

Exploring World Languages (with an emphasis in Spanish)



Course Expectations Outline

Welcome to the class!

**Con
El Profesor
Federico Moreno**

Please call me Profe. Moreno

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Remember everything is possible!

I am very happy to have you as my student this year, I commend you for your decision to learn foreign languages. Learning another language is not difficult. It's actually fun and very useful.

The introduction to world language class is designed to help you understand the origins and importance of world languages by exploring different cultures and how they have influenced our own.

You will be introduced to some of the major world languages spoken around the world, you will be able to identify their similarities and/or differences both linguistically and culturally, you will also be able to learn a few basic vocabulary and expressions to introduce yourself and to say hello! to others and to count at least up to 10 in many languages. The course ends with an emphasis in Spanish to prepare you to move on to Spanish 1 the following year. During the Spanish section of the course, you will be introduced to the Hispanic culture, you will learn some basic vocabulary that will allow you to have a simple conversation, to express basic ideas and to use common expressions.

The main goal is that you experience the foreign language learning process and hopefully get excited about learning to communicate in another language.

Please read the following classroom materials and expectations outline, make sure that you understand it and feel free to ask questions if you need any clarification.

Class Materials:

Workbook: We will use a compilation of materials created for this specific class..

Binder: Students are required to keep a neat, well organized, 1.5", 3 ring binder, with 5 dividers. Label your dividers: Notes, Homework, Projects, Quizzes, and Test. Put your name on your binder, and feel free to decorate the cover to reflect your personality! It will be inspected and graded periodically.

Pens/ Pencils: always have something to write with in class! Please use pens with blue or black ink for assignments that are to be turned in. Please write neatly! (Quizzes and tests are always answered with a pen, erasable pens are recommended)
You may be able to use colored pens and highlighters to take your notes, I also recommend to have a white-out type of device. Color pencils are recommended. Other types of coloring pens or markers are acceptable.

Writing Paper: You will need to have writing paper, preferably lined or squared to keep good notes.

Technology

Outside of the classroom:

Technology is an integral part of our class, some of our assignments, homework, projects, quizzes, and test will be done digitally. It is recommended that students have internet access at home, if this is not possible, there are many public internet access points like libraries and school grounds that can be used as an alternative. If available, students may be asked to bring a computing device to school for academic purposes, cell phones may be used at the teacher's discretion for academic purposes only.

Smartphones or other electronic devices or toys in the classroom

Even though smartphones are great tools for learning, they can also be a big distraction in the classroom thus students would not be able to have their cellphones visible, other electronic devices turned on or toys of any kind out during class instruction. Smartphones must remain silent, and out of sight during class instruction. There may be some activities that will require the use of a device, students will be notified when they may use their smartphones or other devices for an activity.

If a student's phone, device or toy is in sight or students are using the phone when it is not directed by the teacher there will be consequences...

First incidence... Verbal warning

Second incidences... Verbal warning plus students will also lose 1 participation point for the day.

Third incidence... Students will lose 2 participation points for the day. The phone will be collected by the teacher and given to the student's success office, students may be able to pick up the phone at the end of the school day.

Fourth incidence... Written report and reflection that must be signed by the student and the parent(s) and turned back to the teacher the next day. Students will also lose 2 participation points for the day. The phone will be collected by the teacher and given to the student's success office, Students would not be able to pick up the phone until a parent or guardian comes to pick up the phone. Students will lose the privilege of using their device in the classroom.

If there are any other incidences... the students will be referred to the student's success office for disciplinary action.

Google Classroom:

Please join our class Google classroom so that you can collaborate with your teacher and classmates. Google Classroom will be our assignments and homework posting platform... Please make sure to check it every day. You can also set it up to send you reminders when assignments are posted. Each Class has a specific code, write your class code.

