

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

SPN 346
Practical Phonetics

Instructor: Dr. Melissa D. Murphy
Office Hours: M/W/F 11:45-12:45

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Unique number: 89060

****This course will be taught in Spanish****

I. PREREQUISITE: SPN 327G or equivalent

II. REQUIRED TEXT:

Schwegler, Armin, Juergen Kempff, Ana Ameal-Guerra. 2010. Fonética y fonología españolas. 4^a ed. Wiley. ISBN: 978-0-470-42192-5

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

SPN 346 is an introduction to the study of phonetics, with particular emphasis on the sounds of Spanish. This course is designed with both theoretical and practical objectives in mind. Students will become familiar with basic theoretical notions, as well as the fundamentals of articulatory phonetics. From a practical standpoint, students will learn to do transcriptions using the International Phonetic Alphabet, will increase their ability to recognize phonetic characteristics of various dialects of Spanish, and will gain the self-awareness necessary to improve their own pronunciation. These skills will be useful for those interested in furthering their studies in fields such as bilingualism, bilingual education, language acquisition, sociolinguistics, etc.

IV. POLICIES:

1. **Attendance:** Due to the nature of this course, regular class attendance is required for successful completion. You are allowed 2 absences with no penalty. For each additional absence, 1 percentage point will be deducted from your final semester average.
2. **Make-ups:** No make-ups will be allowed, except in case of an emergency or university-sponsored activity. Students should notify the instructor as soon as possible and must present documented evidence of the excuse in a timely manner.
3. **Plagiarism:** Submitting any assignment that is not your own original work may be considered plagiarism and will be dealt with according to University policy. For more information, visit Student Judicial Services (SJS) at <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/>.
4. **Accommodations:** Your instructor will be available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations for students with a disability. Before course accommodations can be made, students will be required to provide documentation prepared by the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (SSD). To ensure that the most appropriate accommodations are provided, students should contact the SSD Office at 471-6259 or 471-4641. For more information, please refer to <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/ssd>.

V. COURSE ASSESSMENTS:

1. **Exams:** We will have three exams, one after each major Unit. Exams will include material from the textbook as well as any additional handouts and material covered in class. ** There is no final exam**
2. **Quizzes:** We will have several announced and “pop” quizzes during the semester. These quizzes will help you assess your strengths and weaknesses in order to better prepare for exams.
3. **Homework:** You will have daily reading assignments (typically one chapter per day). You will also have other assignments such as written exercises, transcriptions, audio recordings, and section summaries to be turned in for a grade. Make sure to dedicate enough time outside of class in order to keep up with the course material and receive a high homework grade.
4. **Exam review:** You will be responsible for presenting a review of at least one chapter to the class. We will have a “review day” before each exam and you will be able to sign up for topics/chapters at the beginning of the semester.
5. **Final Project:** At the end of the semester, you will work on a final project in pairs or small groups. You will either 1) research a dialect of Spanish, or 2) prepare a critical summary of an academic article related to Spanish phonetics. You will present your work to the class on one of the two days indicated on the syllabus.

VI. GRADE BREAKDOWN & GRADING SCALE:

Exams (3)	45%	Quizzes	15%
Exam Review	10%	Homework	15%
Final Project	15%		

There is no curve or extra credit! The following scale will be used to determine your final grade in the course:

93-100 = A	83-86.99 = B	73-76.99 = C	63-66.99 = D
90-92.99 = A-	80-82.99 = B-	70-72.99 = C-	60-62.99 = D-
87-89.99 = B+	77-79.99 = C+	67-69.99 = D+	0-59.99 = F

CALENDARIO DEL CURSO

UNIT 1: Las vocales y la silabificación

June 2	Introducción al curso & Capítulo 1
June 3	Capítulos 2 & 17
June 6	Capítulo 3
June 7	Capítulos 4 & 5
June 8	Capítulo 6
June 9	Capítulo 7
June 10	Capítulo 7
June 13	Repaso
June 14	Examen #1

UNIT 2: Las consonantes y la transcripción fonética

June 15	Capítulo 8
June 16	Capítulos 9 & 10
June 17	Capítulo 11
June 20	Capítulo 12
June 21	Capítulos 13, 14 & 15
June 22	Repaso
June 23	Examen #2

UNIT 3: La variación regional y temporal

June 24	Capítulo 18
June 27	Capítulo 18
June 28	Capítulo 19
June 29	Capítulo 20
June 30	Capítulo 21
July 1	Proyecto (Presentaciones)
July 4	<i>Día festivo (no hay clases)</i>
July 5	Proyecto (Presentaciones)
July 6	Repaso
July 7	Examen #3