

SPANISH LEVEL I SYLLABUS



Teacher: Señora Geronimo-Riggs
Room Location: 222
Course Length: Semester

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Dear Parent or Guardian:

I am excited for the 2018-19 school year and I look forward to teaching your son/daughter! This is my twelfth year teaching at Whitmer High School with five years of experience working in business. I hold a Bachelor's degree in International Business and a Master's degree in Spanish/Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Toledo. I look forward to bringing my experiences to the classroom and anticipate an exciting and productive school year!

The following is information regarding the class:

1. In a foreign language class, students are assessed in the areas of listening, reading, writing, speaking, and culture.
2. All students will be given a communication grade because active listening and speaking are integral to the success of mastering a language.
3. If a student is absent, this may reflect in his/her grade. Participation cannot occur if a student is not in class.

Learning Goals

In this Spanish level 1 class, you will learn vocabulary and study grammatical structures that will be useful for practical everyday use. You will learn this through speaking, reading, writing and listening in Spanish. You will also gain an understanding of similarities and differences of cultures and languages.

Course Materials: We use a story series titled, Tripp's Scripts, and a variety of supplemental materials to support our course studies, as well as short novels.

Course Summary: By the end of the course, you will have the tools to be able to speak and write about yourself and others in a variety of settings. Some of the vocabulary themes that will be covered are:

- Greetings, goodbyes, and polite expressions
- Colors
- Numbers
- Days of the week & months of the year
- Seasons & Weather
- Common adjectives
- Animals
- School subjects and supplies
- Family
- Modes of transportation
- Clothing and accessories
- Food
- Parts of the body

You will narrate stories, write short stories, and function with a beginner level of structural knowledge. Grammar topics that will be covered include:

- Nouns & articles
- Present tense verbs
- Common verbs
- Agreement

Materials Needed

-Binder with 7 dividers labeled: Citas, Vocabulario, Vocabulario Suplementario, Cuentos, Hojas Informativas (handouts), Escribir, Tarea.

-2 different colored highlighters

-1 pack of index cards

Grading

Class assignments, homework, quizzes, tests and projects = 80%

Communication grade = 20%

Final Exam = 15% of overall grade

Extra credit will only be allowed IF time permits for a cultural food day.

Otherwise, no extra credit will be permitted.

Communication Grade

All students begin with a 75 point communication grade or a "C" however, students have the opportunity to receive a total of 100 communication points.

1 point or an "estrella" (star) may be awarded if a student answers a challenging question or answers a question in Spanish. A 1 point deduction called a "págame" (pay me) will be deducted when students are not following along or when answering in English if the answer could have been answered in Spanish. The communication grade accounts for 20% of the overall class grade.

If you miss four days or more of instruction, this will result in a deduction of 4 or more communication points. However, if you will be out because of a special circumstance, please be sure to talk to me so you can make these up.

Late work

Late work is accepted only if the entire assignment has been completed. Half credit will then be given based on the percentage received on the assignment.

****Quizzes are Pop Quizzes****

In a foreign language classroom, letter grades may be viewed in terms of the following:

A-Expert B-Advanced C-Intermediate D-Novice F-Beginner

*Absences

Each student will be assigned a "primo/prima" (cousin). If your primo is absent, be sure to collect extra handouts for him/her. If you are returning from an absence, be sure to follow up with your primo/prima to find out what you missed.

Homework

Homework will be assigned 2-3 days a week. Occasionally, students may be given the option of a homework choice (see attached).

Actions that contribute to academic success

- Good attendance
- Completion of all homework and other assignments
- Adequately preparing for tests and quizzes
- Active participation and communication in Spanish during class
- Good classroom conduct

Finally, in order to teach effectively, I believe it is critical that a teacher know their students. I would appreciate if you would take the time to list two descriptions about your son or daughter below. If you have access to email, please include your email address.

If you have any questions, I may be reached at 419-473-8383 ext. 7868 or via email at LGeronomo-Riggs@wls4kids.org. I look forward to a very productive and fun year with your son/daughter!

Sincerely,

Laura Riggs

Please return:

Parent Email:

Parents or Guardians please sign acknowledging that you have received and read a copy of the classroom information. Students should return this form to me by Friday, August 31st (5pts.)

