



Southern Lehigh School District

High School Syllabus

Spanish Culture and Communication

2013-2014

Course Description:

This course presents an overview of the fundamentals of Spanish grammar and the reading of Hispanic literature. Students have the opportunity to practice and improve their language skills by reading and writing compositions and essays in Spanish. This course is recommended for immersion students, near-native speakers, and native speakers of Spanish.

Course Content:

Grammar Units:

Use of the Definite and Indefinite Articles, Accentuation, Review of Present tense, Review of Reflexive and Reciprocal Verbs, Direct and Indirect Object Pronouns, Double Object Pronouns, Review of Ser and Estar and other verbs of being, Preterite as the simple past, Preterite vs. Imperfect, the use of the present subjunctive, and Polite and Plural Command forms.

Vocabulary Units:

Classroom Objects and Expressions, Geography, Latin Music, Flamenco, Mariachi, Ancient cultures and Archeology, Activities, Diversions, Hobbies, Daily Routine, and Professions.

Literature Unit(s):

Un Verano Misterioso, Assorted Readings to correspond to vocabulary and grammar topics, Las hermanas coloradas (time permitting).

Required Textbooks and/or Other Reading/Research Materials

The following three books will be the primary text used throughout the year. There will be additional readings to complement vocabulary and grammar and we will use Internet sites for current information.

De paseo: curso intermedio de español by Donna Reseigh Long. Thomson Heinle, 2005.
Un Verano Misterioso by Alice Mohrman Kosnik. National Textbook, 1987.
Las hermanas coloradas by Francisco García Pavón. EMC, Corp., 1977 (time permitting).

Course Requirements:

Students will continue to develop the four basic language skills of listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing in units with themes on aspects of life in Spanish speaking countries. There will be a strong emphasis on integrating these basic skills throughout the course. The focus of this course is grammatical accuracy in speaking and writing. However, grammar will be introduced in context of vocabulary units. There will also be selected short stories to complement the vocabulary and grammar.

Students are required to complete all projects, assignments and tests. Students must also participate in oral class activities such as communicative or paired activities, role-play and dialogues. Students will complete a variety of activities throughout the school year which may include but are not limited to creating a travelogue of an experience in the Yucatan, planning a job fair for jobs that utilize Spanish, presenting on favorite sports and leisure activities, creating a conference on environmental concerns specific to a country of study, and researching travel to a Spanish-speaking country. Such activities may include an oral and/or a written component. Grading for such assessments will be determined by previously supplied rubrics. Spanish Culture and Communication students are required to maintain an organized 3-ring notebook. Good attendance and consistent practice is very important in foreign language study.

Grade Components/Assessments:

Grades will be based on weighted categories. Homework and class work will comprise 10 %, participation and oral assessments 20%, projects, writing and composition 25%, quizzes and tests 45%.

Participation is a critical component of foreign language learning. Therefore, students are expected to participate in class as often as possible. They will receive a grade for participation approximately every 10 class days. The grade will be out of ten points. Below is the grading scale:

Actual tallies	Participation grade
10+ tallies	10/10
9 tallies	9.5/10
8 tallies	9/10
7 tallies	8.5/10
6 tallies	8/10
5 tallies	7.5/10
4 tallies	7/10
3 tallies	6.5/10
2 tallies	6/10
1 tallies	5.5/10
0 tallies	5/10

Each marking period is worth 20% of a student’s overall grade. The midterm and final exam are each worth 10% of a student’s overall average:

Quarter 1	20%
Quarter 2	20%
Midterm	10%
Quarter 3	20%
Quarter 4	20%
Final	10%

Required Summer Reading/Assignments:

There are no summer reading requirements for students prior to entering Spanish Culture and Communication.

