

**Advanced Placement Spanish Language Syllabus**  
**Native Speakers**  
2009-2010  
Mrs. Martín-Orozco

**Course Description:**

Advanced Placement Spanish Language covers the equivalent of a third-year college course in advanced Spanish writing and conversation. It encompasses aural/oral skills, reading comprehension, grammar and compositions. Students will learn to compose expository passages, to converse on a variety of subjects, and improve reading comprehension via extensive reading assignments in newspapers, magazines, and in classic and modern Spanish and Latin American literature. The use of Spanish for active communication is emphasized.

**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 four 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, short stories, poetry, magazines, newspapers, novels and multi-media materials.
5. Understand traditional ideas and perspectives, institutions, literary and artistic expressions, and other components of the target culture.

**Bench Marks and Performance Standards:**

A student who has successfully completed a level IV course will:

- Use the target language to express one's point of view through the exchange of personal feelings. (Content Standard #1)
- Use appropriate vocabulary to exchange information about current or past events (e. g., information from newspapers or magazine articles; programs on television, radio, or video). (Content Standard #1)
- Use appropriate vocabulary (e. g., literary terms such as setting, character, plot, conflict, resolution, and theme) to express personal reactions and feelings about authentic literary texts. (Content Standard #1)
- Understand the main ideas and significant details of extended discussions, lectures, formal presentations, and various forms of media (e.g., radio or television programs, movies) that are appropriate at this developmental level. (Content Standard #2)

- Understand all forms and styles of speech. (Content Standard #2)
- Understand idiomatic expressions, subtleties, and genre specific vocabulary. (Content Standard #2)
- Summarize in writing the content of various texts (magazine or newspaper articles, short stories, plays, poems, short novels. (Content Standard #3)
- Express herself in formal and informal writing. Be able to do research papers. (Content Standard #3)
- Be able to present a point of view. (Content Standard #3)
- Read prose and literature on a great variety of topics at normal speed. (Content Standard #4)
- Understand and interpret a variety of written materials including literary texts, novels, poetry, and plays. Be able to analyze the plot, characters, conflicts and resolutions exposed in the text. (Content Standard #4)
- Demonstrate an understanding of information and concepts presented in written form on a variety of topics (Content Standard #4)
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of world geography. (e.g., locates on a world map countries where the target language is spoken; names and locates significant geographical features of countries where the language is spoken). (Content Standard #5)
- Identify and analyze cultural practices of Spanish speakers. (Content Standard #5)
- Research and expand her knowledge of important historical and contemporary figures of Spain and Latin America. (Content Standard #5)
- Read and analyze literary works of the target culture. (Content Standard #5)

**Texts:** Abriendo Paso : Lectura, Prentice Hall, 2007  
ISBN: 0131660977

Triangulo: A Propósito, Wayside Publishing, Fourth Edition  
ISBN: 1877653896

Additional readings, lectures and films will supplement the course when appropriate.

## **Classroom Policies and Student Evaluation**

### **Grading Policy**

*Quarter grades are based on the following:*

- Participation and Attendance 15%
- Daily Work 15%
  - a. classwork
  - b. homework
- Quizzes, Oral Presentations, and Recordings 30%
- Writing Samples and Tests 40%

*Semester grades are based on the following:*

- Quarter 1 40%
- Quarter 2 40%
- Final Exam 20%

### **Participation and Attendance**

Active classroom participation is essential to this class. A variety of activities such as directed questioning, small group discussions/ presentations, etc. will be provided to help you prepare for the A.P. Exam. BE AWARE... you cannot receive an "A" for participation if you ARE NOT IN CLASS. Each student will be expected to come to class with all of her books and ready to work. Frequent absences (more than three absences each semester would be considered excessive) or coming unprepared to class will not only affect your grade in a negative manner but will prevent you from practicing Spanish on a daily basis.

### **Daily Work**

In addition to homework, there will be a variety of activities that will be done in class. Not all activities are graded; however, you should always be prepared to hand in your work. All assignments/activities should be written neatly in pen. NO CREDIT will be given for an assignment handed in late. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to inquire about what you missed. You may then turn in the missed assignment the following day.

### **Oral Presentations**

Each student presents at least one oral (not read) report each quarter. Topics and due dates will be announced during the semester. I will inform you if a written report is to accompany the oral report. Tape recordings will also be assigned throughout the semester. Students will receive guidelines for each tape recording.

### **Writing Samples and Compositions**

There will be ample opportunities for students to practice writing in Spanish (review sheets on each literary work read, timed essays, book reports, analysis on a specific literary topic, etc). Writing samples will be graded on form and content. Papers turned in without accent marks will be counted as late work.

### **Tests and Quizzes**

Tests will always be announced at least three days in advance. Occasionally, I will give unannounced quizzes. There are no make-ups for missed quizzes; however, at the end of each semester, I will not count your lowest quiz score. If you are absent the day that a test is given, you will be expected to take the test the day you return. It will be YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to contact me about making up the exam. You may only make up one test per semester without penalty. If you should miss any other tests, you will be permitted to make up the test the day you return; however, there may be a penalty for the make up.

### **Semester Exams**

Semester exams are cumulative.

Practice AP exams, will be given at the end of the first semester and during the second semester.

**Materials:** 3 ring binder  
Black or blue pen  
Red pen or marker  
Spanish/English dictionary

### **Office Hours**

I will be available every Monday after school. This is a great time to stop by and ask questions if you would like some extra help. This is also a good time to get or turn in make up work. If you cannot meet during this time, you can schedule an appointment with me.

*Sé que tendremos un año exitoso. . . hacer es poder.*