

SPANISH I
Ms. Mullins
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Room 106
Office Hours:
Tuesdays 2:45-3:15

Course Description

Spanish I is an introductory course to the Spanish language and culture. Students will be introduced to basic concepts of Spanish grammar and vocabulary as well as the geography and cultures of the Spanish speaking world. In a subject such as foreign language, daily use and practice are of the utmost importance. Therefore, it is essential that students come to class prepared and ready to participate in all classroom activities.

Foreign Language Academic Content Standards: The primary goal of the foreign language department is to help the students attain proficiency in the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing the target language. Upon the completion of three years of language study, each student will:

1. Express herself in the target language with native-like pronunciation using a variety of everyday vocabulary.
2. Understand native speakers from a wide variety of countries where the language is spoken
3. Write coherent paragraphs, letters, and essays using a variety of vocabulary and correct grammatical structures.
4. Read and comprehend written material including textbooks, novels, poetry, magazines, newspapers, and multi-media materials.
5. Understand traditional ideas and perspectives, institutions, literary and artistic expressions, and other components of the target culture.

Benchmarks and Performance Standards:

A student who has successfully completed level 1 course work will:

- Use the target language to express likes and dislikes, and personal preferences (e.g., favorite foods, activity, people, events, subjects). (Content Standard 1)
- Use appropriate vocabulary, gestures, and oral expressions for greetings, introductions, leave taking, and other common interactions. (Content Standard 1)
- Use vocabulary for a range of topics (i.e., basic subject area terms, weather, numbers, colors, sports, hobbies). (Content Standard 1)
- Use language to obtain, as well as provide useful or important information on and simple descriptions of people, places and things. (Content Standard 1)
- Understand the basic ideas of oral messages and short conversations based on simple or familiar topics appropriate at this developmental level. (Content Standard 2)
- Understand common phrase groupings and voice inflections. (Content Standard 2)
- Understand simple oral descriptions of people, places, and objects. (Content Standard 2)

- Copy, transcribe, and write learned material, through knowledge of the target language alphabet, phonetics, and grammar rules. (Content Standard 3)
- Provide written descriptions and information on specific level-appropriate topics. (Content Standard 3)
- Compose grammatically simple sentences and basic paragraphs using correct tenses. (Content Standard 3)
- Recognize the alphabet and understand learned material written in the present, near future, and immediate past tense. (Content Standard 4)
- Recognize common cognates and simple expressions in the target language. (Content Standard 4)
- Recognize the geographical locations of a linguistic group. (Content Standard 5)
- Identify common generalizations (i.e., family life, social factors, and cultural viewpoints) about the target culture(s). (Content Standard 5)
- Demonstrate knowledge of holidays celebrated, popular songs, and traditional social factors connected with the target culture. (Content Standard 5)

Required materials *:

Realidades Level I, (Boyles, Met, Sayers, and Wargin), Pearson Prentice Hall, Boston, MA, 2008. (Text and Workbook/Lab Manual)

English/Spanish dictionary

-Student planner

-Black or blue pen and a red pen

*Additional readings, lectures, handouts, audio/visual equipment & other teaching/learning aids will be made available by the teacher to supplement the course, when appropriate.

Course Outline

The following is an outline highlighting some of the more important concepts that we will be covering throughout the year.

First Semester		Second Semester	
Para Empezar		Capítulo 4B	Los pasatiempos
Capítulo 1	Mis amigos y yo	Capítulo 5	Fiesta en familia
Capítulo 2	La escuela	Capítulo 6	La casa
Capítulo 3	La comida	Capítulo 7	De compras
Capítulo 4A	Los pasatiempos	Capítulo 8	Experiencias

Student Evaluation

Attendance & Participation 10% Homework 10% Performance Assignments 20%
Tests & Vocabulary Quizzes 40% Semester Exam 20%

A 95-100 A- 90-94 B+ 87-89 B 84-86 B- 80-83 C+ 77-79 C 74-76
C- 70-73 D+ 67-69 D 64-66 D- 60-63 F 0-59

Attendance and Participation

You will be graded daily on attendance, promptness, and preparedness. Frequent absences, tardies or coming unprepared to class (not having your textbook, homework, etc.) will constitute a low grade. You will receive a detention for each tardy unless you have a legitimate excuse (you must have a note from the attendance office, a teacher, or an administrator). It is imperative that we begin class on time; therefore, it is expected that at the beginning of class you will be sitting quietly in your seat with your books out.

Remember, since this is a language class, it is of the utmost importance that you make every effort to use Spanish in class. The effort you make will be reflected in your participation grade.

Homework and Performance Assignments

No late or illegible homework will be accepted. In the event of an absence, it is the student's sole responsibility to make up missed homework (please check the website). It is expected that the student will present the work due on the day of her absence upon her return. In case of extended absences, the student should meet with me. If the student knows in advance that she will be absent, she must talk to me beforehand and arrange to make up the missed assignment(s). *No make up work will be accepted for an unexcused absence.*

Tests and Vocabulary Quizzes

Students should expect to be tested upon the completion of each unit. Quizzes will also be given periodically. If a student is absent the day of a test or quiz, it is expected that she will take the test/quiz the day she returns. Exceptions will be made for extended absences. A student may make up ONE test PER SEMESTER without penalty. However, her test/quiz score will be dropped by 5% for the second make up, 10% for the third make up, etc.

Classroom Policies

- Generally, students may not leave the classroom unless they have an appointment to see an administrator, a counselor, or permission from me. Each student will be given three locker/restroom passes that she can use at her discretion. A student will also be allowed to turn in an assignment one day late if she presents one of her passes.
- Students who are having difficulty with the material are strongly encouraged to meet with me outside of class. **I am available after school Tuesdays and by appointment.**
- If a student becomes ill before or during class and needs to go to the sick room, she must get a note from me. Going to the sick room counts as an absence.
- All classroom rules and regulations regarding conduct, attendance, dress code, grading, plagiarism, etc. shall be implemented and followed as stated in the school handbook.