

## **STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges**

World Language: Spanish I

Mr. Larsen

Email: [larsenja@orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:larsenja@orange.k12.nj.us)

Website: [www.orange.k12.nj.us](http://www.orange.k12.nj.us)

*“Sólo una cosa convierte en imposible un sueño:  
El miedo a fracasar”  
(Paulo Coelho)*

### **Course Description**

Spanish I sets the foundation for learning Spanish so ¡Bienvenidos! Spanish is your ticket to the world. That's right... the WORLD. The ability to communicate in a foreign language is a fabulous thing!

When you speak a different language, you can travel to places you have only read about, the globe becomes your job market, and you can communicate with people whose lives are completely different from yours! Together, we will journey through lots of vocabulary and grammar topics, take a rest stop at interesting cultural topics, as well as SPEAK, READ, and WRITE lots of Spanish! In between, I hope you all learn a little bit about life and yourself along the way.

What is the destination for the adventure?

The destination, or objectives, for our journey are consistent with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for World Language (NJSLS). These standards are embedded in all classes at all levels. This course offers you the opportunity to meet NJSLS by showing real life proof of competency in five skill areas: Listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural knowledge. These skills are separated into 3 modes of communication: Interpretive, Interpersonal and Presentational communication and will all be assessed through each Unit.

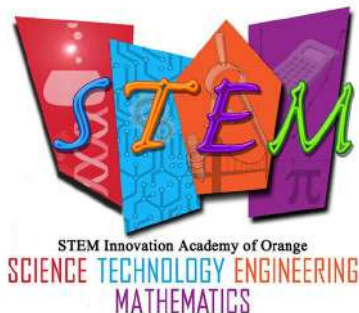
### **Instructor**

James Larsen, B.A.

James Larsen received his B.A. in Spanish and Political Science from Rutgers University.

### **Teacher Availability:**

I will be available during advisory hours Monday 1:00 - 2:20, Friday 9:40- 11:00 and during office hours Monday- Friday 3:30- 4:00 by appointment..



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### **Course Goals**

#### **1) Communication: Students will communicate in Spanish.**

- a) Ask and answer questions, including biographical information.
- b) Understand spoken and written language .
- c) Write a short narrative about their personal lives.

#### **2) Cultures: Students will gain knowledge and understanding of Spanish culture.**

- a) Students identify some common beliefs and attitudes within cultures studied such as social etiquette or the role of the family.
- b) Students will work on projects that further their understanding of the diversity of cultures that are found in the Spanish Speaking world.

#### **3) Connections: Students will connect with other disciplines and acquire information.**

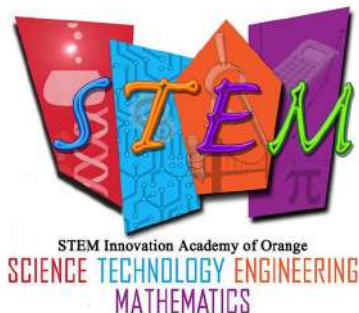
- a) Students will discuss the significant contributions of Hispanic people and cultures.
- b) Identify principal cities and geographical features of the Spanish-speaking world.

#### **4) Comparisons: Students will develop insight into the nature of language and culture.**

- a) Students will compare and contrast various aspects of the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world to his/her own.
- b) Students will compare Spanish grammar to English grammar.

#### **5) Communities: Students will participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.**

- a) Students will communicate on a personal level with speakers of the language.
- b) Students will participate in at least one community activity or festival pertaining to Hispanic culture.



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### **Progression of Topics**

**Unit 1:** ¡Hola! ¿Qué tal?

**Unit 2:** En la clase

**Unit 3:** La Familia

**Unit 4:** Los Pasatiempos

**Unit 5:** Las vacaciones

**Unit 6:** De compras

### **Technology**

**Google Classroom:** Classwork, homework, quizzes, tests and projects will be assigned daily on google classroom. Students will need to log in daily to check the work expected for the day.

**VHL Central:** Student textbook, student workbook, student grammar book and crash courses will be found on this site. Here students will also have video tutorials and other resources that will help them become successful. Student's will have access codes given.

**Genesis:** Grades will be available to students and parents through genesis.

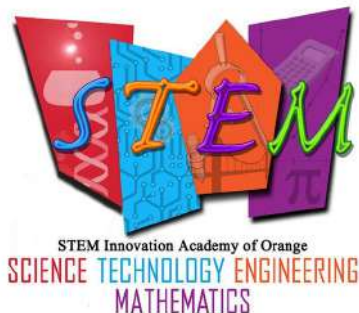
(During remote learning) **Zoom:** Students will meet with the teacher via Zoom during their assigned times.

