

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

A Political History of Spanish

The Making of a Language

Spanish is spoken as a first language by almost 400 million people in approximately sixty countries, and has been the subject of numerous political processes and debates since it began to spread globally from Iberia in the fifteenth century. *A Political History of Spanish* brings together a team of experts to analyze the metalinguistic origins of Spanish and evaluate it as a discursively constructed artifact – that is to say, as a language which contains traces of the society in which it is produced, and of the discursive traditions that are often involved and invoked in its creation.

This is a comprehensive and provocative new work which takes a fresh look at Spanish from specific political and historical perspectives, combining the traditional chronological organization of linguistic history and spatial categories such as Iberia, Latin America, and the US, whilst simultaneously identifying the limits of these organizational principles.

JOSÉ DEL VALLE is Professor of Hispanic Linguistics at the Graduate Center of The City University of New York. In 2010 he received the Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation for his outstanding research record.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

A Political History of Spanish

The Making of a Language

Edited by

José del Valle



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107005730

© Cambridge University Press 2013

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2013

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

A political history of Spanish : the making of a language / Edited by Jose del Valle.
pages cm

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-00573-0 (hardback)

1. Spanish language – Political aspects – History. 2. Communication in politics – History. 3. Politics and government – Spanish-speaking countries. I. Valle, José del editor of compilation.

PC4479.P6P65 2013

460.9 – dc23 2013016879

ISBN 978-1-107-00573-0 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Emblem of the Tongue and Sword
*Dos armas son la lengua y el espada
 Que si las gobernamos cual conviene
 Anda nuestra persona bien guardada
 Y mil provechos su buen uso tiene.
 Pero cualquiera de ellas desmandada
 Como de la cordura se enagene
 En el loco y sandio causa muerte
 Y en el cuerdo y sagaz trueca la suerte*

“The sword and the tongue are two weapons
 that, if we handle them as we should,
 will ensure our security
 and bring us great advantage.
 But, if either escapes our control,
 as if robbed of all good sense,
 it will bring death to lunatics and fools
 and ill fortune to the wise and sane.”

EMBLEMA 66.

*Dos armas son la lengua, y el espada,
 Que si las gouernamos qual conuiene,
 Anda nuestra persona bie guardada,
 Y mil prouechos su buen uso tiene:
 Pero qualquiera dellas desmādada,
 Como de la cordura se enagene,
 En el loco y sandio causa muerte,
 Y el cuerdo y sagaz trueca la suerte.*

Mm 2 Sié.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents

<i>List of contributors</i>	<i>page</i> x
<i>List of figures and tables</i>	xii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiii

Part I Theoretical underpinnings

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Language, politics and history: an introductory essay | 3 |
| | JOSÉ DEL VALLE | |

Part II The making of Spanish: Iberian perspectives

- | | | |
|---|---|----|
| 2 | Introduction to the making of Spanish: Iberian perspectives | 23 |
| | ALBERTO MEDINA, JOSÉ DEL VALLE AND
HENRIQUE MONTEAGUDO | |
| 3 | The prehistory of written Spanish and the thirteenth-century
nationalist zeitgeist | 31 |
| | ROGER WRIGHT | |
| 4 | Language, nation and empire in early modern Iberia | 44 |
| | MIGUEL MARTÍNEZ | |
| 5 | The seventeenth-century debate over the origins of Spanish:
links of language ideology to the Morisco question | 61 |
| | KATHRYN A. WOOLARD | |
| 6 | The institutionalization of language in eighteenth-century
Spain | 77 |
| | ALBERTO MEDINA | |
| 7 | The officialization of Spanish in mid-nineteenth-century
Spain: the Academy's authority | 93 |
| | LAURA VILLA | |

