



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Literature and Language

SPAN 3020: Conversation and Composition
Fall 2020

SPECIFIC COURSE AND INSTRUCTOR DETAILS:

- **Instructor:** Katrina Heil
- **Email:** heil@etsu.edu; Email responses within 24 hours (weekdays)
- **Office Hours (Zoom or FaceTime):** Drop-in: MW 9:00-10:00; any time by appt.
- **Zoom Virtual Office Link:** <https://etsu.zoom.us/j/93819424672>
- **Facetime:** katrinaheil@icloud.com

COURSE MATERIALS:

Revista. José Ángel Blanco. Fifth edition. (Vista, 2018)

- If you purchase your book in the bookstore, you will receive a code for access to the VHL supersite.
- If you purchase your book elsewhere, make sure to include access to the VHL supersite.
- You can purchase digital access to the book (no hardcopy) and supersite for 12 months here: <https://vistahigherlearning.com/revista-5th-edition.html>

(Recommended): A good Spanish-English dictionary.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The objective of this course is to perfect the student's speaking and writing abilities in Spanish through a variety of activities—including use of technology—that provide examples of authentic Spanish in context. The coursework and conversations will be based on the activities, readings and essays from the book *Revista 5th edition*. This work will prepare the student for success in higher-level Spanish courses at the 3000 and 4000 levels.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Carry on conversations on a variety of topics comfortably in Spanish.
2. Write well-organized compositions in Spanish with few grammatical / orthographical errors, including analytical essays using research.
3. Use technology to research topics from authentic Spanish sources, to communicate with others in Spanish, and to supplement presentations in Spanish.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the many different Spanish-speaking cultures around the world and in our community here in East Tennessee.
5. Comprehend a variety of accents and regional idioms of spoken Spanish.

How to communicate with your instructor and peers: The best way to communicate with your instructor is by email, dropping in on Zoom or calling me on FaceTime during office hours. By appointment, a virtual meeting

can be set up at any time. For all general course and technology questions, **please use the “Discussions” tab on D2L**. There you can create a thread to ask a question and will find threads created by others about the course. If you know the answer to a peer’s question, please respond!

How to type accent marks and other special characters: **Students are expected to include accent marks and other special characters in all typed assignments**. To learn how to type accent marks from a variety of platforms, consult this website: <https://www.spanishdict.com/guide/how-to-type-spanish-accent-and-letters>.

Cengage MindTap has a toolbar towards the top of each activity that can be used to insert accented letters into online activities, quizzes and exams.

You should complete the following activities every week:

1. Log into D2L:
 - Check News on our homepage for important announcements.
 - Review the checklist for the week under “Content” to track progress towards completion of the week’s assignments.
 - Review the Calendar for upcoming larger assignments and plan accordingly.
 - Look at any “Additional Materials” for extra practice and explanations of grammar.
2. Log into VHL Supersite for *Revista*:
 - Read assigned sections and watch assigned videos (cortometrajes) in the textbook.
 - Work on assigned tarea for that week.
3. Follow links and participate in Flipgrid:
 - Upload your video responses to assigned activities from *Revista* (assigned every week except during midterms and finals).
 - Prepare and upload your tertulia presentations (assigned every other week, except during midterms and finals).

GRADE DISTRIBUTION: The final grade in this course will be determined from the following components. Descriptions of each follow:

<u>Where?</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>% final grade</u>
VHL Supersite	Tarea (6 lecciones)	20%
Flipgrid	Actividades de Revista en Flipgrid (6 lecciones)	15%
Flipgrid	Tertulias (6)	10%
D2L	Composiciones (6)	25%
D2L, Email	Participation (weekly checklists and communication)	10%
D2L & Zoom	Cultural Project (Research or service Learning)	20%

EVALUATION:

VHL Supersite Tarea (6 lecciones): Complete assigned activities on the VHL Supersite to accompany *Revista*. Assignments are due on Sundays at midnight, with the exception of during midterm and finals weeks. You may submit your homework late, no questions asked, for a 20% penalty up until the last day of class (December 4). You will be allowed two attempts on each assignment. Tarea counts for 20% of the final grade.

Actividades de Revista en Flipgrid (6 lecciones): Each week, except during midterm and finals weeks, you will have various activities assigned on Flipgrid based on the activities in the workbook. You should record a 45-90 second response to each topic. Flipgrid is linked in D2L. This is where we have the opportunity to practice *speaking Spanish!* As such, you should make as much use of Flipgrid as possible. **Don’t be shy and don’t worry about making mistakes. This is where we have fun!** You will be graded for participation, responding to each assigned topic. Consult the Flipgrid grading rubric in D2L for details. Actividades en Flipgrid count for 15% of the final grade.

Tertulias en Flipgrid (6): For each lección of *Revista*, there is an assigned tertulia topic. You are asked to develop your ideas based on the prompts and record a 2-3 minute video responding to the topic. In addition, you are asked to respond to your peers' videos, following up on ideas and indicating where you agree and where you don't. This is a good forum for debate and for practicing Spanish. Just remember to **keep it civil and respectful**. © You will be graded on participation, thoroughness of your response, and interactions with other videos. Consult the Tertulias grading rubric in D2L for details. Tertulias count for 10% of the final grade.

Composiciones (6): At the end of each lección in *Revista*, there is a composition topic. You will write a 2 page or 500 word (minimum!) composition **in Spanish** for each. I will be happy to review your rough draft if it is sent to me by email no later than the Wednesday before it is due. Compositions are graded for development of ideas, completeness, grammar, vocabulary, and originality. Consult the Composiciones grading rubric in D2L for details. Composiciones count for 25% of the final grade.

Participation: Participation is vitally important to your grade as well as to your acquisition of the language. As an online course, your participation and attendance will be graded according to your regular participation in assigned online activities, as well as to timely communication with your instructor. You are expected to check off all items on weekly checklists to show you have not only completed graded activities, but also have read materials in the book and watched assigned videos, etc. Your participation grade will be determined according to the rubric available on D2L. Participation accounts for 10% of the final grade.

Cultural Project: Students have two options for this project: you will either sign up to complete 10 hours of **VIRTUAL Service Learning** this semester, **or** you will complete a **research project on a cultural topic**. Information about possible Service Learning projects will be shared with students at the beginning of the semester. Instructions for the research project will be available on D2L. Students must make a choice by the fourth week of class! The cultural project counts for 20% of the final grade, divided up as following: Midterm Presentation (4%), Midterm Essay (4%), Final Presentation (6%), and Final Essay (6%).

Academic Integrity: Please note that use of translation software, such as Google translate, to convert whole sentences, paragraphs, and pages of your work written in English to Spanish is considered a form of cheating. Using Google translate when writing original material in Spanish is only acceptable if used as a dictionary, for individual words or short phrases. Furthermore, it is quite obvious when translation software has been used. Don't do it. It is better to keep your ideas simpler and use your own words. This is how you improve your Spanish as well! Instances of cheating or plagiarism are subject to penalty in accordance with ETSU policy on Academic Integrity and may result in an F on the assignment up to an F in the course, depending on the severity of the infraction.

Grading scale for the course: Grades will be kept in numerical form until the end of the course, at which time they will be averaged to determine the final letter grade.

A = 93-100	A- = 90-92	B+ = 87-89	B = 83-86	B- = 80-82	C+ = 77-79	C = 73 -76
C- = 70-72	D+ =67-69	D = 63-66	D- = 60-62	F = 59 or lower		