

Dr. Bolel  
Winter 2023

**NEAR E 296 B / NEAR E 596 B - Elementary Ladino**  
**JEW ST 215 A - Ladino Language and Culture**  
**SPAN 294 A - Special Topics In Spanish Literary/Cultural Studies**

Dr. Canan Bolel  
(she/her/eya)  
cananbo@uw.edu

T/Th 11:30-1:20  
F 11:30-12:20

Office hours: Th 10:30-11:30 / Denny 237

*Buyrun!*

Ladino (also known as Judezmo or Judeo-Spanish) is the traditional language of Sephardim, descendants of the Jews expelled from the Iberian Peninsula who settled in many parts of the world.

This is an introductory course for students who wish to begin their study of Ladino. It introduces students to the Ladino language, Sephardic culture, and cross-cultural encounters throughout the Balkans, Eastern Mediterranean, and the Middle East. In addition to the fundamental grammatical features of the language, students will start building a vocabulary base by exploring various primary source materials (both in Rashi and its Romanization).

**Conducted in English and Ladino**, this language and culture class introduces listening, speaking, and writing skills **with an emphasis on reading**.

This course is part of a two-course sequence and is a requirement for the Spring 2023 course “Guided Readings in Ladino.”

- This course has no specific prerequisites.
- We will use both English and Ladino in class, as appropriate.
- For students unfamiliar with the history of Ladino-speaking Jewish communities, the historical background will be given in the first week and throughout the course during lectures.
- On Fridays (*Dia de la kultura*) we will focus on various aspects of the Sephardic culture through songs, stories, and recipes.

### Course Goals and Objectives:

Upon completing this course, students will...

- start learning the basic grammatical foundation of Ladino.
- improve reading comprehension skills through exposure to different types of primary source materials.
- demonstrate knowledge of significant periods and historical concepts in the history of Sephardic Jewish communities.
- join Ladino learning and speaking communities worldwide.

### Sources:

- **There is no textbook for this course.** All learning material will be uploaded on Canvas.
- Please buy one of the following dictionaries:
  - Ladino-English/English-Ladino Concise Dictionary by Elli Kohen and Dahlia Kohen-Gordon (*available on Amazon for \$26.95*)
  - Dictionnaire Français – Judéo-Espagnol, Klara Parahya & Elie Parahya
  - Diksyonaryo Judeo Espanyol – Turko, Klara Parahya
  - Dictionnaire du Judéo-Espagnol, Joseph Nehama (Ladino-French)
  - Diccionario Básico Ladino – Español, Pascual Pascual Recuero
  - Diksionario Ebreo/Ladino – Ladino/Ebreo, Matilda Koen-Sarano

### Evaluation:

The assignments and their contribution to the final grade are as follows:

Homeworks (8)	5% each, 40% total
Quizikos (4)	5% each, 20% total
Final assignment	20%
In-class assignments	20%

- Homework includes grammar, translation, and writing exercises. **In order to receive credit for homework, you need to turn it in during class on Tuesday. No late homework will be accepted.**
- Quizzes will include short passages for translation, vocabulary and grammar exercises, and cultural commentary/interpretation.
- Details of the final assignment will be announced in Week 3.
- In-class assignments will include both individual and group work.

- For the University of Washington standard grading scale, see:  
[https://www.washington.edu/students/gencat/front/Grading\\_Sys.html#GRADE](https://www.washington.edu/students/gencat/front/Grading_Sys.html#GRADE)
- Please see the instructor for additional instructions for graduate students.
- In cases of academic misconduct, such as plagiarism or receiving inappropriate assistance on an assignment, offending students will be penalized in accordance with the policy of the College of Arts and Sciences. If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism or how to properly attribute credit to source materials, consult with the instructor.
- Your experience in this class is important to me. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please communicate your approved accommodations to me at your earliest convenience so we can discuss your needs in this course. If you have not yet established services through DRS but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), you are welcome to contact DRS at 206-543-8924 (voice and relay) or [uwdrs@uw.edu](mailto:uwdrs@uw.edu) or [disability.uw.edu](http://disability.uw.edu).
- Per FERPA rules, I cannot discuss grades via email. Please make an appointment to talk in my office or via Zoom if you have concerns.

**Discussion and Rules of Engagement:**

- This course is open to all UW students. The MELC Department welcomes you and your pronouns.
- This classroom is meant to be a safe space for everyone. You must engage all members of this class respectfully. Disrespectful behavior or hurtful comments are not allowed.
- If you prefer to take notes on your computer during class, please email me before the second week of class.
- By enrolling in this class, you make a commitment to regular and consistent class participation. Continued enrollment signifies that you have received a copy of this syllabus and that you have been notified of the requirements, examination schedule, and grading policies for the course.
- The instructor reserves the right to revise this syllabus at any time during the quarter. Students will be informed of the changes.

**Religious Holidays:**

- Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at [Religious Accommodations Policy](https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/) (<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the [Religious Accommodations Request form](https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/) (<https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>).

**Late Work and Make-Ups:**

- Late submissions without proper documentation will not be accepted.
- Quizzes and the final exam may only be made up as a result of emergency circumstances. In this case, students should submit official documentation, and they are also responsible for contacting the instructor to reschedule the quiz or the exam.
- If you experience issues that may affect your attendance and participation in class, please speak with me as early as possible.



For advising questions, please reach out to  
Humanities Academic Services.

- Email: [has-center@uw.edu](mailto:has-center@uw.edu)
- Website: <https://hasc.washington.edu/>