

Northland Preparatory Academy
Spanish III Syllabus: 2015-2016

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Course Description and Objectives: Spanish III is a continuing course that assumes prior knowledge or experience with the language at the Spanish I and II levels. This course aims to develop all five language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural competence through the use of authentic materials and those designed for Spanish learners. The goal of the course is to help students develop the ability to communicate in Spanish, while at the same time introducing them to the Hispanic culture. A strong emphasis is placed on using the language in practical situations, while also helping students grasp the basics of Spanish grammatical rules, word order, and word formation.

Students will increase their levels of proficiency via the everyday use of the target language. By continuous practice of the target language, it is expected that students will be able to spontaneously create with the language, initiate, sustain and close intermediate-level exchanges, ask and answer questions and possess the skills necessary of circumlocution when faced with a more difficult communicative tasks. Additionally, students will be able to meet intermediate practical writing needs.

Required Materials:

Descubre 3: Lengua y cultura del mundo hispánico. José A. Blanco, Vista Higher Learning 2nd Edition. –
Provided by instructor

Hard copies of textbooks will be kept in the classroom. E-book codes will be provided for home use within the first weeks of schools.

Reading list*:

1. *Marianela* (adaptation) by Benito Pérez Galdós.
2. *Cajas de Cartón* relatos de la vida peregrina de un niño campesino by Francisco Jiménez.

Film*:

1. *Bajo la misma luna*
2. *Which way home*

*Materials may or may not be used with the new curriculum.

Additional Materials:

1. 3 Ring binder with pockets and 5 divider tabs.
2. Lined paper
3. Flash drive
4. Composition book

Recommended:

1. A good Spanish/English dictionary
2. Use of www.wordreference.com (online Spanish/English dictionary)
3. 501 Spanish Verbs

Student Learning Outcomes: Active engagement with the content of this course will allow students to:

1. Understand the main idea and some of the supporting details of spoken Spanish intended for native speakers and/or students of the language regarding topics related to their daily life.

2. Initiate and respond verbally to basic statements, ask and answer questions and participate in basic conversations about familiar topics with sufficient accuracy in pronunciation and grammar so as to be understood by persons accustomed to interacting with learners of Spanish both within and beyond the school setting.
3. Comprehend both simple, edited written material and authentic materials (e.g., articles, novelettes, short stories, etc.) on topics related to everyday uses of the Spanish language and the Hispanic culture.
4. Write coherent compositions on familiar topics with sufficient accuracy in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and vocabulary so as to be understood by persons accustomed to interacting with learners of Spanish.
5. Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.
6. Understand some significant cultural traits of the Spanish-speaking world (customs, lifestyles, attitudes, geography, famous people, etc.) so as to be able to function appropriately in typical social situations. Demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

Assessment of Learning Outcomes:

This course will be graded using a total point system. Within a total point system a student has the ability to earn a certain number of total points. The actual number of points earned is compared to the total possible points in order to determine the student's grade.

The **quarter grade** will comprise of points earned in the following categories: homework, daily participation, quizzes, chapter exams, and projects.

The **semester grade** will comprise of points earned in both quarters and the final exams (written and oral).

Homework: Students will be assigned homework tasks on a daily and weekly basis. These assignments may include workbook activities, activity sheets, writing assignments, reading, projects and visits to community places and events.

Daily oral performance: As this is a language class, **students will be expected to interact in Spanish as much as possible.** Students will be given participation points for each day of class. Failure to participate (arrive on time, communicate in Spanish: ask/answer questions, volunteer, demonstrate, contribute to class discussions and group work, share experiences...) will result in a loss of participation points for that day.

Quizzes:

You can expect a quiz (pruebita) every week except when there is an exam or other major activity. Study and memorize the "vocabulary". Key grammar points may also appear. You may or may not be informed beforehand. If absent, it is the student's responsibility to make up any missed quiz **the day they return.**

Compositions: You can expect to write several compositions during the course of the year. Your instructor will determine the topic of each essay. Your compositions in Spanish will be graded on content, vocabulary, and the appropriate use of learned grammar.

Exams: You can expect an exam at the end of each chapter which will include listening comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension and cultural knowledge. If absent, it is the student's responsibility to make up a missed exam **the day they return.**

Final exams: There will be a final exam mid-year and one at the end of the year. This exam will be in two parts: a communicative assessment and a written assessment. These exams will be cumulative and thus include all material studied up to that point. Information you learn through spaced repetition stays with you longer than information you “cram”. Daily study periods of shorter duration are more productive than marathon study sessions just before an exam.

Communicative assessments: A major assessment of your speaking abilities will be conducted at mid-year and one at the end of the year, providing you with an opportunity to demonstrate your abilities to communicate about everyday topics and situations in Spanish. This assessment may be conducted as an interview between you and the instructor, as role-plays performed between you and a classmate, or as a short presentation about the topics covered during the semester or cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking countries.

Late Work: Late work will not be accepted. Failure to turn in work by the given due date will result in a zero for that assignment. However, students will still be required to complete these assignments in lunch detention or after school detention as needed. Students who are absent, for extenuating circumstances, will be given one week after the due date to turn in assignments.

Attendance: Students are expected to be on time and attend class everyday. Success in learning a second language depends upon consistent practice and participation. Emergencies, doctor’s appointments and illnesses will be handled on an individual basis.

Bathroom/Hall Passes: There will be a process for leaving the class for any given reason. Each student will be given a card which will allow them to leave the room to the restroom, locker or front desk. Each time that a student asks for permission to leave the room, one of the icons will be marked off. When all of the icons are marked off the student will no longer be able to leave the room or total points will be taken from their final grade at the end of the semester.

Food / drinks / gum: There will be no food, drinks or gum in class except during special occasions (fiestas and presentations). A container for water with a lid that closes is fine.

Classroom Management Statement:

It is the responsibility of each student to behave in a manner which does not interrupt or disrupt the learning process between the teacher and students. Should such interruptions or disruptions occur, the following actions will be taken:

1. At a minimum, students will be warned if their behavior is evaluated as disruptive.
2. Serious disruptions may result in immediate removal of the student from the instructional environment.
3. Significant and/or continued violations may result in a range of actions from discussing the disruptive behavior with the student to consulting with the dean of students to a parent/teacher conference.

World Language Common rules:

RESPECT. Value yourself, others, teachers, your school, and your world.

UNDERSTAND. Be teachable, actively listen, participate, and inquire.

LEARN. Be present, be focused, and be prepared with required materials.

ENGAGE. Be undistracted, free of cell phones, electronics, make-up, etc.

SOAR. Do your best, take risks, show initiative, and enjoy your mind.