

Spanish 9 Course Outline

Señorita (Srta.) Arreaga

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Course description

In this course, our goal will be to acquire Spanish language. "Acquiring" a language is very different than "learning" a language. Acquiring is something that happens to you instead of something that you make happen. When you learned how to speak your first language, you acquired it naturally by listening to other people speak it around you for a long time, not by studying it. Therefore, **almost all of our class time will be spent using Spanish-not using English to talk about Spanish-and the focus will be on listening and reading instead of speaking and writing.** Those skills will come naturally as you take in more and more Spanish by listening and reading. In this course we do not use any textbook, we will not do any worksheets. We will acquire Spanish through storytelling, or as I like to call it, "storyasking." In other words, the storyteller (the teacher) usually doesn't know what will happen in the story, and so he/she asks the audience what they want to happen at different parts of the story. So, often the students decide what will happen in a given story.

BIG IDEAS

Listening and viewing with intent supports our acquisition and understanding of a new language.

Acquiring a new language allows us to explore our identity and Culture from a new perspective.

Creative works allow us to experience culture and appreciate cultural diversity.

Conversing about things we care about can motivate our learning of a new language.

We can share our experiences and Perspectives through stories.

Class participation

It is imperative for you to participate and engage with the class dynamic in order to achieve the understanding and use of the language.

- Regular attendance is mandatory to be successful in this course. All learning is based upon the stories that are told in class; there is no textbook for this course. Simply put, if you miss class, you will miss the stories, and it will be very difficult to catch up.
- Students must look like they are participating: you need to act engaged, contribute to stories and discussions, listen to me and your classmates, asking questions when you do not understand, taking notes when appropriate, and speaking as much Spanish as you can.

Assessment and Evaluation

Your daily homework consists of reviewing all new vocabulary and reviewing each story we cover. You will also have one digital comic strip and one dramatization per story. Students will be assessed in a variety of ways for this course. All quizzes and timed writings will be based on the stories told in class and activities completed in class. Please note that these assessments are unannounced and that in order to be successful, you **must attend class and review regularly (class story, vocab, Sr. Wooly)**.

The course will focus on developing all four language modalities, naturally: listening, speaking, reading and writing, in Spanish.

All assessment will be based upon course curricular competencies and will be assessed using the following assessment standards:

**EMERGING
DEVELOPING
PROFICIENT
EXTENDING**

***What you can expect from me:

- ✚ If you need help, I will be here to assist you *Flex time*
- ✚ If you don't understand, I will explain in a different way
- ✚ If you are willing to learn, I am willing to teach.
- ✚ Fair, clear and regular feedback.

Health and Safety: Masks are a personal choice.

Microsoft Teams: is used for a lot of communication and assignments will be posted on Microsoft Teams. This means you must check Teams regularly in order to keep up to date with what is happening in class. This is also a great way to communicate with myself or other classmates to get missed work. Please take the time to re-familiarize yourself with this platform and ask lots of questions as we get started. **Check Teams regularly at the end of your night.**

Semester System: Our Spanish 9 class will take place over approximately 19 weeks. Attendance and consistent engagement is extremely important.



Cell phone policy: Please turn your cell phone on silent, turn it in at the start of class for safekeeping until the end of class which will allow us to have an effective and rewarding learning experience without distractions.

Phones will be used on occasion for learning purposes in which case you will have access to them.