

## SPANISH LEVEL III SYLLABUS



**Teacher:** Señora Riggs (voicemail) 419-473-8383 ext. 7868  
**Room Location:** 222 (E-mail) LRiggs@wls4kids.org  
**Course Length:** Semester

Dear Parent or Guardian:

I am excited for the 2018-19 school year and 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 3 class, you will build on your previous knowledge of Spanish from level 1 and 2, 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, past and future 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 variety of supplemental materials to support our course studies, as well as short novels.

Over the course of the semester we will read one or two novels (time permitting). You will be responsible for the reader. If you lose the reader, you will be responsible for replacing it.

**Novela:**

Pobre Ana bailó tango  
Problemas en Paraíso

**Cultura**

Argentina  
Mexico

**The following will be covered over the course of the semester:**

**Topics**

More adjectives  
Health  
Technology  
Art  
Rites of passage  
Argentina  
Dominican Republic  
Mexico

**Grammar**

Regular and Irregular Present tense  
Stem Changing and Reflexive verbs  
Preterite and Imperfect past tense  
Indirect object pronouns  
Present perfect tense  
Past participles  
The subjunctive  
Formal commands  
Informal commands  
Future and conditional tense

**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 70 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. Students are required to keep track of their points. If the teacher notices that you are not keeping track of your daily points, you will receive a double infraction. If you lose your págame/estrella paper, it will result in a 5 point deduction.

### **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.

### **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 [LRiggs@wls4kids.org](mailto:LRiggs@wls4kids.org). I look forward to a very productive and fun year with your son/daughter!

Sincerely,

Laura Riggs

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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:

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