

## Class Expectations, Policies, and Course Overview

### SPANISH I

**Ms. R. Ray**

### ***Bienvenidos – Welcome!***

It is my pleasure to welcome you to your study of Spanish. In Spanish I, students will learn to describe and talk about present activities, talk about themselves, school, family, likes and dislikes, activities, home, weather, clothing, and some foods. Grammar and vocabulary practice will be an integral part of the class, along with the addition of cultural activities and projects. Throughout the course, students will focus on developing the four core components of the Spanish language: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

## **Classroom Expectations**

A. In my classroom, you may expect me to provide:

1. A safe, positive learning environment,
2. An introduction to the language, culture, and geography of the Spanish-speaking world,
3. Opportunities to hear and use the Spanish language, and
4. Respect for each of you as individuals.

B. I will expect the following from you:

1. Your words and actions will show respect for yourself, your classmates, your teachers and for the cultures you will be studying,
2. You will come to class each day PREPARED with binder, pencil, and assignments,
3. You will work cooperatively in pair and group activities, and
4. You will speak Spanish as you learn it!!

**DISCIPLINE:** Any disciplinary issues will be resolved using policies set forth by the 2020/21 Student Handbook. Uniform, technology, and behavior infractions will result in a discipline referral sent to the office. Students are well aware of policies and expectations by the time they come to us in the high school. Only students new to the district will be given a warning. Any and all incidents of harassment will be reported immediately.

## **Course Material**

In addition to class notes and vocabulary lists generated by the TAHS world language department, we will be using a classroom-only textbook; *Somos así en sus marcas*, published by EMC Paradigm, 2000, to supplement our learning of general vocabulary in context, pronunciation, important phrases and basic grammatical structures.

In addition, most vocabulary lists, notes, presentations and worksheets from class will be posted to the Google Classroom for easy access.

**Students must bring chromebook to class daily, along with a pencil. Daily activities will require reference to previous notes and vocabulary, therefore, being unprepared for class repeatedly will result in points deductions and possible discipline referrals.**

## **Units of Study**

I – **Mucho gusto** (basic introductions and conversation, alphabet, numbers, geography of Spanish-speaking world)

II – **El colegio** (talking about school, subjects, objects, calendar, colors, shapes)

III – **Relaciones** (family, basic parts of the body, adjectives of description)

IV – **La ciudad** (around the town and city, foods)

V – **El hogar** (around the house, chores)

VI – **¿Qué tiempo hace?** (weather, seasons, clothing)

VII – **El mundo y el medio ambiente** More details about the Spanish-speaking world will be interspersed throughout the previous units, and this final unit will pertain to the environment.

## Grades

I use a total points system. You may view your grades on the Focus portal. Contact the office for login information. Check assignments on the Google Classroom.

Each quarter, points will be given in the following categories:

Homework – Due to the special requirements of a foreign language class, class work will be given rather than homework on most days. This work will be completed in class time under the instructor's supervision, ensuring that questions that arise will be answered as needed. Frequent weather delays may necessitate more work being completed at home.

Class work (and Projects)- frequent in-class writing assignments, periodic notebook checks, and small quarterly projects. Class work is a vitally important opportunity to apply new knowledge and practice assignments will be given with each new concept. Students who waste time, bother classmates, or copy other students' work will be given a zero for the assignment and possibly a discipline referral. Class work is to be completed IN CLASS and may not be "saved" for study hall or home. For this reason, actual home work for Spanish is rare.

Presentations and oral examinations – these will focus on speaking skills. Students will be required to give short presentations, and oral proficiency examinations (interview style) may be administered periodically. These may be administered via technology during covid 19 restrictions.

Tests and Quizzes - During each 9-week quarter, you may expect frequent verb/vocabulary quizzes, regular grammar quizzes, and Unit tests.

Each quarter will be worth 20% of your final grade, the other 20% comes from your mid-term and final examinations. **I do not offer extra credit.** Students are expected to complete all work as assigned throughout the year.

**Personal electronic devices** – use of personal technology devices such as ipods, ipads, cell phones, kindles etc. is **not permitted during work time**. Exceptions will be announced by instructor. (For example, on vocabulary days).

## Missed Days

When you miss a day, **it is your responsibility to check for and complete missed work. Assignments will be noted on your Google Classroom.** The day you return from an absence, you will be expected to have checked the Google classroom and read or completed any items due. Check Google classroom BEFORE asking teacher about what you missed! **A student is not excused from scheduled tests or quizzes** on the day he or she returns from a normal absence. Quizzes and tests are **always** announced in advance and will be handed to you to complete the day you return. Extended absences will result in additional time given.

## Support:

**Office hours** will be kept daily at 2:10 until 2:55 pm Monday through Friday at this google classroom code: **2pbiohc** If you need help, please pop in and ask your questions.

To help you stay on top of your Spanish I work, calls home may be made when you are missing multiple assignments. **Academic detention or academic support may be assigned** when assignments are not turned in or when consecutive failing grades are posted. Academic detention and/or support may take place in my room at 2 pm or in the google classroom.

**Re-take policy** – Everyone gets overwhelmed (or just plain forgets!) sometimes. Therefore, a student may elect to re-take TWO grammar quizzes and TWO vocabulary quizzes for full points value over the course of the year. Retakes are not offered for \*Unit Tests, exams or projects. A \*section of a unit test may be substituted.

## **A word about academic dishonesty and online translators**

Students must turn in their own original work only. Use of online translators in writing assignments is plagiarism, and therefore will result in a zero for the assignment.

## **Attitude**

Students who come to class each day prepared for class, ready to participate, and respectful of others will have a great year and learn lots of Spanish! Be prepared at all times to follow this rule of thumb:

**“If you can’t say something nice, don’t say (anything) at all!”**

**–Thumper**

**¡¡ Bienvenidos a español I !!**