# SPANISH 1



## We're on the Path to Proficiency

Welcome to Spanish 1. This course goal is to communicate effectively in Spanish. Communicating in any language requires developing skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and cultural literacy. Mastering these skills is a process that takes time, preparation, and practice. Success in the class requires you to train like you would for sport, music, or other

type of performance. If test, quizzes, and presentations are your "game" or "recitals", then class exercises, homework, and daily preparation are your "practices" and "rehearsals". In the same way that you cannot merely watch a performance and then reproduce it at a high level without preparation, so it is with Spanish.

#### **CLASS EXPECTATIONS**



Be kind & be respectful.



Be on time & be prepared.



Ask permission to leave your seat.



Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.



Follow directions the first time they are given.

All school rules also apply.

Our classes are not about Spanish; they are in Spanish, and use technology extensively to support our learning.

Language learning and teaching has changed dramatically in the last twenty years thanks to increased understanding of how the brain learns and retrieves information. For most parents, you should expect less memorizing and more use of the language than when you studied a language in school.

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### Classroom Policies, Procedures, & Grading

Entering Class: Gather any necessary materials, quickly find your seat, and begin working on the warm-up posted on the board quietly. This is a timed five-minute activity.

Bathroom Usage: Students may not leave class in the first or last ten minutes. Students are expected to use the bathroom before or after class. Please understand that when many students are constantly asking to go to the bathroom and are coming back and forth to the classroom the lesson is disrupted.

**Absences:** If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up missed assignments. See teacher for handouts.

#### **Food & Electronic Devices:**

Food and drink are not permitted outside of the cafeteria for sanitary reasons. Please do not use cell phone or any other mobile device during class unless teacher has directed you to do so.

Exiting Class: In the last five minutes of class, you will wrap up what you are working on, and return materials to the appropriate locations. The teacher, not the bell, dismisses you upon completion of these tasks.

**Revise & Redo:** An assignment is not considered complete and will not be graded until it meets the criteria for that assignment.

#### **Grading:**

A= 89.5 - 100 B= 79.5 - 89 C= 69.5 - 79 D= 59.5 - 69 F= 59.4 and below

Classroom Grades are determined as follows:

35% Minor Assessments 65% Major Assessments

Classroom
Policies,
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#### YOU WILL NEED:

- A composition notebook (no spirals)
- Mechanical pencils
- Red ink pen
- A set of colored highlighters
- Glue
- Index cards
- Headphones/earbuds
- A positive attitude, a sense of humor, & an open mind

### Making mistakes is essential for learning a language

You didn't speak your first language perfectly when you started; Spanish will be the same. Our class focuses on what you can communicate with the language, as well as how well you can do it. There will be mistakes along the way, but we learn from them and use them to improve our next attempts.

## Students: **YOU** are responsible for your learning

Bring you're a game! Prepare for class and participate fully. Study each day's goals each night. Let's support each other and we can all be successful.

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