vii

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii	Contents	
8	Spanish and other languages of Spain in the Second Republic HENRIQUE MONTEAGUDO	106
Part III The making of Spanish: Latin American and Transatlantic perspectives		
9	Introduction to the making of Spanish: Latin American and Transatlantic perspectives ELVIRA NARVAJA DE ARNOUX AND JOSÉ DEL VALLE	125
10	Language, religion and unification in early colonial Peru PAUL FIRBAS	135
11	Grammar and the state in the Southern Cone in the nineteenth century ELVIRA NARVAJA DE ARNOUX	152
12	The politics of lexicography in the Mexican Academy in the late nineteenth century BÁRBARA CIFUENTES	167
13	Language in the Dominican Republic: between Hispanism and Panamericanism JUAN R. VALDEZ	182
14	Language diversity and national unity in the history of Uruguay GRACIELA BARRIOS	197
15	Language debates and the institutionalization of philology in Argentina in the first half of the twentieth century GUILLERMO TOSCANO Y GARCÍA	212
16	Linguistic emancipation and the academies of the Spanish language in the twentieth century: the 1951 turning point JOSÉ DEL VALLE	229
Part IV The making of Spanish: US perspectives		
17	Introduction to the making of Spanish: US perspectives JOSÉ DEL VALLE AND OFELIA GARCÍA	249
18	Language, church and state in territorial Arizona ELISE M. DuBORD	260

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents	ix
19 The politics of Spanish and English in territorial New Mexico ARTURO FERNÁNDEZ-GIBERT	278
20 Public health and the politics of Spanish in early twentieth-century Texas GLENN A. MARTINEZ	293
21 Categorizing Latinos in the history of the US Census: the official racialization of Spanish JENNIFER LEEMAN	305
Part V The making of Spanish beyond Spain and the Americas	
22 Introduction to the making of Spanish beyond Spain and the Americas MAURO FERNÁNDEZ AND JOSÉ DEL VALLE	327
23 The status of Judeo-Spanish in the Ottoman Empire YVETTE BÜRKI	335
24 Language and the hispanization of Equatorial Guinea SUSANA CASTILLO RODRÍGUEZ	350
25 The representation of Spanish in the Philippine Islands MAURO FERNÁNDEZ	364
<i>References</i>	380
<i>Index</i>	422

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contributors

ELVIRA NARVAJA DE ARNOUX teaches interdisciplinary linguistics, sociology of language and semiology at the *Universidad de Buenos Aires* (Argentina) and is Director of the MA in Discourse Analysis.

GRACIELA BARRIOS is Professor in the Department of Psycho- and Sociolinguistics at the *Universidad de la República* (Uruguay) and coordinates the MA in Language, Culture and Society.

YVETTE BÜRKI is Assistant Professor of Spanish Linguistics at the *Institut für spanische Sprache und Literatur* at the *Universität Bern* (Switzerland).

SUSANA CASTILLO RODRÍGUEZ is Lecturer in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Culture at the University of New Hampshire.

BÁRBARA CIFUENTES is Senior Professor and Researcher at the *Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia* (Mexico).

JOSÉ DEL VALLE is Professor in the PhD programs in Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Languages and Linguistics at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY).

ELISE M. DUBORD is Assistant Professor of Spanish at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey.

MAURO FERNÁNDEZ is Professor of General Linguistics at the *Universidad de A Coruña* (Spain).

ARTURO FERNÁNDEZ-GIBERT is Associate Professor of Spanish at California State University in San Bernardino.

PAUL FIRBAS is Associate Professor in the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature and Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Center at Stony Brook University.

OFELIA GARCÍA is Professor in the PhD programs in Urban Education and Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Languages at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY).

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

List of contributors

xi

JENNIFER LEEMAN is Associate Professor of Spanish at George Mason University and Research Sociolinguist at the US Census Bureau.

GLENN A. MARTINEZ is Professor of Hispanic Linguistics at The Ohio State University.

MIGUEL MARTÍNEZ is Assistant Professor of Spanish Literature at the University of Chicago.

ALBERTO MEDINA is Associate Professor in the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures at Columbia University.

HENRIQUE MONTEAGUDO is Professor of Galician and Portuguese Linguistics at the *Universidade de Santiago de Compostela* (Spain).

