

SPANISH LEVEL II 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!

In a foreign language class, students are assessed in the areas of listening, reading, writing, speaking, and culture. All students will be given a communication grade because active listening and speaking is integral to the success of mastering a language. 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 2 class, you will build on your previous knowledge of Spanish from level 1, and increase your fluency in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. You will expand your vocabulary and will be able to communicate in the present and past tense forms of Spanish. You will also develop a better understanding of the 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:

- Free-time activities
- Common verbs
- Animals
- Travel
- Daily routine
- Food
- Household chores
- Holidays & celebrations
- Shopping
- Places around town
- Technology
- Sports
- Professions

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

- Present tense of verbs
- Imperfect tense of verbs
- Irregular verbs *ser* & *ir* in the preterite tense
- Preterite tense of regular verbs
- Direct object pronouns
- Irregular verbs *leer* & *oir* in the preterite tense
- Negative word use
- The verb *saber* vs. *conocer*
- Comparatives and superlatives
- Demonstrative adjectives & pronouns
- Irregular -go verbs
- Present progressive
- Reflexive verbs
- Formal commands

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

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 LGeronimo-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:

