

AP Spanish Syllabus

2012-2013

Course	AP Spanish
Location	Zama American High School
Course Description	<p>This is a third year college level class and requires a certain commitment on the part of the student. The class will be conducted in Spanish. In order to perform well on the AP test students will be expected to speak Spanish in class and spend at least 1.5 hours preparing outside of class. Students are expected to complete most of the grammar review and practice outside of class. I suggest finding a study group or a study buddy for support and practice.</p> <p>AP Spanish is a rigorous course with challenging material. My goal for my students is not simply to pass the AP test but to become effective and confident speakers of Spanish. Please let me know if you need additional support. I am available for tutoring after school. The course culminates with the taking of the Spanish AP exam which is scheduled for the week of May 5-10th.</p> <p>The course is thematically based that includes authentic reading and listening tasks and presentational and interpersonal writing and speaking activities that focus on a unifying theme.</p> <p>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Communicate effectively in Spanish in the interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive modes;-Communicate in Spanish with a strong command of linguistic skills, including accuracy and fluency; comprehend Spanish intended for native speakers in a variety of settings, types of discourse, topics, styles, registers, and regional variations;-Produce Spanish comprehensible to native speakers in a variety of settings, types of discourse, topics and registers; acquire information from authentic sources in Spanish and;-Demonstrate an awareness of some cultural perspectives of Spanish-speaking people. <p>The main goal of the course is to increase the students' communicative competence in Spanish. Students will communicate effectively using the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing.</p> <p>Writing Skills</p>

Students are expected to express their ideas appropriately on paper. Students are assigned in class as well as out of class writing assignments. The activities include informal as well as formal writing activities:

- Weekly journal entries
- Summarize written sources
- Paraphrasing
- Compare/contrast and synthesis literature
- Write from dictation
- Creative writing
- Letter writing

Reading Skills

Students will have opportunities to read and interpret authentic literature from a variety of sources. Readings will come from the textbook, *Nuevas Vistas*, as well as from Internet sources. Some of the reading activities include:

- Interviews
- Short stories
- Poems
- Newspaper articles
- Magazine articles

Speaking Skills:

Students are given many opportunities to practice and improve their Spanish fluency, pronunciation and vocabulary. Students will also enrich their knowledge of Hispanic cultures through the discussion of literary as well as cultural topics, current events and personal experiences. These activities include formal as well as informal activities that include:

- debates
- oral presentations
- group discussions
- interviews
- role playing
- skits

Listening Skills:

Students are introduced to authentic audio and video recordings. Students are expected to listen, comprehend, discuss and summarize what they have heard. The textbook *Nuevas Vistas* provide DVD recordings and videos for additional practice and comprehension of the central theme.

- music videos
- news broadcasts
- song lyrics
- interviews
- podcasts

The Internet is another tool used in the classroom to give students authentic exposure to the Spanish language and the various dialects and accents of its speakers. Many assignments and practice work are found at some of these websites that include:

Yabla

www.lomastv.com

	<p>University of Texas (Austin) Spanish Language & Culture Nuevos Horizontes</p> <p>www.laits.utexas.edu/spe/ www.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/index.php www.nuevoshorizontes.org</p> <p>Internet Periodical Readings: -www.prensaescrita.com -www.bbcmundo.com -www.thepaperby.com -www.cnn.com/español - www.un.org</p> <p>A lot more helpful websites are available on my Sharepoint website.</p>
Collegeboard	<p>This website will be your best friend. Provided are information, exercises and links to help you be successful on the AP Spanish test. Go to: http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html</p>
Textbook	<i>Nuevas Vistas</i> published by Holt
Supplementary Materials	<p><i>Nuevas Vistas</i> workbook Spanish – English dictionary (mandatory) University of Chicago edition (recommended) Journal (Composition book) <i>501 Spanish Verbs</i> by Barron</p>
Additional workbooks for Purchase	<p><i>Triángulo</i> by Wayside Publishing Cost: \$18.95 <i>AP Spanish: Preparing for the Language Examination, Third Edition</i> by Prentice Hall Cost: \$27.97</p>
Materials	<p>Students must bring the following materials to class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Textbook - Notebook (3-ring binder 1-2 inches) <p>Students will be graded for maintaining a Spanish notebook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 dividers (journal, vocabulary sheets, homework, notes) - School Planner -Spanish-English dictionary

Grading Policy	DODEA Grading Scale: 90-100 = A 80-89 = B 70-79 = C 60-69 = D 59 or below = F	Weighted Grading Scale: A weighted final grade will be given to students who take the AP Spanish exam. 5=A 4=B 3=C 2=D 0=F	Components of Grade: Tests = 40% Class Participation= 20% Quizzes = 10% Projects =5% Class Work = 10% Homework = 5% Journal=10%
Assignment Policy	All assigned work should be: - Completed on time - Written with the proper heading - Written on loose-leaf paper only - Compositions are typed - Compositions are double- spaced - Kept in 3 ring binder notebook after being graded		
Online Translator Policy	Although intended to be a resourceful tool for students, online translators such as <i>Google translate</i> and <i>spanishdict.com</i> are not to be used (except for translating <u>a</u> word) to complete any Spanish assignments or projects. Use of these translators is considered cheating and students will receive a zero for the assignment. Instead use an online dictionary like <i>wordreference.com</i> . Students are to use the vocabulary learned in class as much as possible when completing assignments.		
Late Work and Makeup Work Policy	Homework: Homework is due at the beginning of each class. Students will have an opportunity to make up late homework the following class day only and will only receive half the credit. Tests and quizzes: Students who miss tests or quizzes must make arrangements with Señora Simmer for a makeup before school, during Seminar or after school. Class Assignments: Work done in class must be turned in on time. Failure to do so results in zero credit for that assignment. Retake Assignments: Any assignment graded with a C or below (except for pop quizzes) can be made up within 2 days.		
Gradespeed	Grades will be entered on a weekly basis.		
Key to Success	Your attitude will determine your altitude. Come to class with a positive frame of mind. The AP Spanish exam is not difficult; it simply requires dedication, practice and patience. ¡Buena suerte!		
I look forward to being your Spanish teacher and an exciting, productive and successful school year.			

Student signature: _____

Parent signature: _____