

Spanish 1 Course Syllabus

Course: Spanish 1

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Course Description

The goal of this course is to introduce you to the language and culture of the numerous Spanish-speaking countries of the world. With that in mind, the focus of this class will be on divided into four distinct sections that include: listening, speaking, reading and writing in Spanish.

Upon the successful completion of this class students should be able to:

1. **Listen and understand** basic words and phrases in Spanish. This will be accomplished through daily instruction in Spanish. Various video and audio clips will be used along with the **Total Physical Response** method of teaching. This method requires students to listen and watch modeling by the teacher to understand the concept, vocabulary or phrase that is being taught. This is to reinforce the listening and comprehension skills needed for understanding Spanish.
2. **Speak** in Spanish using basic words and phrases. This will be accomplished through daily activities that require the student to respond to questions asked by the teacher in Spanish. The **Total Physical Response** method of teaching requires the student to actively participate in modeling and learning the language. Students will be required not only to speak in Spanish in class, but also to:
 - use Flipgrid.com to respond to questions posed by the teacher. At this site the students will record themselves speaking or responding to the teacher in Spanish.
 - Create dialogues using the themes and vocabulary from units we are studying and present them to the teacher.
3. **Read** basic words and phrases in Spanish. This will be accomplished through daily activities that require the students to read. At first the activities will require the students to read simple sentences. The reading selections will gradually increase until the students are reading simple paragraphs in Spanish. The reading selections will include cultural topics from different countries where Spanish is spoken. This allows the students to see the differences in cultures and practices and allows for discussion and presentations in Spanish.
4. **Write** basic phrases in Spanish. This will be accomplished through daily activities in class that require the students to create simple sentences in Spanish. The sentence structures will gradually increase in difficulty. They will also gradually increase into paragraphs as well. The writing samples will start as students creating a simple sentence, and develop into students writing a letter to a pen pal in another country comparing our lifestyles to theirs.

Prerequisite: Must have a B or higher in regular English Classes.

Standards for Spanish Class: All assignments and assessments used to teach this class reflect the national standards for Foreign Languages. A copy of these standards can be found at <http://www.actfl.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3392>.

Required texts and Materials:

1. Avancemos! Level 1. Holt McDougal, © 2010.
2. Avancemos! Cuaderno de Actividades level 1. Holt McDougal, © 2010.
3. 3 Ring Binder with dividers
4. Writing utensils (pen blue or black ink, or pencils)

Grade Computation:

Your grade for this course will be based on the following work:

Class Participation	Tests
Homework	Class work
Quizzes	Binder Checks

Class Participation: You cannot develop good speaking skills in Spanish if you do not actively participate in the class using Spanish. Your class participation grade is computed in the following way:

Each week I print off a seating chart with each student's name included. Every time a student answers a question, they receive a slash mark next to their name (whether the answer is correct or not). At the end of the week ALL of the slash marks are added up and then divided by the number of students in the class. That gives me the passing grade for participation that week (5 out of 5). The points then gradually decline generally in margins of 2 to 3 points.

Please note that if a student is sleeping, doing homework for another class, or talking excessively they will lose participation points. They also lose all of their participation points for the week if they have to be removed from class.

Homework: The best way to learn new material is through repetition. Homework is one way to accomplish repetition. You will be expected to do an amount of homework everyday. You may have time in class to begin your homework or you may have to complete it at home. I may not check or collect every-single homework that is assigned, but it is still important that you do your work every night. Please be advised that assignments are due on the date specified, no late assignments will be accepted.

Quizzes: We will have quizzes on a regular basis in the class. There will always be warning before a quiz. Some of them will be pure vocabulary quizzes and other will cover grammatical structures learned in class.

Tests: Generally the tests will be worth 100 points. The amount of tests in one quarter will be determined on how much we are able to cover in that quarter.

Class work: There will be times during the year when you will be asked to write sentences, paragraphs, or papers in Spanish. There will also be times when you will be required to create dialogues with a partner and present them to the class. These will be assigned in class and collected in class. They will generally be covering the topic being discussed in the chapter at hand.

Binder Check: Organization plays a key role in being successful in the Spanish Class. Because of this, we will be having a binder checks every quarter. For each binder check the students will be responsible for having the following elements included:

Vocabulary for each lesson
Outlines for each lesson
Review worksheets that were given for each lesson
Review Activities from the end of each lesson

*** Please note that each binder should include dividers. Each required element should be CLEARLY LABELED. I will not look for any missing section that is not clearly labeled, or in incorrect order.

Grade Calculation and Grading Scale:

The grade for this class is calculated by dividing the points earned in the class by the total points possible. That percentage is the grade for the quarter. The Grading Scale is as follows:

90-100	A	98-100	A+	90-92	A-
80-89	B	87-89	B+	80-82	B-
70-79	C	77-79	C+	70-72	C-
60-69	D	67-69	D+	60-62	D-
0-59	F				

Semester Grades and Exams:

The quarter grades are determined as stated before, by dividing the points earned by the points possible and applying the percentage to the grading scale listed above. The Semester Grade is made up of 40% of the 1st and 2nd quarter grades and 20% of the exam grade / percent. Please be advised that these are calculated using percentage scores received for first quarter, second quarter and the exam.

Teacher Policies:

- All students should arrive 100% prepared for class. (With their Books, Workbooks, paper, pencils, etc. with them.) They should have their homework out and ready on their desk when the bell rings for the class to begin.
- Make-up work: Students will only have the amount of days they were absent to make up the work that they have missed. It is the student's responsibility to see me to get the make up work and schedule any make up quizzes or Tests that need to be taken.

- Respect your teacher and your classmates. Everyone learns differently respect the differences and the needs of others. That means be courteous and listen to the directions of your teacher and your classmate's responses. Be mindful that everyone is learning a new language and it takes courage to try something new. **In order to gain respect you must show respect.

Tentative Learning Schedule:

During the First Semester we will cover the following lessons:

- Peliminar Unidad 2 Lección 2
- Unidad 1 Lección 1 Unidad 3 Lección 1
- Unidad 1 Lección 2 Unidad 3 Lección 2
- Unidad 2 Lección 1 Unidad 4 Lección 1

** Each Lesson will take approximately two weeks to complete.

During the Second Semester we will cover the following lessons:

- Unidad 4 Lección 2 Unidad 6 Lección 2
- Unidad 5 Lección 1 Unidad 7 Lección 1
- Unidad 5 Lección 2 Unidad 7 Lección 2
- Unidad 6 Lección 1 Unidad 8 Lección 1

** Please be aware that these are TENTATIVE DATES and MATERIAL to be covered on these dates. These dates and/ or quizzes (pruebas), exams and material are subject to change based on necessity of learning or unforeseen events.