

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT**

Code: 35519
Name: Diachrony of the Spanish language
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 6
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1003 - Degree in Hispanic Studies, Spanish Language and Literature	Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació	3	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1003 - Degree in Hispanic Studies, Spanish Language and Literature	History of Spanish	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

GARCIA VALLE ADELA

SUMMARY

The subject Diachrony of the Spanish Language is part of the module Spanish Language and the subject History of the Spanish Language. In this subject, after an introduction in which general notions related to linguistic change are dealt with, we study the different criteria used to establish the periodization in studies of the history of the Spanish language, the evolution of the graphic system shown in Castilian texts from the time of their origins to the present day and the fundamental aspects of the phonetic and phonological evolution of the Spanish language, both in terms of the vowel system and the consonant system. All these questions constitute a specific part of the general contents of the subject in which it is included and which aims to achieve competent users in the recognition of the characteristics of the different stages of the history of the Spanish language and the internal evolution of its system at its different levels and in its historical and historiographical aspects

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE**RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE**

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS



It is strongly recommended to have taken Latin.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Apply information and communication technologies and computer tools to language studies.

Be able to work and learn autonomously and to plan and manage work time.

Familiarity with techniques and methods of analysis of literary and non-literary texts and how they are applied to the Spanish language.

Know and apply the currents and methodologies of linguistics.

Knowledge of the internal and external history of the Spanish language.

Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually in their field of study) to make judgements that take relevant social, scientific or ethical issues into consideration.

The ability to create correct and proper oral and written texts of different kinds.

Work as a team in the environment of language studies and develop interpersonal relations.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. LINGUISTIC CHANGE AND THE HISTORY OF THE SPANISH LANGUAGE

Topic 1. Linguistic change: theoretical foundations. Periodization criteria in the history of the Spanish language.

2. GRAPHEMES AND GRAPHEMES IN THE HISTORY OF THE LANGUAGE

Topic 2. Graphemes and graphemes: basic concepts. The spellings in the origins of Castilian. Graphic regularization in the Alphonsine period.

Topic 3. Graphemes in Preclassical and Classical Spanish.

Topic 4. The orthographic fixation of modern Spanish (XVIII-XXI centuries).



3. THE EVOLUTION OF THE PHONIC COMPONENT OF THE LANGUAGE

Topic 5. Phonetic change and phonological change: basic concepts.

Topic 6. Evolutionary phonetics and phonology of medieval, classical and modern Spanish. Vocalism, consonantism and syllabic structure.

Topic 7. Philological commentary. Phonetic-phonological and graphic analysis.

These contents are reflected in the following learning outcomes:

- The ability to handle relevant, specialized, and up-to-date bibliographic information.
- The ability to correctly and appropriately prepare oral and written texts of various types in Spanish.
- The ability to independently organize one's own reflection or research project within the field.
- The ability to draw on the critical philological and linguistic tradition to understand texts for reflection and linguistic research.
- The ability to demonstrate an active, positive, and creative attitude in collaborative work.
- The ability to assume different roles in developing team projects.
- The ability to defend an approach and appropriately use persuasive discursive mechanisms, both orally and in writing.
- The ability to describe the internal and external historical evolution of the Spanish language and its codification process from a historiographical perspective.
- Be able to identify and apply the current trends and methodologies of the history and historiography of the Spanish language.
- Be able to recognize the peculiarities of the grammatical, orthographic, and lexicographic works of the different periods studied.
- Be able to describe the theoretical lines that have supported the development of Spanish grammaticography based on classical models and observe its de-Latinization process.
- Be able to recognize the peculiarity of orthographic versus grammatical codification and its reflection in the history of Spanish orthographic codification.
- Be able to describe linguistic change, the periodization criteria applied to the study of the history of the Spanish language, the evolution of its graphic representation, and the main changes in the evolutionary phonetics and phonology of Spanish.
- Be able to recognize the criteria used in the process of graphic representation and orthographic fixation.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00
Total hours	60,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES



Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	0,00
Independent study and work	35,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	45,00
Resolution of case studies	10,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The teaching and learning methodology is based on two types of activities (face-to-face and non-face-to-face):

a) The face-to-face training activities will include theoretical explanations of the fundamental concepts of the subject and practical activities that allow us to observe the aspects of linguistic change in Spanish on which the subject focuses. The classes will promote knowledge of the internal and external historical evolution of the Spanish language and its codification process, as well as the linguistic and philological methodology and terminology used in studies of the history of Spanish. These activities will foster competences 1, 2 and 3 indicated in the corresponding section of this guide. The methodology will therefore be based on the following:

1) Theoretical content of each of the subjects on the syllabus, according to the specific development specified and supported by the student's reading of the recommended works or texts, prior to or at the same time as the explanations in class.

2) Practical content with different exercises such as, firstly, exercises on the phonetic and graphic evolution of a significant number of words from the Latin stage to the present day, secondly, philological commentaries (on the phonetic-phonological and graphic level of the language) and, thirdly, readings of texts from all stages of the history of the language, mainly medieval texts, to facilitate the learning of the pronunciation of each of the linguistic stages of Spanish.

This activity is linked to the PIEE entitled "History and historiography of the Spanish language in its didactic innovation (HISLEDIDAC). Second phase".

b) The student's non-face-to-face activities include preparation for the final exam, through bibliographical consultation and critical reading of texts representative of these issues, the promotion of a reflective spirit, the active involvement of the student in the process of constructing their linguistic knowledge, autonomous learning and the ability to discriminate bibliographical information and electronic resources referring to the history of the Spanish language, as well as the correct preparation of oral and written texts on the history of Spanish. These activities will promote competences 4 and 5 indicated in the corresponding section of this guide.

The Virtual Classroom will be used to provide support to the classes, as well as to keep students informed



of notices and observations on the development of the subject.

EVALUATION

The evaluation system will be based on the control of the competences that the student must acquire, knowledge of linguistic change applied to the history of the Spanish language, and specifically to the internal evolution of its system in its graphic, phonetic and phonological levels.

Assessment of student learning will be based on a combination of a final exam and practical activities.

Regular class attendance, which will be monitored, will also be taken into account, as well as participation in the classes, following the recommended readings and carrying out the practical activities.

The final grade will be the sum of the grades obtained throughout the course in the above concepts, according to the following percentages:

Type of evaluation:

a) Individual written exam: 6 (60 %), with theory questions and a philological commentary (phonetic-phonological and graphic). THIS CAN BE MADE UP AT THE SECOND SITTING.

b) Assessment task, with phonetic evolution of words from Latin to current Spanish: 3 (30 %). TO BE RETAKEN AT THE SECOND SITTING. The mark of the first sitting will be kept after 1.5.

c) Assessable task: reading of an ancient text: 0.5 (5 %). NOT RECOVERABLE AT THE SECOND SITTING. The mark of the first sitting will be kept. This activity is part of the PIEE "History and historiography of the Spanish language in its didactic innovation (HISLEDIDAC)" (see point 2 of the section TEACHING METHODOLOGY).

d) Class attendance and participation: 0.5 (5 %). NOT RECOVERABLE IN THE SECOND CALL. The mark will be kept for the second call.

Assessment criteria:

Theory

Theoretical knowledge will be assessed in the final exam by means of questions in which some of the



issues dealt with during the course will have to be developed.

Practical work

The evaluation of the practices will take into account both the philological commentary (phonetic-phonological and graphic) in the final exam and the evaluable tasks, one on the phonetic evolution of words from Latin to Spanish and the other on the reading of a medieval text. Likewise, participation in the resolution of the exercises set in class will also be taken into account.

The general grading system will follow the regulations of the Universitat de València approved by the Government Council of 30/5/2017-ACGUV108/2017.

Intellectual honesty is vital to an academic community and for the fair evaluation of the student's work. All work submitted in this course must be originally authored by every student. No student shall engage in unauthorized collaboration or make use of ChatGPT or other AI composition software.

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