

## **LING/SPAN 5385-Spanish Historical Linguistics Spring 2023**

Instructor: Prof. Charles Elerick [celerick@utep.edu](mailto:celerick@utep.edu)

Office hours: Online, by appointment. Students are encouraged to take advantage of the option of online individual consultation.

**LING/SPAN 5385 as a Hybrid Synchronous Online Seminar. We will meet weekly on Zoom on Wednesdays from 6:00-8:20 PM, Mountain time. This format requires your active participation in an organized Learning Community. As a Hybrid course, the F2F component will consist of occasional meetings with the professor, to be arranged at convenient times, with individual students or groups.**

### **Purpose of course:**

In this course we will study the evolution of Spanish from its origin as an Indo-European and subsequently as a Romance language evolving from Latin. Historical phonology, morphology, and syntax along with lexical development will be engaged. We will engage dialectology and sociolinguistics as important aspects of historical linguistics. We will look at how the historical material is important for work with literature. In addition, we will pursue as a recurrent theme the application of insights from the history of Spanish to language pedagogy.

### **More specifically:**

- In the broadest sense the purpose of the course is to engage with the history of Spanish in ways that are meaningful for all members of the learning community, remembering that the backgrounds and interests of the members of the class are quite varied.

- We will engage the specific data and concepts that form the body of knowledge that comprises Historical Spanish Linguistics. This engagement will involve the study of the early history of Spanish as a Neo-Latin language, continuing development of medieval Spanish, and aspects of modern Spanish that emerge as the result of ongoing changes.
- Spanish in the context of Romance linguistics. Many aspects of the history and evolution of Spanish can be profitably explored through the comparison with related developments in other Romance languages.
- Concepts of historical linguistics and language change will be in view as we engage the historical data.

**Materials:** Students will be expected to secure a Historical Spanish handbook of their choice. With different class members consulting different handbooks, our discussions will be enlivened with contrasting contributions from the professional literature. Many online booksellers will be able to provide copies of the following texts and handbooks at reasonable prices.

García de Diego, Vicente. *Gramática histórica española*. Serious; not well indexed.

Hammond, Robert and M. C. Resnick. *Introducción a la historia de la lengua española*. Contains lots of good material.

Lapesa, Rafael. *Historia de la lengua española*. (Later editions...7<sup>th</sup> >>) Lapesa is a fine writer and offers good insights into the history of the Spanish language.

Lathrop, Tom. *The Evolution of Spanish*. Undergraduate text. Accessible material.

Lloyd, Paul M. *From Latin to Spanish*. A demanding graduate level treatment.

Menéndez-Pidal, Ramón. *Manual de gramática histórica española*. A classic.

Penny, Ralph. *History of the Spanish Language, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed*. Demanding but readable.

Pharies, David A. *Breve historia de la lengua española*. An undergraduate text.

Also available in an English edition. Both are good.

Spaulding, Robert. *How Spanish Grew*. A classic introduction.

that is not overly scholarly. Might be used in conjunction with another text.

In addition, the orienting undergraduate textbook *Primeras lecciones en el origen y desarrollo de la lengua española* by Charles Elerick will be available (in printable) digital format at the BB course site. We will use this material as an organizing framework.

**Grading Plan:**

Students will complete several short assignments and contribute to the collaborative assembly of data that supports the class exploration of topics in Spanish historical linguistics in Romance perspective. All work will be shared collaboratively using the Wiki function in BB.

Course grades will be assigned on the following scale:

910 - 1000 **A**; 810 - 909 **B**; 710 - 809 **C**; 650 - 709 **D**; 0 - 649 **F**