

Course Syllabus - Classroom Expectations

Teacher: Catherine Espinal-Salazar Course: **AP Spanish** Classroom: 1336Email: espinalc@nadschools.org Telephone (classroom): **610-262-7812** ext. 11336

¡Bienvenidos! AP Spanish Language and Culture is an advanced course that incorporates the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) in order to build communicative skills and cultural understanding of the Spanish language and culture. The course focuses on six thematic units (Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities and Beauty and Aesthetics) and uses authentic videos, podcasts, films, music, newspapers, magazines, original texts, and literary materials. The use of authentic materials ensures that students will have a good understanding of the products, perspectives and practices of the Spanish culture and language and will be able to compare the Spanish language and culture with their own. The course is conducted entirely in Spanish and students are also expected to communicate exclusively in Spanish. Upon completion of the course, the students will be able to take the AP Spanish Language and Culture examination. Successful performance on the examination is thought to be equivalent to the performance of students who have completed five or six semesters of college Spanish language courses. The exam will be given in May.

Required Materials

<i>Temas</i> textbook	A three-ring binder**	A folder inside your binder
Book cover for textbook	At least 3 binder dividers with tabs	A pencil (or pen)

****Three ring binders are required.** Pocket folders inside a notebook are not acceptable. Binder **TABS** need to be LABELED in Spanish and organized into the following sections:

1. Información General (AP exam rubrics, etc.)

2. Vocabulario / Gramática
(vocabulary lists, grammar notes)

3. Tarea / Práctica
(assignments)

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

- **Speak Spanish.** You **MUST** speak to your teacher in Spanish. You **MUST** speak Spanish with your classmates regardless of whether or not you are engaged in a formal assignment. Habla con la maestra en español y habla con los otros estudiantes en español. **Siempre** en español.
- Make sure to always **check & follow the warm-up** board. You should be in your seat & beginning your “warm-up” **by the time the bell rings.**
- **Before** the bell rings have all of your required Spanish materials on your desk. Sharpen your pencils before the bell. Place your extra belongings under the desk. Do not leave any bags or books in the aisle.
- Make sure to **record your grades** and reach out to me as soon as possible if you notice any errors. I make mistakes!
- Do not begin to pack up your materials until the teacher clearly states that you may do so.
- **RESPECT** others—including yourself. Harassment of other students will **NOT BE TOLERATED!!** Do not put other people down and do not put yourself down.
- **PLAN** ahead. Poor planning on your part does **NOT** constitute an emergency on my part. Please do not provide me with any stories as to why your work was not finished. Take responsibility for your actions. Late work will be penalized. Make use of your agenda and your time. Do not leave assignments for the last minute. **(Please advise me as soon as possible if there is a family emergency that may affect your studies.)**

SUMMER COURSE WORK: In order to maintain proficiency in a world language, it is imperative to immerse yourself in the language over the long summer break. At the end of each month (June 30th, July 31st, August 31st), you will be required to complete a minimum of two assignments per month and to submit them on Schoology by the due date. You will select one audio/video and one news article in the target language and culture from various news sites that will be provided by the instructor per month: in total, three audio/video and three news articles. The topics of the audio/video and news article must cover each of the six AP themes: Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Personal Identities, Families and Communities and Beauty and Aesthetics. After watching the audio/video, you will record a two minute summary on Schoology. After reading the news article, you will write a 100 word summary and submit the assignment on Schoology. Each assignment will be worth 10 points for a total of 60 points and this will count towards your first marking period grade. Please adhere to the Audio Recording and Written Summary grading checklists. Late assignments will be lowered one letter grade for each day late.

Audio Recording/News Article Summary Checklist

- ___ Organization: Introduction, Transitions, Conclusion
- ___ Content: summarize main points and include your opinion or how it relates to your life
- ___ Comprehensibility: use appropriate and varied vocabulary
- ___ Time: Two minutes in length for speaking/100 word minimum for writing

GRADED ASSESSMENTS: All assessments are based on the skills of listening, reading, writing, speaking, vocabulary, grammar and **culture**. Since language is a cumulative skill, vocabulary and grammar concepts must be retained and will be included on assessments from one chapter/theme to the next. Languages demand constant study and review; therefore, you should be prepared to work and study every day in class and at home. If you are absent on the day of a graded assessment, you have **two school days** to take it. There will NOT be a QUIZZES & TESTS category on Sapphire - instead we will use categories based on the 6 modes of communication (interpersonal speaking, interpersonal writing, presentational writing, presentational speaking, and interpretive listening/audio, interpretive reading/print). The class is based on a total points system. Students will be notified ahead of time as to how many points a particular item will be worth. You will earn grades based on the AP College Board rubrics for all modes of communication. The [official coursework and curriculum for the AP Spanish Language & Culture](#) class will be posted to Schoology for your review.

