

Spanish Class – Middle School

¡Bienvenidos!

Mr. Viramontes

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Description

This course begins with a review of the language structures previously learned, concentrating on more complex and new aspects of Spanish grammar. The Spanish Speakers course is conducted entirely in Spanish, meanwhile the Spanish Learners course is almost completely in Spanish. This course introduces students to new vocabulary for usage in situations of everyday living. The course also serves as an introduction to literary works by Spanish and Latin American writers as well as to the history, geography and cultures of the Spanish speaking world. Students will be required to write short compositions and prepare oral presentations.

Goals and objectives

Academic content standards:

My primary goal is to help the students improve proficiency in the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing Spanish. Upon the completion of this year class, each student will:

1. Express themselves using a variety of everyday vocabulary.
2. Understand native speakers from a wide variety of Spanish-speaking countries.
3. Write coherent paragraphs, letters, and essays using a variety of vocabulary and correct grammatical structures.
4. Read and comprehend written material including textbooks, short stories, online magazines, articles.
5. Understand traditional ideas and perspectives, institutions, literary and artistic expressions in Spanish.
6. Connect Spanish studies with other subjects studied at St. Patrick School and found in the world around you.
7. Illustrate similarities and differences between the Spanish and American cultures.

Materials needed for this class

1. iPad
2. Pencils, eraser, highlighters, pencil sharpener.
3. Spiral notebook/paper to take daily notes.

Grading

The grading scale for this class is category based:

- Homework/Classwork - 20%
- Quizzes– 30%
- Projects/Tests – 50%

Textbook

We will use the “Auténtico” textbook.

Homework

Homework is collected all Thursdays for Spanish Learners and all Fridays for the Spanish Speakers at 4pm to be checked and occasionally graded for accuracy. 10% - 20% will be deducted for late work – full credit will be awarded if completed correctly, you will receive credit for effort. Assignments are posted on Monday for Spanish Learners and Tuesdays for Spanish Speakers. Do not expect credit if you did not open the assignments.

Classwork

There will be a variety of written, spoken, reading and listening activities every week. You will receive a weekly classwork grade, which is based entirely on the effort you exert in the classroom.

Tests and quizzes

Tests and quizzes will be given at the completion of a unit, one per quarter, no mid-term or final exams. All tests and quizzes are cumulative.

Projects

There will be one project per quarter. Each project will include the use of written and/or spoken Spanish.

Oral participation

Students will be required to speak and read aloud in class. Furthermore, projects may include speaking to one another in Spanish. No student should feel discouraged by this and there will be ample help available to make you successful.

Plagiarism

Please do not use online translators to do your writing assignments, try to think in Spanish. I will know immediately if it's not something that you wrote. Use the translator only for looking up individual words. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in a zero.

Classroom rules

I believe in treating students as young adults, however, do not forget that there is only one adult in the room. Respect the rules of the classroom and the school.

- 1. NO CELL PHONES** are allowed in class.
2. No eating, no chewing gum.
3. All school rules will be enforced in my classroom, no exceptions.
4. Be on time and ready to work.
5. Everyone is expected to have an iPad, paper, eraser, and writing utensils every day.
6. You will not disrupt others from learning, and you will not prevent the teacher from teaching.
7. Do not argue for the sake of arguing; neither with your fellow students nor with the teacher.
8. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain notes/materials when he or she is absent.
9. Late work will only be accepted if there is an excused absence or if something has been communicated beforehand.
10. Have respect for yourself, your colleagues, your school and the teacher always.