

Spanish IV Syllabus Mrs. Galarza

Mrs. Gloria Galarza
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Office Hours:
M, T, F, after school
Every day during break
Other times by appointment only

Course Description:

In this course, students will be given a thorough review of grammatical concepts learned in the previous three years of study. Through readings of short stories, poetry and articles as well as in the viewing of films, the student will be exposed to themes topical in the present day Spanish-speaking world. Students will also learn about the art, literature and history of Spain and Latin America. Refinement of written and oral skills is achieved through expository compositions, oral presentations and class discussions. The use of Spanish for active communication is emphasized.

Texts: Perspectivas (7th edition), Mary Ellen Kiddle, Brenda Wegmann, Sandra Schreffler, Thomson Learning Inc., Pub., 2002
Una Vez Mas, James H Couch, Rebecca D. McCann, Carmel Rodríguez-Walter, Angel Rubio-Maroto, Longman Publishing Group, Pub., 1993
Spanish dictionary

Academic Content Standards:

The primary goal of the foreign language department is to help 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, 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 four years of studies will:

1. Use the target language to express her point of view through the exchange of personal feelings. (Content Standard #1)
2. 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)
3. Use appropriate vocabulary (e.g., literary terms such as setting, character, plot, conflict, resolution, theme) to express personal reactions and feelings about authentic literary texts (poems, plays, short stories). (Content Standard #1)
4. 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)
5. Understand all forms and styles of speech. (Content Standard #2)
6. Understand idiomatic expressions, subtleties, and genre specific vocabulary. (Content Standard #2)
7. Summarize in writing the content of various texts (feature magazine or newspaper articles, short stories, plays, poems, short novels). (Content Standard #3)
8. Express herself in formal and informal writing and is able to do research papers. (Content Standard #3)
9. Be able to present a point of view. (Content Standard #3)
10. Read prose, literature, and so forth on a great variety of topics at normal speed. (Content Standard #4)
11. Understand and interpret a variety of written material including literary texts, novels, poetry, and plays. Be able to analyze the plot character, the conflicts and resolutions exposed in the text. (Content Standard #4)
12. Demonstrate understanding of information and concepts presented in written form on a variety of topics. (Content Standard #4)
13. Demonstrate a working knowledge of world geography. (i. e. 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)
14. Identify and analyze different cultural practices and shares personal cultural knowledge. (Content Standard #4)

15. Research and expand her knowledge of important historical and contemporary figures. (Content Standard #5)
16. Read and analyze literary works of the target culture. (Content Standard #5)

Grading Policy

Grades are based on the following:

Homework and class work	10%
Participation	10%
Projects/Presentations	10%
Quizzes and Unit Tests	50%
Semester Final Exam	20%

Classroom Expectations

You are expected to bring to class every day: your textbook, workbook, pencil, black or blue pens and a notebook. You cannot leave the classroom once the class has started; however, you will receive three hallway passes per semester to go to your locker or to the bathroom.

You are expected to arrive in class on time and in an orderly manner. To take full advantage of the class time, you are to start working on the warm-up exercise of the day immediately upon arrival.

In order to maintain a positive learning environment, there should not be unnecessary talking in class. Even if Spanish is a little easy for you, we still have to be considerate towards the students who need peace and quiet to do their work.

In order to improve your oral proficiency, you are expected to speak only Spanish when you are in the classroom. You are also encouraged to use Spanish outside the class as much as you can.

Classroom Policies

According to school policy, eating food, chewing gum, or drinking inside the classroom is not permitted.

Please wait for the teacher to dismiss you at the end of class and make sure the desks are placed in order and all trash thrown away before you leave the classroom.

Tests and quizzes will be announced in advance. I may choose to give a quiz grade to any homework assignment handed in by you. This will not be announced. In order to reinforce responsibility, you are required to turn in your homework, projects, or any type of work by the due date. Late work will receive no credit, only emergencies will be considered.

Homework will be assigned daily, only assignments that are complete will receive credit.

Since you are learning to communicate in Spanish, oral participation is a very important part of your grade. Oral participation and behavior will be graded on a daily basis. Disruptive behavior will affect your participation grade which, in turn, will affect your overall grade.

Make up work

Make up work will be accepted only if you were absent on the day it was assigned.

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to obtain make up work. Absence should not be an excuse for dropping behind in homework and studies. You can visit my website to view and copy your homework.

If you miss a test due to an excused absence, you should talk to me and schedule a make up the day of your return. If you miss a second test, your score will be dropped by 10%. Because of the listening component, make up tests will be given after school only.

Semester Projects

You will be responsible for at least two projects during each semester. Information regarding these projects and their due dates will be given later on in the semester.

Final Suggestions

If you want to succeed in this class, do your best, more careful work. Do all work assignments completely and as neat, clear and organized as you can. This course is designed not only to help you become an effective communicator, but also to encourage the development of your higher level thinking skills, your problem solving abilities and your creativity. To accomplish these goals, make sure that you follow directions and give your full undivided attention to all the activities, class work, lectures, etc., that will take place in the class.

I am looking forward to working with you. Lets make our goal to have a fun and successful academic year. With the help of our Lord, we will reach our goal.

¡Bienvenidas y buena suerte!