



Course Expectations

Spanish I/II/III

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2018-2019



Contact Information

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Office Hours: Before school, 1st through 3th hours, and by appointment.

Welcome to Spanish! This is going to be an exciting year to build upon what you learned in other classes and also increase your knowledge of the Spanish culture. Our central goal is to learn how to effectively COMMUNICATE in the Spanish language and everything we do in this class will help make that possible.

Will this class look like all others?

NO! You will notice very fast that this class is not at all like your others. You cannot learn a second language by studying from a textbook and taking a test. Acquiring a language is like learning how to ride a bike or learning how to swim. It's a skill you build gradually, use and remember a long time. Sometimes this class will resemble an elementary classroom. This is desirable since we are working on acquiring a new language. In a beginning level class it's as though you are an "infant" in the new language but your vocabulary will grow quickly.

So what will we actually do?

Spanish 1

We will be starting from scratch! I will assume that you are coming into this class with no prior-knowledge. We will start with the basics: letters, sounds, numbers, etc. From there we will continue on with the basics of communicating in the Spanish language. Various cultural topics will be introduced throughout the year.

Spanish 2

This year of Spanish will be an extension of class last year. The first few weeks of class are going to be a review of the major concepts learned from last year. Then, we will start off where we left off last year. This class will be an experiment for classical education, this means that you will have to put all your effort and enthusiasm to be successful in this class

Spanish 3

The focus of this year will be communication, communication, communication! We will be doing lots of reading, including 3 novels and lots of short stories. Grammar and culture topics will be introduced and reviewed throughout the year.

The major focus will be enhancing basic skills of communication while adding new, more advanced skills.

What do I need for class?

- Folder & Notebook (not shared with any other class)
- Pencils/Pens
- Colors
- Blank Note Cards 3x5"
- Notecard box
- A Spanish/English dictionary is optional (they are available for in-class use)
- Scissors
- Glue/staple

How will I be graded?

<u>Breakdown</u>	<u>Standard HS grading scale</u>	
DAILY WORK/PARTICIPATION – 20%	100-99% A+	82-78% C+
HOMEWORK – 40%	98-95% A	77-75% C
Quizzes – 20%	94-92% A-	74-72% C-
Test - 20%	90-92% A-	71-69% D+
	91-89% B+	68-67% D
	88-86% B	66-65% D-
	85-83% B-	64% or below F

Semester Grade = Quarter 1 (40%) + Quarter 2 (40%) + Final Exam (20%)

I will consistently be updating *Cornerstone* so please check there often to view your grade and to check for errors. If you think there is a mistake or if you have questions, please let me know!

Daily Work/Participation

It is vital that you are in class (both MIND and BODY) every day. Each week of class you will receive up to 10 points for participation. The concept is simple: be here ON TIME, participate, speak in **Spanish**, etc. and get your points. But get ready to lose points for not having your materials, showing up late, **chit-chatting in English**, etc. Absences (excused or unexcused) will affect participation.

Homework

The homework in this class will include reading, writing, drawing, speaking in Spanish, etc. Homework should be completed and turned in every **Friday**, this do not mean that you will have homework only a day before, you will have homework everyday and you will turn in on Fridays only. I won't accept homework Mondays in case you forget to turn in your notebook, I can accept it **next** Friday for 50% credit if it's complete. After 1 week, no late work will be accepted. Homework will be given every day of the week and should take around 30 minutes to complete. If time is given in class to work on homework, it is expected that you work until the bell rings (unless you want to lose your participation points for the day). *Even if no homework is assigned for the day, you will still be expected to review/study vocabulary.*

Assessments

Most quizzes will be **UNANNOUNCED**. This means you always need to be prepared and on top of the game with vocabulary. I will never quiz you on anything that you should not already know. Tests will be announced. Other types of assessments will include projects, presentations and oral exams.

Attendance

Exchange phone numbers/emails with a few other students so you can get notes/explanations about what you missed. When you return, you will have 2 days to complete make-up work. Tests/Quizzes need to be made up within the SAME week. You will receive no credit for work with an unexcused absence. Tardies & absences will count against participation.

Academic Integrity

Copying & sharing of work **will NOT** be acceptable. All students involved will be given a **0**. Included in this policy is the use of computer translators. **DO NOT USED A COMPUTER TRANSLATOR** and pass it off as your own work. I want to know what **YOU** know, not a computer. And besides, they rarely make sense anyways. Translated work will not be accepted and will result in a **0**. We will go over dictionary guidelines in class. More simply put, if you cheat off of someone else, expect a 0. If you let someone else cheat off you, also expect a 0.

****I am very much looking forward to this school year! If you work hard and try your best, I know you will be successful and even have some fun along the way. Please feel free to come to me with any questions or concerns you may have at any time.****

I have read carefully the contents of this syllabus and understand the requirements of this class.

Student Signature

Parent Signature