You can write your class code here _____

Other tech tools used in the classroom: In addition to Google Classroom in this class you will use other tech resources

Remind: For quick test and reminders **Class Code:** _____

Quizlet: For vocabulary and some games **Class Code:** _____

Zzish.com: For vocabulary mastery games and quizzes **Class Code:** _____

Nearpod: for online lessons (No code needed to join)

There may be other tech tools used during this course, if signing up is needed, the teacher will provide you with the steps needed to join. Parents may be added to some of these sites as viewers (inactive members) upon request.

Grading

The minimum passing score is 60%. (Passing this class will earn you 1 High School World Language credit.).

The grades will be weighted as follows:

Homework 10%

In-Class Participation 20%

Projects 30%

Quizzes 15%

Test 25%

Student grading will be posted in Infinite Campus and updated on a regular basis. Please make sure to have access to the parent portal.

Homework

Written Homework might be assigned 1-3 days per week, mainly to practice what we learn in class. In addition to any written homework, you should spend at least 10 minutes daily, reviewing any new material covered in class that day. You may reread the information, review vocabulary and notes, practice dialogue or go to our Google Classroom for notes or video-presentations play language learning games, do other unit related activities and sample quizzes.

Late homework policy.

Students will be able to turn in late homework. Late homework must be turned by the last day of the current unit of study. Once we move to a new unit, previous unit homework would not be accepted for grading. Late homework will be reduced in value up to 10% depending on how late it is turned in.

Minus 2% value after 1 day

Minus 4% value after 2 days

Minus 6% value after 3 days

Minus 8% value after 4 days

Minus 10% value after 5 days or more until the last day of the unit

No late homework will be graded after the end of the unit!

Homework not turned in will be marked as missing with a 0% value

In-Class Participation

Active participation in a world language class is very important! Active participation does not mean just raising your hand and speaking. It means working effectively, alone and in small groups, participate in group conversations, prepare ahead of time for special projects and debates, listen attentively when others are presenting in class, etc.

Active participation will not only raise your grade, but it will also help you to learn faster. During class, students will perform skits, read dialogues, give presentations, sing songs, watch videos and other cultural films, make some manual art and more...

Attendance

Because, in-class participation is so crucial and important for your grades, attendance is also crucial. Missing class means missing participation points. Fortunately, we have internet connections and other technology available to stay connected and to make sure you do not miss much of the class (Make sure to login to Google Classroom for any assignments you may need to do. If you know that you are going to miss school, make sure to talk to your teacher ahead of time to make participation arrangements. If you missed school due to sickness or other unexpected events, communicate with your teacher as soon as you come back to make arrangements for make-up work. It is your responsibility to communicate with your teacher in a timely manner.

Participation in class will be recoded daily and posted weekly. Students can earn up to 10 points per week. Extra participation points may be given for special activities, contests, games etc.

Projects

Projects will involve the **practical use** of the concepts studied in the course. Including but not limited to research, presentations, food making, create art, and other, dress up and act, making a video, singing a song, both individual and team-based activities, etc. this is the most valuable section of your grade. Please make sure to effectively and fully complete all your projects on time to make sure you earn full credit. Rubrics will be provided for these projects. Some projects are assigned in small teams, others will be assigned individually.

Team Projects

Generally in team projects all members of the team earn the same grade for a project unless otherwise stated on a rubric and/or the teacher's discretion. Since it is difficult to make up team projects, students will need to participate in their team projects to earn credit for their participation, If a member of a team does not fully participate in a project and/or misses the teams presentation of the project, this member will be graded according to his/her participation on the project and the rest of the team would not be affected.

(All team members are responsible for effectively completing their projects. It is the teams' responsibility to notify your teacher as soon as possible of any issues of participation or lack thereof from any member of their team. The teacher then can intervene as needed).

Team projects would not be accepted late (Unless it is previously arranged with the teacher and the team may lose up to 10% of their grade depending on the specific situations) Team projects not turned in will be marked as missing for all members of the team with a 0% value.

Individual projects

For individual project the student is fully responsible for completing the project effectively and on time following the rubric guidelines to earn full credit.