PROJECTS: Projects will be given throughout the year. Some examples are presentations, films, literature, journals, essays, dramatic interpretation and digital portfolios. The projects will be grades based on the criteria given to the students based on a rubric.

HOMEWORK: Students are encouraged to study and prepare for the class on a daily basis. Homework assignments may include reading text, writing assignments, language practice, and studying for formative and summative assessments. Homework will be graded as a formative assessment. Is necessary to be prepared for in-class participation. Be prepared to participate in class using what was completed for homework later in class. Homework is not given often and is **NOT** busy work. You can't participate if you don't know the content being addressed!

PRACTICE AP EXAM: All students will be required to take a Practice AP German exam at the beginning of April. It will be graded by the instructor using the AP Scoring Guidelines in order to give students feedback in how to improve for the AP German exam. It will be part of the fourth marking period grade.

FINAL EXAM: As according to the parent/student handbook, students maintaining a 90% average will be exempt from the final exam. Taking the AP Exam will not exempt you from the final exam.

CHEATING: Any student found cheating on an assignment, a quiz or a test will earn a 0% for that assignment, quiz or test and a referral for cheating will be written. This includes both giving and receiving answers. **This includes excessive and inappropriate use of translators.** We will review appropriate use of online resources (wordreference.com) during the first weeks of classes and appropriate use will be expected throughout the remainder of the school year.

ABSENCES: If you are in school for part of the day, it is your responsibility to find out what went on in class for that day. You will be expected to come to class the next day with any assigned work. All information and materials about what was missed in class the day you were out will be posted to the NOTAS Y APUNTES folder on Schoology. You are responsible for checking this folder often, whether you are absent or not, as important notes and materials will be posted their daily. Each student is responsible to **see ME** before school or after school on the day he/she returns from an absence. **Do not expect** me to have a personal conference before class or after class. You must arrange with the teacher either in person or via an **email** to complete any ASSESSMENT. If a deadline for completion is missed, the student will earn a 0 for that assessment.

DISCIPLINE POLICY: When rules are broken, students will be given a verbal **warning**. If the problem persists after meeting with the student and contacting their parents, a school **detention** and/or an alternative assignment will be assigned and a referral will be written depending on the infraction.

Please sign below indicating that you and a parent/guardian have read and understood the guidelines. If you have any questions or need extra help, please ask me. If the parent/guardian has any questions, please contact me:

At school at espinalc@nasdschools.org or at **610-262-7812** extension **11336** I am excited to be your teacher this year and look forward to working with you.

Respetuosamente,

Mrs. Catherine Espinal-Salazar

** Save the FIRST PAGE of the expectations **IN YOUR BINDER** for your records **

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AP Spanish

Class Period **5**

Date
Returned

Parents and student need to sign below, verifying that they have read the Classroom Expectations and have understood the rules and procedures in Spanish class.

Please understand that the expectations are set into place so that all students are respected, take responsibility for their actions and achieve their best.

This sheet must be detached from the Classroom Expectations, signed and returned on _____

(PRINT CLEARLY) **Student's name** _____

(SIGNATURE) Student's name _____ Date ____/____/____

email address (**student**) _____

(SIGNATURE) **Parent's** name _____ Date ____/____/____

(PRINT) **Parent's** name _____

Primary Home phone _____

Secondary Home phone _____

Parent work phone (**Father's**) _____ cell phone _____

email address (Father) _____

Parent work phone (**Mother's**) _____ cell phone _____

email address (Mother) _____

Any information you would like me to be aware of regarding your child:

Please let me know who you would prefer me to contact first amongst the phone numbers above. Thank you.