GUILLERMO TOSCANO Y GARCÍA teaches linguistics at the *Universidad de Buenos Aires* (Argentina) and is co-director of the multi-annual research project “The Formation of School Grammar in Argentina, 1863–1922” (CONICET).

JUAN R. VALDEZ is Assistant Professor of Education at CUNY’s Queens College.

LAURA VILLA is Assistant Professor of Spanish at CUNY’s Queens College.

KATHRYN A. WOOLARD (PhD, U.C. Berkeley 1983) is Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, San Diego, and past president of the Society for Linguistic Anthropology.

ROGER WRIGHT is Emeritus Professor of Spanish at the University of Liverpool (England), where he taught courses on Mediaeval Spanish Language, History and Literature from 1972 to 2008.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Figures and Tables

Figures

21.1 Hispanic Origin and Race questions from the 2010 US Census	<i>page</i> 307
21.2 Language questions from the 2010 American Community Survey	321

Tables

19.1 Schooling and illiteracy in New Mexico, 1870–1910	280
19.2 Persons who can't speak English in New Mexico, 1890–1910	280
21.1 History of US Census language questions	309
21.2 History of Latino classification in the US Census	313

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgements

I thank Mari Colino, Pedro Pérez Vérez and Luis Alonso, my most warmly remembered high-school teachers at the *Instituto “de Conxo”* (aka *Eduardo Pondal*), whose classes were intellectually stimulating enough to drag me away from also amazingly stimulating games of *tute* at *El Pato Rojo*. I thank Tomás Jiménez Juliá, José Manuel González Herrán, Teresa Fanego, Alfonso Rey and Manoli Palacios, professors at the University of Santiago de Compostela, whose classes made it worth it for me to miss the *tertulia* at the *Candilejas*. I thank Jorge Guitart, Ed Dudley and Carlos Feal, whose mentorship, example and friendship at the University at Buffalo gave me the final push I needed to pursue a career as a scholar. I thank Héctor Campos, Michael Gerli and, very especially, my dissertation director Tom Walsh at Georgetown for giving me the best academic training I could have asked for. I thank Paul M. Lloyd (my dissertation “step-director”) for generously sharing his knowledge (and, occasionally, his home-brewed beer) with me. I thank Raúl Ianes, a marvelous intellectual interlocutor during my years at that wonderful institution where I started my career, Miami University of Ohio. I thank Isaías Lerner, my esteemed colleague at The Graduate Center, because he has been my most wonderfully formidable adversary.

I thank Alberto, not just a collaborator in this book and intellectual partner for so many years but also my Virgil through the nine circles of New York’s free-jazz scene. I thank Elvira, a friend, a mentor, a model of intellectual and political commitment, who taught me that humor is our sharpest analytical tool. I thank Roger and Mauro for their open minds and for their unequivocal support since the early days of my career. I thank Kit for her intelligence and generosity. I thank Quique, Paul, Bárbara, Graciela, Guillermo, Ofelia, Elise, Arturo, Glenn, Jenny and Yvette for their great work and for making this an amazing team. I thank Juan, Laura, Miguel and Susana, my praetorian guard, for accepting the risks.

I thank Nathan Bogardus and Eduardo Ho for helping edit this book. I thank, very especially, Lorena Uribe Bracho for her indispensable assistance editing and preparing the bibliography. I thank Laura Callahan and Walfrido Dorta for their feedback on specific aspects of the book. I thank my Provosts at

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00573-0 - A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language

Edited by José del Valle

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xiv Acknowledgements

The Graduate Center, William Kelly (now President) and Chase Robinson, for giving me time to articulate this project.

I thank Gabi Knauer for her support and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation for the Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Award it gave me in 2010, which allowed me to make much progress towards completion of this project.

I thank Cambridge University Press and my commissioning editor Helen Barton because it is a pleasure to do business with her.

I will close this litany by thanking Lina because since we met there have been no two days alike.