

Spanish 382, Spanish 2, 2012-2013

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¡Bienvenidos a la clase de español!

This year will be an exciting adventure for all of us. No matter what skills you possess upon entering this class, given an open mind toward learning and a sustained, diligent effort, your personal progress will be a source of satisfaction for you.

What does it mean “to succeed” in this course?

Success involves the following:

1. a sustained improvement in all four language skills: reading, speaking, listening and writing
2. a mastery of the beginning structures of Spanish which will allow you to express yourself with greater precision and clarity
3. an enhanced vocabulary with an increased inventory of idiomatic expressions
4. an appreciation of the richness of Hispanic literature and culture

Careful listening in class to both your teacher and your classmates will improve your listening skills. Throughout the year, we will also utilize the tape program that accompanies your textbook, Paso a Paso and watch a video program called “La Catrina”. You will watch at least one full-length movie in Spanish. These activities will also strengthen your listening skills.

To improve your reading skills, you will read dialogues from the text, short reading selections and articles from Spanish newspapers or the internet. We will also be reading from the book that accompanies the video series, “La Catrina”. You will write short paragraphs using the vocabulary and grammar presented in class. Speaking activities include dialogues, skits, and student presentations (individually and in small groups). We will practice grammatical structures learned in class in the computer and language labs.

What will help you succeed?

1. Excellent attendance
The attendance policy for the school will be enforced in this class.
2. Regular independent study
 - a. Complete the homework carefully and completely.
 - b. Write out the answers to exercises.
 - c. When a reading assignment is given, come to class prepared to discuss the assigned pages. Study and learn the new vocabulary.

3. Participation in class

We will use Spanish almost exclusively as our means of communication in this class. Don't be discouraged if you do not understand everything at first. After a while, it will get easier. In class, we will often work in groups or pairs. That way, you will have more opportunities to speak. I know that there are some of you who are quieter than others and for whom talking out loud in class is difficult. In this class, **participation is important** – it is the only way to learn to speak Spanish. Try to stretch yourselves – take the challenge! It is okay to make mistakes!

4. Organize your work. You should have a 3 ring binder for your Spanish work. Please make sure to bring your book to class every day.

What you need to know:

1. **Class website** -- I have a website (Sra.Wiener.weebly.com) so you can check our assignments regularly. **If you are absent, you should check the website and be prepared to come to class with your work.** There will be a few assignment sheets in class should you want one.

2. **Homework** -- I assign homework almost every night. Homework will often be checked in class and it will also be collected – be prepared to hand in every assignment. Homework, if turned in late, will be given partial credit. You will not be allowed to turn in homework at the end of the term that was due weeks prior. **You have one week to turn in missed homework.** After an absence, it is **your responsibility** to give me the work and to find out what you have missed.

3. **Classwork** -- Classwork is extremely important. Please make sure to focus in class, pay attention, and participate. (Please do not do homework from other classes, listen to headphones, etc). Class works best when everyone works together and participates.

4. **Missed quizzes and tests** must be made up **promptly** (within one week) during J block.

5. **Cheating and plagiarism** will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a zero and a call home. Please do not use translation services that are found on the internet – you will learn nothing from the process...and do not ask your Spanish-speaking friends to write your paragraphs for you – you will learn more if you write yourself – even if it is a struggle.

6. There must be an atmosphere of **respect** in our classroom in order for everyone to learn. We are all responsible for sharing the power to make this a safe and respectful classroom where everyone feels cared about and valued.

6. J block: Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please come to J block if you need extra help.

7. Cell phones and all other devices must be turned off and put away.

Grade Calculation:

45% Tests, major compositions, major projects

30% Quizzes, mini-presentations, short compositions

10% Homework

15% Class participation (includes class work, participation, attitude, behavior, effort)

¡Buena Suerte! ¡Espero que gocen de la clase!

