

SPN 3224 (section 003F)

# The Spanish Language Detective

*Mondays Period 6**FLG 0275*

## INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Instructor:** Falcon Restrepo-Ramos**Office:** Dauer 1C**Email:** [frestrepo@ufl.edu](mailto:frestrepo@ufl.edu)**Phone:** 304 777 3447**Office hours:** Mondays and Wednesdays from 3pm to 3:50 pm & Fridays 12:50 – 1:40pm or by appointment.

## STATEMENT ON LANGUAGE USE IN THE CLASSROOM

Following departmental policy, this course will be taught *in Spanish*. Research in language teaching and learning has shown that language instruction must provide significant levels of meaningful communication and interactive feedback in the target language in order for students to develop language and cultural proficiency. The [American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages](#) recommends that language educators and their students use the target language as exclusively as possible (at least 90%) at all levels of instruction. The Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies follows this recommendation in all coursework.

## COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of this course is to apply problem-solving techniques and the knowledge of the Spanish language and culture to solve mysterious cases. You will work in independent detective teams to analyze different situations through forensic linguistic methodologies and provide evidence that will help to solve fictitious cases.

## COURSE MATERIALS

- There is no need for a textbook in this course.
- Readings and additional materials will be made available in our Canvas webpage. Most of them are available publicly online.

## ASSESSMENT

### Grade Scale and Policies

The grade scale for all classes in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies is as follows:

A = 100-93

A- = 92-90

B+ = 89-87

B = 86-83

B- = 82-80

C+ = 79-77

C(S) = 76-73

C-(U) = 72-70

D+ = 69-67

D = 66-63

D- = 62-60

E = 59-0

NOTE: A grade of C- will not be a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule or Basic Distribution

Credit courses. For further information regarding passing grades and grade point equivalents, please refer to the Undergraduate Catalog at

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

### Graded Course Components

- **Participation and attendance = 40%**
- **Design your own mysterious case = 35%**
- **Design your own escape room scenario = 25%**

#### **Participation and attendance = 40%**

Students are expected to attend and must offer relevant and thoughtful contributions to their peers. In this class, the students are the ones creating their cases and engaging with their peers, while facilitating conversation topics that produce discussion and curiosity. In order to participate properly, students are expected to be attentive to the clues in order to provide meaningful insights to resolve the cases. Be mindful that oral skills in Spanish are to be used widely in this course.

#### **Design your own mysterious case= 35%**

Your creativity and imagination are to be used maximally for the creation of these cases. Detective teams of two (three maximum) will design creative mysterious cases that produce curiosity in the other investigative teams. Bear in mind that you will be designing these cases so that other detective teams develop their problem-solving techniques and solve the puzzles by using the clues you present. You are encouraged to use ideas from board games (i.e. Clues) and other resources (i.e. detective games, fun mysteries, fictitious bank robberies, etc.).

#### **Design your own escape room scenario = 25%**

Detective teams will design their own escape room scenarios of a fictitious case of their choosing following the weekly mysteries. They are expected to create scenarios using their creativity and having in mind the other detective teams. These escape room designs are intended to be experienced for your classmates at the end to the semester.

## CALENDAR

This calendar is subject to change for pedagogical or logistical motivations. To the extent possible, students will be notified in advance of any such changes.

