



KIIS SPAIN I Program, Summer 2022

SPAN 345 Topics: Spanish Pronunciation

Instructor: Dr. Regina Roebuck

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Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description:

An introduction in the study of Spanish phonetics with emphasis on practical exercises for improving students' pronunciation of Spanish. Taught in Spanish. **Prerequisites:** Completion of Intermediate Spanish

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

The goal of SPAN 345 is to strengthen knowledge of the Spanish phonetic system and pronunciation by:

- providing a place for examination and practice of the sounds in Spanish in which learner articulation is both the message and the mode,

- engaging learners in activities that challenge the notion of what Spanish is and how it is articulated,
- equipping learners with the metalinguistic and metacognitive language necessary for linguistic description that reflects appropriate speech.

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

Spanish phonetic symbols and descriptions
 Syllabification and accentuation
 The phoneme
 The vowels of Spanish
 The consonants of Spanish
 Dialectology - Spanish around the world

Course Methodology: Class time is mainly for directed oral practice and examination of phonemes and allophones; learners must prepare thoroughly outside class by reading assigned pages from the book, working with classmates towards internalization, marking passages that present difficulties (in order to ask the instructor/classmates for clarification), and becoming familiar with the metalinguistic vocabulary. By doing this learners prepare themselves to use their new vocabulary appropriately during oral work in class. Classes will be conducted entirely in the target language, Spanish, and although sometimes it may be frustrating, the more you are exposed to the target language, the more you will understand it. Remember that it is assumed that you will not understand or be able to respond to everything that the instructor or fellow learners say. You must be patient with yourself and try to capture as much as possible and communicate as much as possible. Communicativity, in combination with accuracy and metalinguistic discourse, is your goal when participating in our class. I will say things as many times and in as many different ways as needed for you to understand me. I don't expect flawless, fluent Spanish from you – only that you give your classmates and me your best efforts.

Feel free to ask questions in class, or to speak to me outside of class. You are not required to talk to me in Spanish in my office, but keep in mind that the purpose of your visits should not be to receive an English language version of what is done in class.

While it is important for you to understand me, it is just as important for your classmates to understand you. Try to be as clear as possible and look to see if you are being understood. Studies have shown that making yourself understood by all your listeners (and not just your instructor or someone who is used to speaking with students) is essential to developing your linguistic ability.

5. Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: N/A

6. Required Readings and Materials: Morgan, Terrell A. 2010. *Sonidos en contexto*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

7. Graded Assignments:

Tarea: assignments are to be done BEFORE class. No work will be accepted late. You need to have homework or any other written ready to be turned in at the beginning of the class period. Hand in your work as you enter the classroom.

Participación en clase: all learners will be expected to participate actively in all class activities in Spanish. Your speaking in Spanish rather than English, evidence that you have done the reading and assignments prior to class, cooperation in group and pair work and willingness and preparedness in answering questions and participating in discussion are factors in the grade. At the end of every week the professor will give everyone a participation grade based on the level of participation shown during the class period.

Pruebas: these *pruebas* may include some or all of the following elements: phonetic description, multiple choice, group work, presentations, phonetic transcriptions, etc. You may be informed ahead of time.

Exam oral: Each student will read a paragraph-length text (professor will provide copies of the text during the first week). Students will perform a preliminary reading of their selected text with the professor and will receive an assessment of their phonetic performance at the start of the course. They will meet with their professor at the mid-point of the program for additional feedback and constructive criticism of their pronunciation, and will receive an updated assessment of their phonetic performance. Throughout the term, students will work to memorize the text. At the end of the term, students will perform a final version of the reading for their professor for an exam grade. This assessment targets students' ability to accurately produce the Spanish sound system in a controlled context. Failure to arrive on time for the scheduled meeting will result in an automatic 0 and no make-ups will be allowed.

Individual bienvenida: Each student will sign up to give the *Bienvenida* at the beginning of class. The *Bienvenida* will take 4-5 minutes and must include the following: 1) a brief welcome to classmates, 2) the date and weather, 3) a current event in the city, state, or world, 4) some relevant aspect of the Spanish phonetic system based on your personal experience that week, 5) and a description of a problem you encountered that you were able to figure out that relates to our class. Absolutely NO note cards will be allowed.

Grading breakdown: The course grade will be determined as follows:

Tareas	25%	90-100	A
Pruebas	35%	80-89	B
Examen oral	15%	70-79	C
Participación en clase	15%	60-69	D
Individual bienvenida	10%	≤ 59	F
	100%		

8. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

9. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be

aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

10. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Deborah Wilkins (270-745-5396 / deborah.wilkins@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at

270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eeo/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.