

Español IV Grading Policy & Syllabus 2018-2019 School Year

Señor Nickerson - Room 218

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Course Objectives:

Spanish IV is a course that builds upon the basic communication skills mastered in the Spanish I, II, & III courses. The students will be studying advanced vocabulary and grammatical concepts. The students will be expected to use these skills in communication within situations studied. In addition, students will study aspects of Hispanic culture and history via a variety of media. I expect the students to exit Spanish IV with proficiency in several grammatical concepts and tenses with a specific focus on the Present Subjunctive Mood, and the Imperfect Subjunctive Mood. This is a class that students **MUST speak Spanish at all times!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!** If this is not for you, I suggest you switch out ASAP. We will also do an in depth unit on España as we will be traveling there in April (please ask me for a copy of the itinerary for the trip if you're interested.)

Website: All relevant materials and class assignment such as daily assignments, journal topics, and projects will be posted on Google Classroom.

Materials:

We will be use the online version of Avancemos. This can be found on our Google Classroom page and we will work together to utilize an online textbook. Each student will need a notebook for class notes and handouts. Once Chromebooks are distributed please make sure you bring them fully charged to class each day. I strongly suggest a three-ring binder so that materials can be easily added or removed. Students are also expected to have a writing utensil. Students are expected to bring all materials (textbook, workbook, binder, paper and writing utensil) to class on a daily basis.

Attendance: WHS attendance and tardy policies will be followed. Since attendance is directly related to student achievement, students should miss class only when absolutely necessary. If you must be absent, please make-up any missed work in a timely fashion.

Class Participation: This plays a very important part in getting the most out of this class. Class Participation will count for **40%** of your quarterly average. The following guidelines will ensure the best grade possible. This is a higher percentage than Spanish III because my expectations for you this year are elevated. This is the highest level of Spanish offered at WHS. I expect you to raise your game in order to succeed.

a) Constant attention to class activities

- b) Active listening
- c) Enthusiasm for learning and a positive attitude
- d) Use Spanish whenever possible
- e) Volunteering for classroom activities
- f) Being on task for all individual or group activities

Our year long game of ***Sobreviviente (Survivor)*** is a big part of the participation grade. It's a lot of fun and my Spanish IV's have come to really enjoy this competitive aspect of the class. We will form teams in the first week of class, and I will explain in detail how we play.

Homework: Homework should be expected nightly and should be completed to the best of the student's ability. It is due at the beginning of class and will not be accepted for credit after the assigned date unless the student has an excused absence. Homework may be oral in nature, practicing the pronunciation of specific vocabulary or expressions. Flashcards are encouraged for the practice of vocabulary. While it may be tedious, memorization is very important to the acquisition of any world language. Homework will account for **10%** quarterly grade. Your **journals** are also a part of your homework grade. If you miss a journal, it stays as a zero in the homework column.

Tests and Quizzes: There will be several items that make up this part of the grade. Tests, quizzes, class assignments, journals, group assignments, partner activities, and projects all go into this category. It is worth **50%** of your quarterly grade. Your weekly **journal** entries are marked in the tests / quiz column so treat each entry like a test. If you miss one, the grade is lowered by 10% each week.

Mid-term and Final exams will be worth 20% of your final grade. We will review for them, and extra help is there for you if you want it; just ask. I will always meet with you before or after school if necessary.

Any form of cheating is both inexcusable and unnecessary. Together we can figure out any problem you have with the materials that we cover. I will not tolerate cheating in my class. Please refer to the WHS Student Handbook for the consequences for cheating and plagiarism. Copying entire sentences from a Spanish Translation website is plagiarism. I have taught several of you in the past and I know what you know. If you struggle in class but then produce a college level journal, that's a red flag. I do encourage you to use wordreference.com as an online resource.

Long-term assignments will be lowered 10% each day past its due date. You will have ample time to complete these projects so don't hurt your own grade by putting them off until the last minute.

Keys to Success:

- a) Always follow directions.
- b) Practice active listening during class.
- c) Participate in all classroom activities.
- d) Come to class prepared every day.
- e) Complete all homework accurately and on time.
- f) SIEMPRE HABLA EN ESPAÑOL

Prepárate: Español IV será una clase bastante difícil. Si estás hablando, hablarás en español. Moveremos muy rápidamente para aprender mucho en español. Has aprendido varias tensas en los años pasados. Necesito ver que puedes usarlas en conversación y cuando escribes. Hay estudiantes en esta clase que irán a España en abril. Quiero que sepan todo que sea posible antes del viaje. Estás aquí porque quieres aprender todo en español. Dame ciento por ciento de esfuerzo, y pienso que te gustará la clase. ¡Buena Suerte!