### **Grading Policy**

- 10% Homework
- 20% Quizzes
- 20% Classwork
- 25% Tests
- 25% Authentic Assessments

### **Classwork:**

Student participation is essential for language learning. Students are expected to engage in the 3 modes of communication (Interpretative, Interpersonal and Presentational) as outlined by the NJSLS; these modes include attentive listening, conversations, reading, writing and other tasks.



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All classwork is to be turned on the day given for full credit. Any work turned in after that will lose 5 points per day late.

### **Homework:**

Homework will be posted on google classroom and is to be turned in as instructed. Any late assignments will lose 5 points per day late.

### **Quizzes:**

Quizzes will be given at the end of each lesson to evaluate student's growth and areas where growth may be needed. Quizzes will make up 20% of the grade.

### **Tests:**

Tests will be administered at the end of each unit and have a weight of 25% of the grade.

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:** *(To be followed along with all procedures and policies outlined in the [STEM student handbook](#))*

#### **1. Be prepared:**

- Bring the following to class on a daily basis: paper/writing utensil(s), assignments - Homework Folder, and your notebook.
- Keep a notebook containing complete notes of material developed in class. I can and may collect notebooks at any time and possibly count them as an additional grade.
- Have homework completed.
- Attendance - Be in your seat when class begins and remain in your seat until the bell sounds at the ending of the class. The [STEM Academy Tardy Policy](#) will be observed.

#### **2. Be courteous:**

- Avoid loud, unnecessary talking or noise making.
- Raise your hand for permission to speak or to leave your seat.

#### **3. Be a proactive class member:**

- Follow all directions the first time given.
- Maintain a clean, safe classroom environment
- Food, candy, drinks, and grooming are NOT permitted. Water is permitted.
- Electronic devices (including cell phones) should be turned off and put away.



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#### 4. **Be cooperative and respectful.**

- Respect yourself, respect your classmates, and respect your teacher.
- Respect your classmates' right to learn and my right to teach.
- Work together to succeed: It is not the right of an individual to take away from the educational time of others.
- Cultivate a positive attitude that supports your own learning, as well as that of others.

#### 5. **Be Honest**

- Do your own work—do not copy assignments or answers (*using an online translator does count as plagiarizing and work will receive a grade of zero*)
- Do not allow others to copy your work or you will have to share your grade.
- Be truthful about reasons for missing assignments, tests, etc.
- Follow the [STEM Academy Student Handbook policy on Academic Dishonesty](#).

Remember, *attitude is everything!*

#### **Classroom courtesy:**

Turn off and put away all electronics devices ie. cell phones during class time. If I see it, I take it and give it back at the end of class the 1st time I take it, at the end of the school day the 2nd time and after a parent guardian must pick it up the 3rd time. Also, please remember to be kind to your fellow classmates since everyone is required to participate during class. Do not be afraid to make mistakes- it is part of the learning process.

**Always:** *R-E-S-P-E-C-T      BE KIND      BE CONSIDERATE      KEEP POSITIVE & OPEN MINDED*

Choosing to follow guidelines will result in:

- Verbal Acknowledgement
- A Stress free learning environment
- A pleasant and orderly classroom atmosphere

Consequences for choosing **not** to follow classroom guidelines and procedures:

- 1<sup>st</sup> infraction- Warning and documentation
- 2<sup>nd</sup> infraction –Action Plan, Parental Contact, and lunch/after school detention.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> infraction- Disciplinary Referral

Rewards for choosing to follow classroom guideline and procedures to include:



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- Praise (daily)
- Various other positive perks (throughout the school year)
- The joy of learning (each day of the school year) in a positive and respectful environment.

**My goal is for Spanish 1 to be both a beneficial and enjoyable class for your child. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.**

We, the undersigned student and parent/guardian, have reviewed the expectations of the Political Studies class as outlined in the syllabus and accept the terms and expectations as laid out.

I, as the student, further understand that my parent may be contacted if I am found to be in default of my expectations, solely for the purpose of correcting the problem before my grades are put in jeopardy.

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(Student signature)

(Name)

(Date)

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(Parent signature)

(Contact email)

(Contact phone)

Do you have internet access at home (Yes or No)? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Any other information I should know:

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