

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Learning and Teaching of Spanish in Multilingual and International
Contexts - Master Course**

**60.0 Higher Education
Credits**

**Tillägnande och utlärande av spanska i flerspråkig och interkulturell
kontext - Masterkurs**

60.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	ES6M01
Valid from:	Autumn 2012
Date of approval:	2012-08-29
Department	Department of Romance Studies and Classics
Main field:	Romanska språk
Specialisation:	A2E - Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Decision

This syllabus was approved by the Board of the Faculty of Humanities on xx.xx.2011.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
DEL1	Hispanic Sociolinguistics and Spanish as a Foreign Language	10
DEL2	Teaching practice in Spanish	20
DEL3	Graduation Paper	30

Course content

The course consists of three modules:

Module 1. Hispanic sociolinguistics and Spanish as a foreign language, 10 higher education credits/ECTS.
An introduction to modern sociolinguistic method with respect Spanish. The research areas of sociolinguistics and its central concepts are presented. In the course the following aspects will be treated: linguistic variation, bi- and multilingualism from a societal and individual perspective, code switching and language shift, accommodation theory and attitudes towards usage and variation. Furthermore, stress will be put on the importance of sociolinguistics for the acquisition of a foreign language and for the didactics and teaching methods to be chosen in a multilingual context.

Module 2. Teaching practice in Spanish, 20 higher education credits/ECTS.
Teaching practice and visits to schools or language institutes for a duration of 8-10 weeks. The school or institute will designate a tutor with whom the student will keep in contact during the practicing period. The student will establish a portfolio in order to document her/his experiences, reflections and analyses.

Module 3. Graduation paper, 30 higher education credits/ECTS.
The course consists of a dissertation on a topic related to the didactics of the Spanish language, teaching methods, or methods for assessing linguistic performance, with special focus on the acquisition of Spanish in multilingual contexts. The dissertation can be organized either as a scientific research project or as a systematic inquiry of didactic material, teaching methods, testing methods or related topics. The requirements

on orderliness and consistency will be the same in each case. The dissertation should have an extent of approximately 80 pages, and it should meet requirements that are considerably higher than for the Bachelor Degree.

Learning outcomes

After completing the course the student is expected to:

(module 1)

- be capable of accounting for the principal fields of sociolinguistics, its objectives and central concerns and providing and commenting examples from the Spanish-speaking nations.
- have demonstrated knowledge of sociolinguistic methodology and be capable of applying this knowledge to research questions regarding the Spanish-speaking world.
- be capable of accounting for achievements in the realm of sociolinguistic research while demonstrating analytic and critical sense.
- carry out reasoning about the role of sociolinguistics for the acquisition of a foreign language in multilingual contexts.

(module 2)

- be capable of preparing and organizing teaching sessions by means of well-reasoned choices of didactic tools, methods and planning of lessons.
- demonstrate ability to assess different kinds of pedagogical measures and their effect on the acquisition of a foreign language.
- demonstrate ability to explain linguistic phenomena in an effective and comprehensible way while taking into account the pupils' age and other relevant circumstances for learning.
- be capable of assessing continuously one's own performance as a teacher while drawing relevant conclusions concerning the didactics and methodology of foreign language acquisition in specific teaching situations.

(module 3)

- demonstrated ability to identify, define and delimit a research task dealing with the didactics or teaching methods being used in the teaching of Spanish a foreign language.
- demonstrate ability to search for, collect and select data in order to achieve the goal that have been put up.
- integrate knowledge, assess complex phenomena and handle problems within the chosen research area.
- be capable of assessing independently and evaluating critically data related to the chosen research field and be capable of formulating relevant research questions.
- demonstrate ability to systematize the results of the research and to draw well-founded conclusions.
- demonstrate ability to plan and implement a complex dissertation project within a given time-frame while making use of adequate methods.
- have acquired the ability to express oneself in suitable academic Spanish, in accordance with the genre conventions for scientific papers.
- have acquired the ability to convert the results of the research work, or the survey, into recommendations and proposals regarding the didactic approach to be used in the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language.

Education

The teaching takes place in the form of lectures, seminars, group tutorials and individual tutoring.

Forms of examination

a) Exams.

Module 1. Examination and evaluation is based on oral presentations performed during the course and on two individual written papers to be delivered by the student.

Module 2. The teaching practice is evaluated by the supervisor on the basis of the student's performance in the classroom and of the student's portfolio. The grading evaluation is carried out jointly by the supervisor of the teaching practice and the supervisor of the graduation paper.

Module 3. The graduation paper is defended at a public seminar meeting with at least two designated opponents. Moreover, each student is supposed to act as an opponent on at least one graduation paper. The grading evaluation of the paper is based primarily on its quality, although the responses delivered by the student during the defense will also count, as well as one's performance as an opponent.

b) Grades are given according to a goal-related criterion referenced seven-point scale: A = Excellent; B =

Very Good; C = Good; D = Satisfactory; E = Sufficient; Fx = Insufficient;
F = Fail

- c) Grading criteria for this course will be announced at the beginning of the course.
- d) A minimum of grade E for each module is required in order to obtain a passing grade for the whole course.
- e) In order to obtain at least the grade of E, a student who has received a failing grade, F or Fx, is entitled to undergo four additional tests provided the course is still offered.

A student, who has received the grade of E or higher, may not undergo a new test in order to obtain a higher grade.

A student who has received the grade Fx or F twice on a given test by the same examiner can, on application and unless no specific reasons speak against it, be granted a new examiner. The application for re-examination should be addressed to the Board of the Department.

- f) The course affords no opportunity for complementing the grade Fx without undergoing a new test.

- g) A student who starts working on a graduation paper is entitled to 10 hours of tutoring, either individually (by default) or in small groups.

- h) The following criteria are to be applied in the evaluation of graduation papers:

- demonstrated ability to identify and formulate research aims.
- demonstrated ability to critically and systematically select relevant data.
- demonstrated ability to systematize the results of one's research and to draw well-founded conclusions .
- demonstrated ability to plan and implement a complex dissertation project within a given time-frame.
- demonstrated ability to express oneself in suitable academic Spanish.
- demonstrated ability to formulate, on the basis of the results, recommendations and proposals regarding the didactic approach to be used in the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language.

- i) The supervisor of a graduation paper may be changed if there are specific circumstances that justify this. The application for supervisor change, with specification of reasons, should be addressed to the Board of the Department.

A change of examiner can only be granted in case the student has failed a test. See above under e).

- j) A student who does not finish the graduation paper in due time cannot claim any more tutoring hours. However, the student is always entitled to have her/his work examined at a later scheduled opportunity.

Misc

The course is given within the programme Master in Acquisition and Teaching of Spanish in Multilingual and International Contexts ("Máster universitario en aprendizaje y enseñanza del español en contextos multilingües e internacionales"), 120 higher education credits, developed within the frame of Erasmus Mundus and coordinated by the University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain.

Required reading

Module 1:

Blas Arroyo, José Luis (2005). Sociolingüística del español. Madrid: Cátedra.

Braidi, S. (1998). The Acquisition of Second-Language Syntax. London: Arnold.

Mesthrie, Rajend et al. (2000). Introducing Sociolinguistics. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.