

Syllabus-Spanish 1

Teacher: Kathryn (Kat) Jackson

Classroom: W9 (West Side)

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Contact Information

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Office Hours: Lunch and after school by appointment

¡Bienvenidos a la clase de español! Welcome to Spanish class. I look forward to learning with you and being part of your adventure in language and culture of the Hispanic world.

Classroom Norms & Expectations:

1. Be on time and be prepared
2. Listen with the intent to understand and **CONTRIBUTE**
3. **Habla mucho español** *Speak lots of Spanish*
4. Be professional (attire, behavior, language & work ethic)
5. Be respectful
6. Be positive & flexible (and have fun!)
7. Put away distractions (Food, electronics, headphones, etc)

Course Description: This is a beginner course in Spanish language and culture. We will be learning through a method known as Comprehensible Input (CI). CI uses stories, gestures, songs, games and high-frequency vocabulary so students will acquire the language by using Spanish as opposed to English to talk about Spanish. Studies show that people acquire language by listening and reading, so we will be doing lots of this in the classroom. There will be questions and answers about real issues (in humorous and serious form) in Spanish. Students will work with partners and groups often, and much of the learning will take place in the classroom. Therefore, **attendance and participation are extremely important.**

Class goals

By the end of the year you will be able to understand a lot. You can read and write in the language as well. In general, you can confidently give information about yourself as well as about others; you can tell about your likes and dislikes, your preferences and needs. You begin to use the language for some daily functions like asking for or giving directions, and maybe even buying things like food or clothing. You will probably make mistakes when you communicate but these mistakes are a natural part of learning a new language. Just pay attention to them and over time you will be able to eliminate them.

Required Supplies *Please have with you every day:

- Pen or pencil
- 3-ring binder with 5 sections:
 1. Para Empezar (*Starters*)
 2. Vocabulario (Vocabulario)
 3. Escribir (*Writing*)
 4. Cuentos y Canciones (*Stories & Songs*)
 5. Notas y más (*Notes and more*)
- Computer and access to school gmail account
- Open mind and willingness to take risks ☺

Grades:

- **50% Process and Participation = Process Grades 30% and Participation 20%**

Process grades reflect work ethic, preparedness, and contribution. Process and participation grades might include daily starters ("*Para Empezar*"), active contribution in class, notebook checks, meeting project deadlines and reflections on learning. Some free-writing and timed-writing will also be 'process' grades. The grading will become progressively more demanding as skills develop.

- **50 % = Product Grades**

The other portion of grades will reflect what students learn and produce. This will include assessments to show that you have acquired the vocabulary that we have been studying using quizzes, reading comprehension and writing about stories we tell and read. I will also grade presentations from projects, and other tasks that allow you to demonstrate skills and growth.

Cheating: Students caught cheating will lose credit and face penalties per school policy. **THE USE OF A TRANSLATOR IS CONSIDERED CHEATING. NO TRANSLATORS for Spanish 1 assignments...EVER!!**

Late Work: I only accept complete and neat assignments. You must communicate ahead of time if you will be absent and miss any due dates. Assignments that are incomplete will need to be finished before they will be graded. All assignments, *including late assignments*, can demonstrate proficiency and earn up to a B, but only on-time assignments can earn exemplary or excellent status (A). Late assignments will lose 20% off the final grade. Re-takes or corrections of the tests or quizzes will be up to the discretion of the teacher as to whether they will be available.

Absence/Tardies:

It is the STUDENT'S JOB to get notes, complete assignments, and practice skills when missing class. Because many of the activities are done IN CLASS, it is important to come to class often. If you are absent/tardy (for school related or personal reasons), check the class website (Profe Kat's Digital Portfolio) to find warmups, notes, assignments and practice activities. Warm ups will occasionally be graded for participation to make sure students are participating in the process, so make sure that you keep up with these. If there are excessive absences this will affect your participation grade as 25% of your grade is participation. **All makeup work will need to be done on student's own time to ensure key information and practice are not missed!**

Proficiency

One goal in Spanish class is to actually be proficient in the skills that we practice. If a student does not demonstrate proficiency in their work or their assessments, they may choose to try again (and again...and again!). Students should advocate for what they need in order to master the skills, whether that be additional practice, one-on-one assistance, or specific modifications. Please know that I am available during office hours and by appointment to discuss ways to support each student to be successful.

I look forward to working with you, learning about you, and learning from you.

Spanish 1: Student & Family Agreement

Please bring this back signed by **both** student and parent/guardian by Friday, September 1st show agreement and partnership (and to receive full credit).

Student Agreement

- I have read the syllabus, including all of the grading policies, procedures and classroom expectations.
- I know that attendance and contribution in Spanish are extremely important.
- I understand everything in this syllabus.
- I agree to challenge my perspective, advocate for myself, persevere (even when it gets tough), provide evidence in my learning, and refine my skills over and over throughout the year.

Student name: _____ Class Period _____

Student signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Agreement

- I have read and/or my child (or ward) has explained the syllabus, including all of the grading policies, procedures and classroom expectations.
- I know that attendance and contribution in Spanish are extremely important for my child/ward.
- I understand everything in this syllabus.
- I agree to support my child/ward in his or her efforts to success in in this class.
- I agree to contact the teacher if I have questions or concerns throughout the year.

Parent/Guardian name: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Date: _____

Parents/Guardians, what is the best way for me to contact you?

Parent / Guardian email: _____

(and/or) Parent Phone: _____

Please email anything in particular that you would like me to know about your child. Or if you have any skills, experiences or knowledge relating to Spanish that you would be interested in sharing with our class? (i.e. recipes, cooking demonstrations, travel experience, information about culture or family history, etc) My email is: kat.jackson@animashighschool.com

You may also write on the back of this sheet if that works better for you. Gracias!