



Albemarle High School
2016-17
Spanish 4

Instructor: Mrs. Maria Burruss
Location: 122
Teacher availability: CHAT or until 8:30 before school (by appointment only).
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Course Overview: In Spanish 4 a strong emphasis is given to speaking, listening, reading and writing the language, as well as to studying culture. In this course students will continue to attain proficiency in communicating about events occurring in the present and past give their opinions and talk about possibilities and probabilities. Students will be given ample opportunities to put the knowledge gained in Spanish 1, 2 and 3 into practice through structured classroom activities, projects, and outside assignments. In addition, students will attain a higher level of proficiency through the mastery of new complex grammatical constructions, and verb tenses, preparing them for the AP level.

Instructional Philosophy:

Many instructional approaches will be used to help all types of learners: Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling (TPRS), questioning strategies (yes/no, either/on, multiple choice, short answer), Total Physical Response (TPR), reading authentic documents, listening to authentic music, visiting authentic websites and studying authentic films to name a few. Students will be actively engaged and will be expected to participate voluntarily and/or when called upon. Participation does not mean always giving the correct answer but a willingness to try to use Spanish and a genuine attempt at learning the material or asking questions when the material is unclear. The class will be conducted in Spanish and students are expected to communicate in Spanish as well.

Course Goals:

At this stage students should be able to communicate effectively in the Spanish language, and more opportunities will be available for students to work on their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Less time will be taken to review material and more time will be devoted to a more in-depth study of the Spanish language, such as analyzing Spanish texts and providing oral presentations.

Students will also be keeping a journal in Spanish. Writing topics and reading class time will be given to students as the teacher sees fit. Topics will be related to the material being studied in class. A new component of Spanish 4 is that students will be required to bring in and discuss a current event every other week. The current event must be from a Spanish language source and will be discussed in Spanish. Current events are due on Fridays.

Specific objectives: (please refer to the pacing guide for specific grammar, and vocabulary)

1. To develop the 4 language skills: Listening, speaking, reading and writing; to at least an ACTFL intermediate low level.
2. To make connections between Hispanic culture and one's own culture
3. To communicate in Spanish as much as possible and improve fluency
4. To get to know oneself as a language learner by personalizing and applying learning strategies to enhance one's knowledge, attitude and skills
5. To recognize the importance of Spanish as an important and necessary influence in the world today and to appreciate the cultural aspects that relate to the language
6. To practice activities and strategies for the AP Spanish exam
7. To enhance one's knowledge of important historical events and forms of art, which have helped to shape the philosophies and cultures of the Spanish, speaking world.

Note: Course timeline and topics are subject to change.

Materials:

- 2 inch 3 ring binder (you will receive a lot of handouts)
- Loose leaf paper
- Composition notebook for DO NOWS(no exceptions, Spiral notebooks will not be accepted)
- Pens/pencils (dark colors)

Recommended:

- Spanish-English Dictionary or ready access to an online dictionary www.wordreference.com (download the app!)
- Highlighters
- Eraser

Student Responsibilities:

- Always do your best.
- Make the most of class time!
- Come to class on time and prepared with all of the appropriate materials.
- **THE RULE IS RESPECT AND RESPECT IS THE RULE!!**

Make-up Work:

- It is the **student's responsibility** to find out about missed work before or after class time. If a reasonable time has passed and the student has not made up the work, he/she may forfeit credit for that assignment.
- Any work not made up prior to the last week of the grading period will be severely penalized.
- Exceptions will be made due to extraordinary circumstances at the discretion of the teacher on a case-by-case basis.

Retake Policy: Most **QUIZZES** may be retaken ones for a better grade, before we start with next unit

- In order to retake a quiz, student must present physical evidence of study (notecards, parent note, conjuguemos, this is language, duolingo or other online resources printed out with evidence of completion, textbook/workbook practice, etc.)
- In order to retake any quiz, a CHAT appointment must be made for additional tutoring prior to the retake.
- The retake must occur **BEFORE** the test that covers the same material. Once the test has been taken, all prior quizzes may not be retaken.
- The retake policy is subject to revocation if abuse of the privilege is detected.