Late Individual Projects policy.

Students will be able to turn in late individual projects up to the last day of the unit, as a consequence the value of their work will be reduced as follows:

Minus 2% value after 1 day

Minus 4% value after 2 days

Minus 6% value after 3 days

Minus 8% value after 4 days

Minus 10% value after 5 days or more until the last day of the unit

No late individual projects will be graded after the end of the unit!

Individual projects not turned in will be marked as missing with a 0% value

Quizzes

There will be some quizzes and other formative assessments to make sure you are understanding the material presented. There could be several quizzes during a unit of study and some of them may be unannounced.

Late quizzes policy.

Students will be able to make up quizzes missed due to an absence without a penalty **the day they come back to school** or in a date and time prearranged with the teacher.

Quizzes are formative assessments, students will be able to retake them without a grade penalty a different version of the quiz within one week of the original date of the quiz, **as time permits** if they earn less than **90%** on the original quiz. **Before the retake-quiz** is given students have to demonstrate learning **by doing extra work**. This work will depend on the content of the quiz, it could be studying the vocabulary in Quizlet, writing a paragraph, watching a video and taking notes, etc.. The retake voids the originally earned grade. **The grade earned on the retake will be recorded as the final grade for the quiz.**

Tests

Tests are summative assessments and are designed to show the compiled acquired knowledge during the course of a unit of study. Tests will be given in different formats from written, oral, visual presentations or dialogues and others depending on the Unit of study. Every unit may have 1 or 2 tests.

Final tests will also be given at the end of each semester.

Late test policy.

Students will be able to make up tests missed due to an absence without a penalty **the day they come back to school** or on a date and time prearranged with the teacher.

Students will be able to retake without a grade penalty a different version of the test **within one week of the original date** of the test **as time permits** if they earn less than **90%** on the original test. **Before the retake-test** is given students must have **completed and earned a passing grade in all their previous quizzes and projects plus they have to demonstrate learning by doing extra studying and work**. This work will depend on the content of the test, it could be studying the vocabulary in Quizlet, writing a paragraph, watching a video and taking notes, etc. **The date and time must be arranged with the teacher in a timely manner.** The retake voids the originally earned grade. **The grade earned on the retake will be recorded as the final grade for the test. No other test retake would be available.**

It is the students' responsibility to request any quizzes or tests retakes directly with the teacher. Please make sure it is done in a timely manner.

Classroom Conduct

The classroom will be ruled by the rules of mutual respect and effective collaboration plus the rules created during the first week of class, (Rules may be adjusted accordingly). Class procedures and expectations will be learned during the first week of class.

Classroom conduct, attendance and overall performance during class will be tied to the schools' **Citizenship grade policy**.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I understand that special circumstances may occur please communicate with your teacher as soon as possible; together we can find the best solutions that will ensure your growth and positive learning experience.

I wish you a successful and productive year!

Please select at least 2 homework buddies from your class. Then, fill in the information below, sign, have a parent/guardian sign, and keep this outline in your binder for future reference.

In addition, keep a copy of your homework buddy information at home or on your cell phone.

HW Buddy Name & Tel. # _____

HW Buddy Name & Tel. # _____

Please have your parents read the class expectations with you. Both student and parent must sign this page. After it is signed return it to your teacher.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE INTRO TO WORLD LANGUAGE CLASS.

STUDENT

NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT/ GUARDIAN

NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Parents note:

Student grading will be posted in Infinite Campus and updated on a regular basis. Please make sure to have access to the parent portal.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need any clarifications.

I have the ability to add you as a view only participant to your students' Google Classroom, Remind app, and Quizlet accounts, if you are interested please check the box of the following statement and provide me with your email to send you the invitation and links to join.

I want to be added as a view only participant on my student's Google Classroom, Remind app and other apps used in the classroom were this feature may be available. Here is my email address. (If both parents and/or guardians wish to be included, please provide both emails)

Name: _____ email: _____

Name: _____ email: _____