CLASE	ACTIVIDADES DE LA CLASE	LECTURAS Y DEBERES
Agosto 27	Bienvenida e introducción al curso * Un caso misterioso #1	- Revisa el sílabo y trae tus preguntas a la clase. - Lee este artículo antes de clase: <a href="https://www.muyinteresante.es/ciencia/articulo/lingueistica-forense-la-forma-de-hablar-y-escribir-nos-delata">https://www.muyinteresante.es/ciencia/articulo/lingueistica-forense-la-forma-de-hablar-y-escribir-nos-delata</a>
Sept. 3	<b>No hay clase - Día del trabajo</b>	
Sept. 10	* Un caso misterioso # 2 * Empieza a diseñar con tu grupo tu caso para la clase; recuerden escoger un día para su presentación.	- Lee evidencia Lingüística: <a href="https://www.thedatingdivas.com/who-dunit-date-night/">https://www.thedatingdivas.com/who-dunit-date-night/</a> <a href="https://www.thespruce.com/free-murder-mystery-games-1357635">https://www.thespruce.com/free-murder-mystery-games-1357635</a>
Sept. 17	Equipo de detectives # 1: caso misterioso para resolver	- Junto con tu equipo de detectives, haz que tus compañeros detectives resuelvan tu caso.
Sept. 24	Equipo de detectives # 2: caso misterioso para resolver	- Junto con tu equipo de detectives, haz que tus compañeros detectives resuelvan tu caso.
Octubre 1	Equipo de detectives # 3: caso misterioso para resolver	- Junto con tu equipo de detectives, haz que tus compañeros detectives resuelvan tu caso.
Octubre 8	Equipo de detectives # 4: caso misterioso para resolver	- Junto con tu equipo de detectives, haz que tus compañeros detectives resuelvan tu caso.
Octubre 15	Equipo de detectives # 5: caso misterioso para resolver	- Junto con tu equipo de detectives, haz que tus compañeros detectives resuelvan tu caso.
Octubre 22	Equipo de detectives # 6: caso misterioso para resolver	- Junto con tu equipo de detectives, haz que tus compañeros detectives resuelvan tu caso.
Octubre 29	Equipo de detectives # 7: caso misterioso para resolver	- Junto con tu equipo de detectives, haz que tus compañeros detectives resuelvan tu caso.
Nov. 5	Equipo de detectives # 8: caso misterioso para resolver	- Junto con tu equipo de detectives, haz que tus compañeros detectives resuelvan tu caso.
Nov. 12	<b>No hay clase - Homecoming</b>	
Nov. 19	<b>Desenlace final.</b> Escape del cuarto misterioso - Escapa de este cuarto utilizando todas las pistas lingüísticas	- Diseña para tus compañeros tu propio escenario de escape.
Nov. 26	<b>Desenlace final.</b> Escape del cuarto misterioso - Escapa de este cuarto utilizando todas las pistas lingüísticas	- Diseña para tus compañeros tu propio escenario de escape.
Dic. 3	<b>Desenlace final.</b> Escape del cuarto misterioso - Escapa de este cuarto utilizando todas las pistas lingüísticas	- Diseña para tus compañeros tu propio escenario de escape.

Dic. 10	<b>Despedida del curso</b> (Comida, música y un concurso-misterio final?)	
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## BIBLIOGRAPHY of COURSE READINGS

Videos and readings are available online for free. See Calendar for website links. These resources were checked for availability on August, 2018.

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND RESOURCES

### Attendance and make-ups

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

### Accommodations

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. For more information see <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>.

### Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

### Academic Integrity

Suggested wording: "UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### Resources Available to Students

#### Health and Wellness

- *U Matter, We Care*: [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu); 392-1575
- *Counseling and Wellness Center*: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>; 392-1575
- *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)*: Student Health Care Center; 392-1161
- *University Police Department*: <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>; 392-1111 (911 for emergencies)

#### Academic Resources

- *E-learning technical support*: [Learningsupport@ufl.edu](mailto:Learningsupport@ufl.edu); <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>; 352-392-4357 (opt. 2)
- *Career Resource Center*: Reitz Union; <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>; 392-1601

- Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
- Teaching Center: Broward Hall; 392-2010 or 392-6420
- Writing Studio: 302 Tigert Hall; <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>; 846-1138

**Procedure for Conflict Resolution**

Any classroom issues, disagreements or grade disputes should be discussed first between the instructor and the student. If the problem cannot be resolved, please contact the Undergraduate Coordinator or the Department Chair. Be prepared to provide documentation of the problem, as well as all graded materials for the semester. Issues that cannot be resolved departmentally will be referred to the University Ombuds Office (<http://www.ombuds.ufl.edu>; 392-1308) or the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu>; 392-1261). For further information refer to [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf) (for residential classes) or <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaintprocess> (for online classes).