

Prof. Yolanda Rivera-Castillo  
Course code: INGL 4236

**Text:** *Bilingual Grammar of English and Spanish Syntax* — Sam Hill & William Bradford

**Course Description:** English 4488 is designed for students who have at least an intermediate high level of communicative proficiency and who have developed some writing skills. The course includes the study of English syntax from a comparative perspective. A declarative knowledge of the language is emphasized as well as the development of reading and writing skills. To enroll in this course, students must have taken two semesters of English in the College of Humanities.

**Objectives:** Students will engage in activities that require the understanding of the main differences between English and Spanish sentence structure. Activities will include tasks that stress the use of the structures learned in writing and translating from the native language. Readings will provide additional input and examples of the structures learned. More advanced vocabulary will be discussed as part of the readings assigned. Additionally, these will help students learn about the linguistic situation of Puerto Ricans in bilingual settings. Students will have the opportunity to evaluate written materials produced by their peers. This fosters cooperative learning and the development of higher thinking skills. Some tasks will include paraphrasing, explaining, describing, asking and answering questions, supporting a point of view, and summarizing.

**Evaluation:**

Exams: 2 @ 15% ea.	30%
Composition	15%
Final Exam or Publication	15%
Participation	<u>40%</u>
Quality 20% (active participation, readiness, presentations); Effort 20% (pop quizzes, homework)	100%

**Exams:** There will be two chapter tests. Be sure to schedule your appointments so that they do not conflict with course examinations. If you miss a test without a valid written excuse, then your total average will reflect a missing score. Students will choose between taking a final exam and working on the publication of their edited compositions.

**Composition:** 1. Compositions will be written in class on a topic assigned the day indicated in the schedule. Students will turn in a corrected version of the composition a week after they receive comments and corrections from Prof. Rivera. Prof. Rivera will grade the final version but students must bring the first draft of their compositions with it. 2. If students choose to work on the publication, they have two weeks to bring a second draft and a Spanish version of their compositions. All students will be members of a publication board that will edit the essays. These will be assigned to different groups and will be edited anonymously. Each student will have different responsibilities and will receive points for each task completed. These include but are not limited to writing a Spanish version of the composition, editing, printing, and layout. Points will be added for a grade (15% of total).

**Attendance & Participation:** A significant percentage of your grade depends on your daily participation in class (30%). You will be evaluated on your effort to use English in class, for completing your work on time, and on the quality of your response. Perfect attendance and outstanding participation will provide the student additional percentage points. Skipping classes or failure to hand in assignments will lower your participation grade as well as your final grade. Every three late arrivals equal an absence.

**HOMEWORK:** I will assume that you have prepared the assigned readings and exercises before class. It is important that you complete these at home, so that class time can be spent interacting and communicating in English. If you do this before coming to class, and follow the syllabus, your skills will improve. I might give a pop quiz on the material assigned for the day. You cannot study for this class only on the day before the exam. All work is due on the day assigned. Failure to turn in work on time will result in a zero.

**NEED HELP?** I will be happy to help you during office hours with anything related to the course material. Call me during my office hours or leave a message. During class time, it's up to you to let me know if you do not understand. Do not let things go too far before you ask for help. ¡GOOD LUCK!

**SCHEDULE:**

DATES	TOPIC/ACTIVITIES (IN-CLASS)	READINGS/TEXT
August		
13	Introduction to Language	
18	Word Order	Chapter 1
20	English Verb	Chapter 2 (2.1-2.5)
25	English Verb: Spelling and Pronunciation	Chapter 2 (2.6-2.7)
27	The boy.../ Composition	Reading
Sept.		
1	Holiday	
3	Tense, Mood, and Sentence Type	Chapter 6 (6.1-6.5) / 2 <sup>nd</sup> version composition
8	Sentence Type	Chapter 6 (6.6-6.14)
10	Phrasal Verbs	Chapter 7
15	Modals	Chapter 8 (8.1-8.6) / Draft & Spanish version
17	Use of Modals	Chapter 8 (8.7-8.21)
22	Review	Hand-out
24	Exam #1	
29	Introduction to Gender and Number/ Nouns and Determiners	Chapter 9
October		
1	Adjectives	Chp. 10 (10.5, 10.9-10.12)
6	Adjectives and Pronouns	Chapter 11
13	Holiday	

15	To be announced	Reading / Edited version comps.
20	Genitive / Possession	Chapter 12
22	Quantifiers / Partitive	Chapter 13
27	Pronouns	Chapter 14
29	Review	Hand-out
November		
3	Exam #2	
5	Adverbs and Prepositions	Chapter 18
10	Prepositions and Verbs	Chapter 21
12	Conditional Sentences	Chapter 22
17	Expressions of Comparison	Chapter 23
<b>19</b>	Holiday	
24	Wh-words	Chapter 24
26	Wh-words	Chapter 25
<b>27-29</b>	Holidays	
December		
1	Review/Publishing	Hand-out
3	Review/Publishing	Hand-out
<b>5-12</b>	PUBLICATION/FINAL	

**Contact info:** The professor may be consulted in Pedreira, Office: 6A. Her phone extension is 3807.

### General References:

- Bull, William E. 1965. *Spanish for Teachers: Applied Linguistics*, New York: Ronald Press.
- Hill, Sam & William Bradford. 1991. *Bilingual Grammar of English and Spanish*, Lanham/New York/London: University Press of America.
- Quilis, Antonio, and Joseph Fernández. 1982. *Curso de fonética y fonología españolas*, 10th. ed. Madrid: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas.
- Solé, Yolanda R. and Carlos A. Solé. 1977. *Modern Spanish Syntax*, Lexington: D.C. Heath.
- Stockwell, Robert P. and J. Donald Bowen. 1965. *The Sounds of English and Spanish*. Chicago/London: The University of Chicago Press.
- Stockwell, Robert P. and J. Donald Bowen. 1965. *The Grammatical Structures of English and Spanish*. Chicago/London: The University of Chicago Press.
- Whitley, M. Stanley. 1986. *Spanish/English Contrasts*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press.

