

John T. Baker MS Spanish syllabus
2009-2010

Dear Parents and Students,

iBienvenidos a la clase de español! I am pleased to have you in my class and I am looking forward in to getting to know each and every one of you. Together we will experience and learn a wonderful language and culture. Parents, please take time to carefully review this information with your child so that we can have a productive and respectful learning environment. Students, please adhere to the procedures established so that you can have a successful academic year.

In this course you will develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Spanish as well as gathering information about the culture of the Spanish speaking world. Please note, that language learning is a time consuming process and *individual* study and involvement will be critical to your academic success. Studies have shown that those who study a foreign language score higher on their SATs and can help them increase their test scores in math and reading. In addition, your Spanish class can help you communicate with new people and prepare you for a world becoming more of a global community.

Again, please carefully review this entire packet. Enclosed are our class's policies for grading and classroom decorum. If you have any questions or concerns, or if you would like to schedule a visit or conference, please feel free to contact me using my information listed below.

Once again, welcome to Spanish class. Let's work together to make this the best year ever!

Sincerely,

Señora Dupré- Heydi_E_Rodriguez @mcpsmd.org

Señora Lee- Theresa_A_Lee @mcpsmd.org

Overview

The goal of the Montgomery County foreign language program is to educate students in a language and culture in order to make them knowledgeable and active members of a global society. Students will learn to use foreign languages for meaningful communication in both written and spoken form. The foreign language program emphasizes language as it is used in real life situations that they are likely to encounter. Through foreign language study, students develop sensitivity to the cultural and linguistic heritage of other groups and become prepared to participate in a society characterized by linguistic and cultural diversity. Class activities involve speaking, listening, reading and writing in Spanish. Students will participate in many group, partner and individual communicative activities.

Please see the MCPS website for more information about the Spanish curriculum.

http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/lang/programs/middle_school.shtm

Topics of Study

GT Spanish1 A/B

First semester of 1A

New Classes/*Nuevas clases*

- Welcome to Spanish Class/*Bienvenidos a la clase de español*
- Getting Acquainted/*Nos conocemos*
- School/*La escuela*

Preferences/*Las preferencias*

- Food/*La comida*
- Pastimes/*Los pasatiempos*

***Semester A Final Exam and Oral exams (mid January)**

Second semester 1B

Life at Home/*La vida en mi casa*

- Family/*La familia*
- House/*El hogar*

My Vacation Plans/*El plan de mis vacaciones*

- Clothing and Stores/*La ropa y las tiendas*
- Travel/*De viaje*

***Semester B Final Exam and Oral exams (June)**

Full year Spanish 1A

New Classes/*Nuevas clases*

- Welcome to Spanish Class/*Bienvenidos a la clase de /español*
- Getting Acquainted/*Nos conocemos*
- School/*La escuela*

Preferences/*Las preferencias*

- Food/*La comida*
- Pastimes/*Los pasatiempos*

*** Final Exam and Oral exams (June)**

Full year Spanish 1B

Life at Home/*La vida en mi casa*

- Family/*La familia*
- House/*El hogar*

My Vacation Plans/*El plan de mis vacaciones*

- Clothing and Stores/*La ropa y las tiendas*
- Travel/*De viaje*

*** Final Exam and Oral exams (June)**

Spanish 2 A/B

First semester 2A

My World/Mi mundo

- Who Am I?/¿Quién soy yo?
- School Life/La vida escolar
- Daily Routines and Chores/La rutina diaria y los quehaceres

Around the Town/Por la ciudad

- Shopping/De compras
- Community/La comunidad

***Semester A Final Exam and Oral exams (mid January)**

Second semester 2B

Memories and Experiences/Unos recuerdos y experiencias

- When I Was Young/Cuando era joven
- Natural Disasters and Emergencies/Los desastres y las emergencias
- Injuries/Las heridas

Going Places/Vámonos

- Restaurant Experiences/¡Buen provecho!
- An Unforgettable

***Semester B Final Exam and Oral exams (June)**

Course expectations

1. **WARM-UPS:** This is your daily opportunity to practice and monitor your progress.
2. **HOMEWORK:** This is your time to practice your skills, review and teach your family.
3. **GROUP/PARTNER ACTIVITIES:** You will be expected to practice with others as part of your learning.
4. **DAILY USE OF ORAL LANGUAGE/ORAL COMPETENCY:** Speaking Spanish as much as possible is the expectation! Monitor your daily use of the language to see how much you are practicing and applying what you learn.
5. **PROJECTS:** Periodically, you will be expected to develop a creative project on a selected topic.
6. **QUIZZES AND TESTS:** You will have oral, listening, reading, and writing evaluations to monitor your progress.
7. **SEMESTER EXAMS**

Grading Scale

A=100%-90%

B=89%-80%

C=79%-70%

D=69%-60%

E=59%-0%

Homework for Completion: 10%

Formative Assessment (HW for correctness/class work/quizzes/small projects):55%

Summative Assessment (tests/large projects):35%

Due Dates and Deadline

Students will be given due dates and deadlines for assignments. In my class, homework typically has a due date of the next day and deadline as the day following the due date. When turned in on the deadline, there will be a 10% reduction of the grade. Common items that have 2-3 days in-between the due date and deadline are such things like projects, BCR's or long assignments. Work not turned in will be considered missing and will not be recorded into the grade book as a zero. It is fully expected that all students submit all assignments by their respective due dates throughout this course as we want to ensure that our children are learning how to be responsible.

that a due date is missed due to prolonged absence it is at the teacher's discretion to decide upon fair and reasonable consequences and or extensions based on MCPS guidelines for missed days.

Re-teaching and Re-assessment

Reteaching and reassessment are allowed to students to encourage them to learn the material. This opportunity is available for graded formative assessments. In order to utilize this opportunity the student should meet with the teacher to arrange a time to review and re-assess material. Students should make sure to fill out the re-assessment form with parent's signature and turn it in on the following class; without this form students will not be allowed to re-take the assignment.

Teacher will inform students which assignments can be re-assessed.

IMPORTANT!

Students enrolled in GT Spanish 1A/1B or Spanish 2A/2B will earn ONE High School credit upon completion of the course. Students must earn a passing grade for the class and exams. Exams are given twice a year at the end of each of each semester.

For students taking full year Spanish 1A or 1B will earn one high school credit upon completion of *both* sections. For example, students taking Spanish 1A as a 7th grader will have to continue in the eighth grade with Spanish 1B, in order to earn ONE High School credit. MCPS does NOT give partial or half credits for middle school students taking High School courses.

Therefore, it will be significantly important to take both first and second semester SERIOUSLY!

Classroom Decorum

Disruptive or disrespectful behavior of any kind will not be tolerated in this class and will be dealt with according to the severity of the offense. The following is a sample plan of disciplinary action.

1st offense: warning/call home

2nd offense: call home/detention/reflection

3rd offense: Administrative referral

Please review the discipline policy in the handbook.

Students should also adhere to the following rules.

- Be on time!!-If you are in my first period class and you are out for "Bulldog time", know that you will be expected to be in my room before by 8:10. Time yourself wisely while you are in the other classroom and arrive back on time. *I will not tolerate unexcused tardiness.*
- No cell phones or other personal electronic devices visible.
- Appropriate behavior is expected.
- Show respect to everyone.
- Participate in class and remember to RAISE your hand to speak.
- Be respectful to me and your classmates. Inappropriate slurs or behavior will not be tolerated!
- Seek help when needed. I am always willing to help you!
- Listen carefully during lectures and class.
- Be sure to always write down assignments and their due dates
- Give your best effort!

