

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH CLASSROOM CONTRACT 2010-2012

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WHY LEARN A LANGUAGE?

1. To increase your cultural understanding.
2. To improve your employment potential.
3. To increase the knowledge of your native language.
4. To improve SAT verbal score.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Spanish First Year (Español 1/2)

This course serves as an introduction to Spanish, with particular emphasis on cultural awareness, food, travel and includes an introduction to Spanish-speaking countries. Students use dialogue and skits as methods of developing communication skills in addition to developing their skills in grammar; reading; writing and listening.

Spanish Second Year (Español 3/4)

This course will build upon concepts learned in Spanish 1 and 2. The focus centers more upon the development of the student's speaking, reading and writing skills. Classroom discussions are conducted, for the most part, in the target language. Students are expected to complete one major project for the fall and for the spring term, in addition to daily homework assignments. Students complete journal writing assignments to enhance their writing skills and create travel brochures to promote their knowledge of a Spanish speaking country and its.

Spanish Third Year (Español 5/6)

Students build upon concepts learned from levels 1-4. In addition, new grammar points are absorbed through study. Students participate in discussions/presentations in the target language about the cultures, which surround them. In addition, the students receive an introduction to literature through the reading of classic short stories. This course terminates in a Regents examination.

AP Spanish Language

A college-level course which focuses heavily on the students' mastery of reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. The target language is utilized to promote cultural discussions, debates and presentations. There is an intense focus on literature and grammar. Students are exposed to classic Latin-American authors, such as Julio Cortazar, Jorge Luis Borges, Federico Garcia Lorca and well as many other modern 20th century writers. In this course, students are exposed to the writer's narrative style and have the opportunity to receive three college credits upon completion and approval from the AP Spanish Language examination committee.

GRADING

CLASSWORK: 35% of Grade

Oral Participation: Students are **required** to participate in class. This includes completion of Do Now's, voluntary discussions, readings and group work. Participation is essential in order to have a better understanding of the language and vocabulary.

Journal Writing: Each student will be required to complete journal-writing topics that will be scheduled in class and for homework. Topics will review themes discussed in class.

Tutoring: Tutoring is available upon request.

EXAMS: 30% of Grade

- Exams are given on a bi-weekly basis, unless otherwise scheduled. Students are given ample notice for an exam/quiz. If you are absent for an exam, you **must** submit a note from your parent/guardian the day that you return from your absence. **The test may not be taken until a note is submitted.**
- Students who are scheduled for performances on test days will have an alternate time scheduled for the exam. You must arrange this with your teacher.

HOMEWORK: 20% of Grade

- Homework must be clear and neat in the *required format* (Student name, Title of Assignment, Date, Class Period, Teacher's and School's Name) and it must be written on 8 1/2"x 11" loose-leaf paper.
- Homework is assigned on a daily basis and must be submitted on the **date that it is due**.
- **Late homework will not be accepted** except in the case of illness or extenuating circumstance, in which case a note must be provided. Students will receive a one-day extension with an absence note if the homework was assigned during the student's absence.

PROJECTS: 15% of Grade**

- As learning a language involves not only the knowledge of the grammar, but the culture surrounding it as well, students are assigned 2 -3 projects during the semester to review the cultural components of the language.
- All projects will be assigned as an individual and /or as a group assignment and must be accompanied by a typed paper following the MLA format (taught in class).

**** Note—There is no assigned project for the first marking period in the fall semester and the 15% will be added to your class-work grade.**

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY/ PLAGIARISM

Make sure you read the following and discuss the import of its contents: in signing the student contract, you are acknowledging the following:

I understand that plagiarism is the act of submitting a paper that, in part or in whole, includes the work or another person— work that I did not create. This includes, but is not limited to, copying other words, images, sound bites, art work, ideas, phrases or paragraphs from another source/person without indicating precisely that these words or ideas come from a source other than myself. I understand the seriousness of this offense and in signing below I am stating that I will not plagiarize from other people or sources and will not allow others to plagiarize from my academic efforts. I understand that if I do submit plagiarized work, I will be held responsible and comply with disciplinary action set forth by the school administration and the Department of Education's discipline and intervention regulations.

ABSENCES

- Three (3) latenesses result in a scheduled detention.

- *Regardless of reason for absence: sickness, family emergency, blackout, school trip, or performance, students are required to make up all work*
- An unexcused absence (cut) will result in a “0” for that day—class work as well as any exam or quiz scheduled for that day.
- A lateness of 20 minutes or more with-in any classroom period constitutes a cut.

PREPAREDNESS FOR CLASS

Parents: You can greatly influence your child’s ability to succeed. Classroom misbehavior will not be tolerated, as it affects both the individual student’s performance and the classroom environment, and will be treated accordingly.

Students: Students are required to be prepared for class every day. As students are frequently, absent from class due to performances and studio trips, it is essential for students to get the notes missed from a fellow student and to include it in the notebook. *Make sure you have the contact information for at least two other students in each of his/her class. The following supplies are highly recommended and should be brought to class every day:*

Supplies for Class

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| ▪ 8 1/2” x 11” three-ring binder style notebook with extra loose-leaf paper | ▪ Three hole punch |
| ▪ FSSA’s daily planner (distributed in school) | ▪ 3 x 5 Index cards attached with rubber band or in zip lock bag |
| ▪ Plastic pockets for handouts | ▪ Spanish Dictionary at home and a pocket dictionary for the classroom. |
| ▪ Black or blue ink (only) pens and pencils | ▪ Highlighter |
| ▪ Mini-stapler | |

CLASS ETIQUETTE

These policies exist to maximize learning and community spirit. Failure to follow them may result in disciplinary action and/or lower grades. They include *but are not limited to* the following guidelines:

1. Arrive on time and be ready to work when the bell rings.
2. Act respectfully to the teacher and to fellow students at all times.
3. Unless speaking quietly to your classmates in pairs or groups, raise your hand to speak. Do not call out.
4. Pay attention and follow directions quickly and quietly.
5. Take care of the classroom environment—clean and straighten up after all activities.
6. Obey all school rules and follow your teacher’s instructions, in particular:
7. No eating or drinking (except bottled water) is permitted in the classroom.
8. Headwear (except religious) is prohibited. Clothing must be appropriate to school and follow expectations outlined in the annual school bulletin.
9. All electronic devices are not to be used or displayed in the classroom. *They will be confiscated as per Department of Education regulations.*

HELPFUL WEB RESOURCES

The following websites offer extensive hands-on practice of lessons learned in class.

Spanish Web Sites

www.studyspanish.com

www.lingolex.com

www.musicalspanish.com

www.quia.com

www.colby.com

www.trentu.ca

www.espanole.org

www.spanishspanish.com

www.e-spanyol.hu

user.ipfw.edu

speakspeakspanish.com

**You will find grades and assignments posted on PupilPath.com.
You may contact your teacher via email or via PupilPath.com.**

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