

Northland Preparatory Academy

Spanish I Syllabus: 2014-2015

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Course Description and Objectives: By the end of Spanish I, students should be able to communicate on a basic level, using present, future, and preterit tense verbs and common phrases to meet basic demands of Spanish communication. This course is designed to develop all five language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural competence through authentic materials and those that are designed for second language learners. The goal of the Spanish I course is to develop a solid foundation for the ability to communicate in Spanish. A student's background, aptitude, and application will determine the level of language proficiency acquired.

Text Book: Descubre 1: Second Edition. Vista Higher Learning.

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.

Additional Materials:

- 1 1.5" or 2" three ring binder filed with lined paper
- 1 composition book or 1 subject notebook
- 1 package 8 tab dividers
- 1 package of white index cards
- pens and pencils for daily use
- 3 highlighters (of 3 DIFFERENT colors)

Recommended: Access to www.wordreference.com (online Spanish/English dictionary)

Plan of Instruction: The emphasis of instruction is on communication, which incorporates, speaking, reading, writing and listening. These skills will be practiced on a daily basis both formally and informally by using the following:

- Role playing exercises
- Repetition
- Reading Activities
- Vocabulary building exercises
- Word Searches
- Crossword Puzzles
- Verb Conjugations
- Verb drills

Large group activities
Small group or pair activities
Listening exercises
Games
Songs and Music
Movies
Daily Review
Quizzes
Written Homework
Workbook Exercises
In Class Projects
Out of Class Projects
Cultural Activities
Food Tasting/Recipe Making Activities

Learning and improving foreign language communication and comprehension are not only classroom activities. It is expected that you use as much Spanish as you can inside and outside of the classroom.

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: Homework helps students practice the mechanics of a language. The more one practices and uses the language the better they are able to acquire the necessary skills to communicate in another language. Complete your homework to the best of your ability and turn it in when it is due. If you do not understand an assignment and need clarification or more information to complete the task, you must seek help either from the teacher or another student before the assignment is due.

Daily participation: 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. System to be explained in class.

Quizzes: At first, quizzes will be announced. Then quizzes will be given in class on a random basis and you may or may not be informed beforehand. Expect a minimum of 1 to 2 quizzes per chapter.

Final Exams: There will be a final exam mid-year and at the end of the year. The exams are cumulative and thus include all the material studied up that point.

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. If you know that you are going to be gone from class ahead of time, let me know as soon as possible. You are still responsible for the information given that day.

Tardies and Absences due to Sports and Extracurricular Activities: Sports and extracurricular activities DO NOT EXEMPT YOU FROM AN ASSIGNMENT OR KNOWING THE INFORMATION PRESENTED IN CLASS IN YOUR ABSENCE. You are still responsible for the information and any homework given while you are away must be turned in upon your immediate return from any sport/extracurricular activity. Playing a sport and participating in an extracurricular activity is not a right. It is a privilege.

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/disrespectful.
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