Homework Policy: In order to receive full credit for homework, it is due at the beginning of the class period in the following format outlined below. Assignments that do not meet this criteria will be penalized:

- On a whole sheet of loose-leaf notebook paper (unless otherwise stated)
- Handwriting must be neat and legible
- Student work shows considerable effort
- The student's name, date, and title of the assignment are in the upper right corner

Grades: different activities, homework, quizzes, projects, tests, etc. will be oriented towards listening, reading, writing and speaking with the following percentages:

1. writing:
2. reading:
3. listening:
4. speaking:
5. Interpersonal skills and participation: This includes paying attention and contributing to the class. Reacting to class

discussions in real time is what this is all about—back and forth communication with other speakers. This is the first category because face-to-face verbal interaction is what learning a language is mostly about—the vast majority of students take a language because they want to be able to SPEAK it and this is how that is done—back and forth communication.

Final test can also be a final performance task (20% of second semester)

Course Credit: Any student must receive a B or better in the Spanish 4 coursework in order to be recommended to proceed on to the next course in the sequence. Although a student may still receive course credit for a C or a D, failure to maintain a C+ average or higher indicates failure to attain sufficient proficiency in the language to guarantee success at the next level.

CHAT (Collaboration-Help-Achievement-Tutoring): CHAT is every WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY from 11:54 a.m. to 12:52 p.m. This is an opportunity for students to have time to eat lunch and seek assistance from teachers with school work. On pre-determined days each month CHAT time may be used to meet with clubs. Teachers may require a student to make up work during CHAT time. If a student has received a pass from a teacher to attend their CHAT, it is MANDATORY that the student attend. Failure to attend a CHAT appointment will result in disciplinary action.

IMPORTANT - AHS Student Handbook: Each student at AHS receives a student planner. Located inside the student planner is important information regarding rules and regulations. Below is a list of items that every student know and understand. See the page indicated in the student handbook for detailed information.

*Parent/Student Portal
School Technology
Exams & Exam Exemptions
Grading Scale
Graduation Requirements*

*Honor Code
Attendance
Cell Phone Policy
Bullying*

Course Syllabus Rules and Expectations Agreement

Spanish 4

2016-2017

I _____,
have read all of the course rules and expectations.

I understand that there is an academic honor code which is strictly enforced in this Spanish class.

Student name (print) _____ Period _____

Student signature: _____

Parent name (print) _____

Parent signature _____ Date: _____

Parent email (home) _____

Parent email (work) _____

Phone (home) _____

Phone(cell) _____ Phone(work) _____

PLEASE NOTE BELOW ANY INFORMATION THAT YOU BELIEVE I SHOULD KNOW:

Español 4 – R - rated movie permission form

In an attempt to discuss real world situations about the Hispanic world with the students in Spanish 4, I have selected various films that I believe will be complementary to the content that we have learned up to this point. Unfortunately, some of the films are rated R, not due to sexual content, but due to some use of vulgar language. This does include periodic use of the “F” word. Students will be viewing the films in Spanish with the use of English subtitles. The following films and series are on my list to possibly view this year:

Motorcycle Diaries, La Bestia, Maria Full of Grace, A Day Without a Mexican, Pans Labyrinth, Como agua para chocolate, El carro, El hijo de la novia, Quinceañera, Internado Laguna Negra, (If the movie we will watch is not on the list, I will send an email).

If you do not wish for your child to view these films with us in class, it is perfectly acceptable. The students who do not wish to view the films will be given a different assignment and will in no way be penalized.

I assure you that these films are well done, credible films, but unfortunately filmmakers do not always make good films specifically for classroom use. If you have any questions about this, please call or email me.

Thanks,

Maria Burruss
AHS Spanish Teacher

I, the undersigned, give my child permission to view the films on this list in Spanish 4 this year. I understand that these films contain some vulgar language, and sexual content shown.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I would like my child to receive an alternate assignment instead of viewing the films on this list.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____