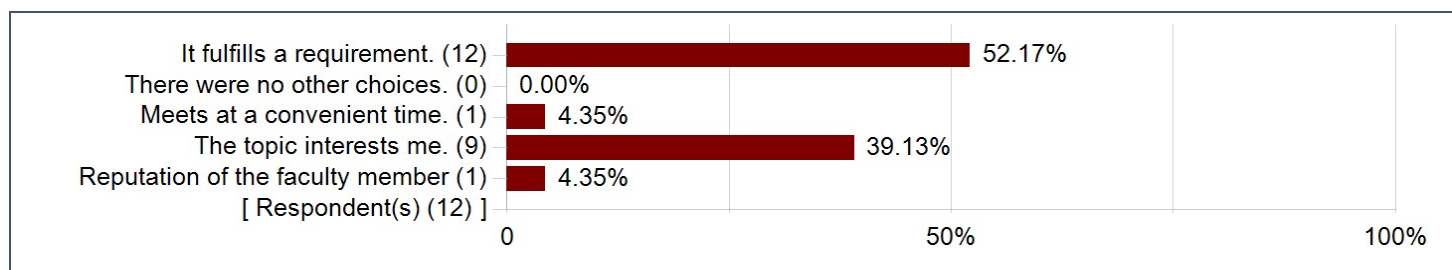
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



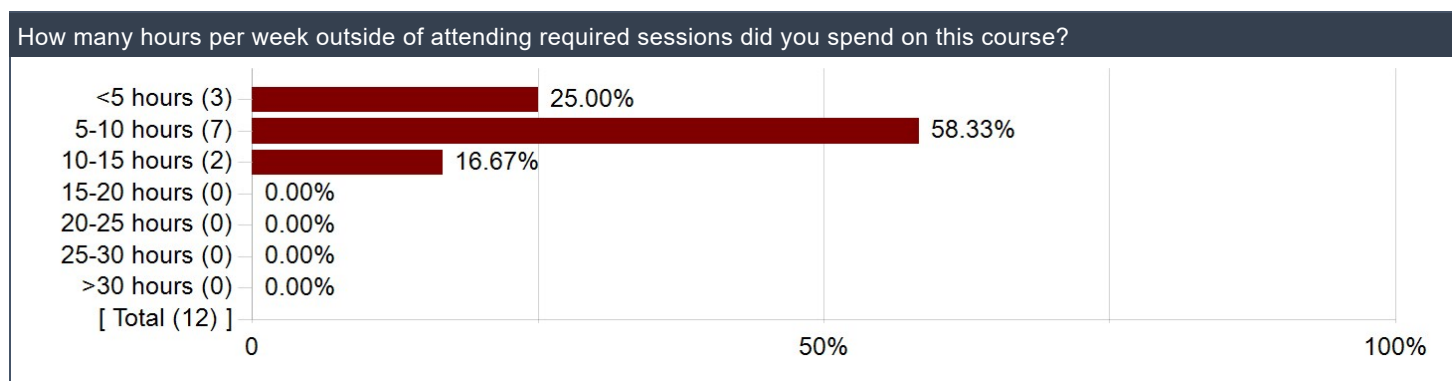
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



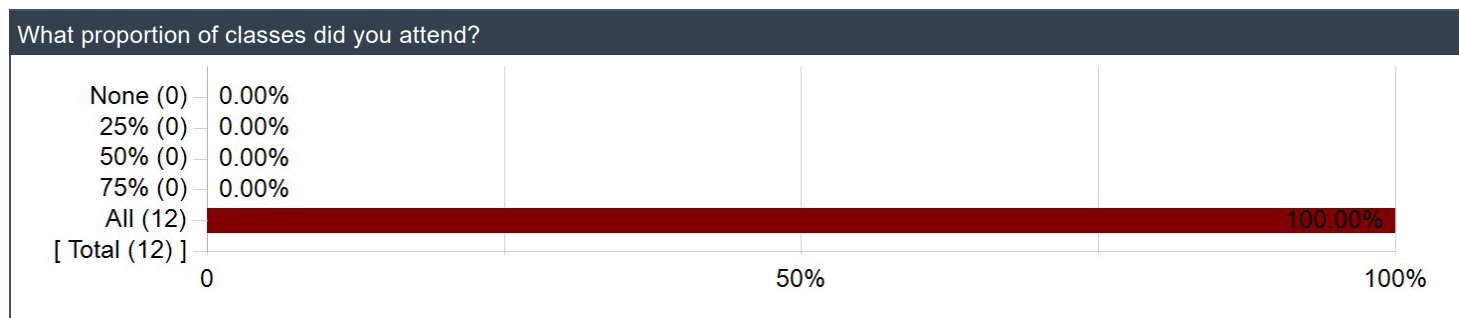
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
Spanish 202 provided me with the tools to understand the grammatical ideas of the class, but I did have to adjust to an increased workload.
I took spanish all throughout high school and this was such a hard and demoralizing class for me. It made me hate the language when I really loved learning it before. It goes too fast, everyone in the class was too good.
I took AP Spanish in high school and found this class to be more challenging than AP. Some of the grammatical concepts were review and some were new, but the readings and listening activities were definitely harder than anything I'd done before. The workload is not insignificant, but staying on top of deadlines and planning ahead helped me get through the course.
Not too difficult. Pushed me in a productive manner, but there is a lot of workload.
A bit difficult but she's a fair grader.
It was more challenging than 20100 and 20200 but was still a natural extension of these courses.
I hadn't spoken Spanish in 4 years and was a bit worried about jumping into it with a placement from my freshman year. But I was surprised how quickly it came back to me, and I think that was because of the intensive nature of the course. I've ended up doing pretty well in the class now!
This course was a bit more difficult for me than my previous language course at uchicago. The new grammar was the only part that was a slightly more difficult to retain.
Came in as a first-year with a lot of Spanish experience and did not find it too difficult (apart from those two readings). Very doable even if it has been sometime since you spoke Spanish or took a Spanish class.
Placed into 203