Student Name

Description:

Level I Homework Choice (15 points)

****You cannot complete a homework choice assignment twice until you have completed all of them! Indicate which homework choice you have completed on your homework. All summaries or stories must be completed on the Word Count paper.

***** Do NOT use Google Translate*****You may use WordReference.com or SpanishDict.com

Option #1 Crossword Puzzle

-Make a crossword puzzle using at least 15 words from recent vocabulary notes/quizzes. You may not use any English in the clues: Use Spanish or illustrations. Make a key for the puzzle

Option #2 Vocabulary Quiz

Write a vocabulary quiz. Use the 15 most difficult words off the word lists. Your quiz may be fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice, matching, illustration or any other creative format you can think of. (Your quiz must contain more than one format.) Be sure to make a key for your quiz and turn it in.

Option #3 Writing

Choose 15 of the most difficult words from the word list. Write the word three times in Spanish and once in English with no spelling errors.

Option #4 Word Search

Choose 15 of the most difficult words from the word list. Create a word search. Be sure to make an answer key to turn in.

Option #5 Diccionario

Choose 15 of the most difficult words from the word list. Use the "Diccionario" paper to draw the picture. Write the Spanish word on the back of the paper.

Option #6 Make Flashcards

Using a minimum of 15 recent vocabulary words, create flashcards writing the word in Spanish on one side and drawing a detailed picture on the other side.

Option#7 Quizlet

Log on to Quizlet. Access the vocabulary list we are working on for the week and spend a minimum of 20 minutes studying the flashcards and playing games.

Option #8 Postcard/Note of appreciation

Make a card for someone you appreciate (your mom, grandparent, dad, pet, teacher.) Tell him/her how wonderful s/he is, how much you appreciate what s/he does for you, and how much s/he means to you. Use quality color illustrations and a minimum of 30 words in Spanish. You will get the card back once the credit is recorded.

Option #9 Labels

Find 15 different labels in Spanish and glue them to paper.

Option #10 Spanish language T V

Watch a program (parent approved) on Spanish language TV (Univisión, Galavisión, Telemundo, Netflix, ESPN Español, Disney Channel, movies, etc.) for a minimum of 30 minutes. Write at least a 100 word description in English of what you saw including advertisements, station program information and your opinion of it. What does it have in common with English language television and how is it different? Include the title of the program you watched, the channel it was on, and day and time of the program.

Option #11 Place names in Spanish

Make a list of places in the United States with Spanish names. The places may be states, cities, geographic features (mountains, rivers, islands, etc.), streets, buildings, and so on. For each name, tell where the place is found and what the name means in English. Your list must have at least 40 places. Use a map for reference.

Option # 12 Make a Spanish dish!

Make a Spanish dish for your classmates to taste. You must have a picture of you making the food, yourself, as proof! Make sure you inform me as to when you would like to bring the food.

Option #13 News/Internet site

Look for a site on the internet that is interesting to you related to Spanish. You can find a site about a musician, athlete, sports team/event, news, country, cultural event, animal, etc. Spend at least 15 minutes reading as much as you can on the site and going to the different links. Print out the home page of the site, then write at least 80 words in English telling why you picked this site, what you learned on the site and what you found interesting about the site.

Option #14 Floor Plan

Draw the floor plan to your house. Label each room in Spanish and label in Spanish 10 additional items you will find in your home. Floor plan must be completed in color.

Option #15 Latin American Holidays

Research a Latin American holiday tradition. Make a poster (8.5 x 11) about the tradition. Include color illustrations of the tradition. Also include a paragraph explaining the tradition: in what country (or countries) it is celebrated, where it is celebrated (countryside, city, street, church, home, etc.), and who the celebration is for (children, woman, men, etc.). Your poster should be 8.5 x 11, in color and the paragraph should be a least 100 words long in English.

Option #16 Famous people

Research a famous Spanish speaking person and write a minimum of 120 words about the person in English. Include a picture.

Option #17 Spanish-speaking singers

Research a famous Spanish speaking singer. Include a picture, their name, age, where they are from, and what type of music they are known for. Include the names of at least two famous songs. Minimum 120 words in English.