



Spanish for Heritage Learners I & II
Zoraida Rivera-Tañón
Classroom: Lares

Course description: Spanish for Heritage Learners I & II is designed for students who were exposed to Spanish-speaking environments at an early age. These courses build on the linguistic competence students already have in order to expand their proficiency for language use in a wide variety of situations. Although the main focus of the class is written and oral development, all skills, including reading and listening, are practiced in a positive and supportive environment.

Through the courses reading and listening activities, videos, class discussions, group work, written and web assignments, and oral presentations; students will achieve greater flexibility in their abilities in the language. Grammar and spelling issues that are problematic to students are also covered. Learners will also deepen their knowledge in their cultural heritage and develop an appreciation for the cultural and linguistic variation present in the Spanish-speaking world. There is a special emphasis on learning about cultural topics relevant to Hispanic communities in the United States.

By the end of the year, students will:

1. Develop their communicative competence in all language modes.
2. Develop fluency especially in speaking and writing.
3. Be able to write a well-structured paragraph/piece in Spanish.
4. Improve presentational communicative abilities in Spanish.
5. Improve command of spelling and use of written accents in Spanish.
6. Strengthen and expand their use of grammatical structures.
7. Expand their lexical repertoire in Spanish.
8. Understand the nature and extent of language and culture variation in the Spanish speaking world
9. Gain knowledge about their cultural heritage.
10. Appreciate the cultural differences among Spanish speakers in Latin America in the United States.

The following is some important information:

Teacher contact information

email: zoraidat@pedroalbizucamposhs.org

Text: 773.425.7516

Website: <https://sites.google.com/a/pedroalbizucamposhs.org/spanish-department/Home/basic-spanish>

Textbook:

Realidades 3, 2004, from Pearson, will be the class textbook as well as some handouts from the book *Entre Mundos*, and short stories for Conversational Spanish. Workbook copies will be provided as well as some practice handouts.

The website www.phschool.com is the textbook website for homework practice. The codes will be provided at class.

Help sessions

Official day and time is Tuesday after school, but I can be available just about any day before or after school as long as I do not have a required meeting as well as during lunch. Most questions can be cleared up rather quickly. Please ask if something is not clear; come in for help with homework before it's due.

Class materials

You will be expected to have the following with you every class period:

- folder- 2 pocket,
- 3 prong binder, 1 inch
- pens (blue/black) or pencils
- notebook paper (loose leaf)
- a red or green writing utensil for correcting homework
- a composition book

Grading policy:

Grades will be determined each nine weeks using the following weighted scale. Each category is described below.

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| • Tests | 25% |
| • Projects | 25% (rubric provided at time of assignment) |
| • Quizzes | 20% |
| • Homework | 10% |
| • Class Participation | 10% |
| • Openers/ In class work | 10% |

- *Tests*- at the end of each chapter and/ or topic there will be a test covering the material from that chapter. Tests will be announced at least 2 class meetings prior. We will practice to the test a day or two before also detailed practice is available online.
- *Projects*- there will be a written project for each theme. Presentation of these projects will be in written or oral format or both. They are an opportunity for students to show off their talents while polishing the Spanish vocabulary and structure covered in each chapter. Students will be given a detailed description of the project along with a rubric for grading. Major projects will lose one letter grade for each **day**, not class meeting, late. If you have a late project, you must bring it to me the very next day.
- *Quizzes*- Quizzes will cover smaller chunks of material and provide me with an idea of students' progress. In addition, they will give students an opportunity to prepare more thoroughly for chapter tests by allowing them to know what they need to study more.
- *Homework*- is an opportunity for students to practice what they learn in class. Practice doesn't have to be perfect; it does have to be complete and attempted with full effort. Each page of homework is worth 3 points: 1 for being attempted on TIME!, 1 point for correcting the work in red or green and 1 point for being complete by the end of the unit

when work is collected. If a student is absent from class on the day an assignment is due, s/he will receive the “on-time” point when I see his/ her excused admit. Late work will NOT be accepted.

Note: students are responsible for getting their homework from the class bin under the bulletin board; homework must be drop at the same bin when it is instructed to do so.

- *Class participation-* effective participation consists of several components. First a student must be physically prepared for class. This means being in class on time with all materials and homework. Next a student must be mentally prepared. This means he/she needs to be focused on class activities. Finally, a student of language has to be willing to take academic risks. This means trying to speak and using the language as much as possible. Every student will start with an average grade in participation or a 75% C. During the course of the nine weeks, each student will need to earn 25 more points for a 100% A. Each time a student volunteers to speak in Spanish or is “caught” diligently working on the task at hand; he/ she will receive a participation coupon. It is the student’s responsibility to hold on to his/ her coupons for the nine weeks. I suggest a Ziploc baggie for storage, and each student will be required to write his/ her name on the back when each coupon is received. Students will loose coupons for any off task or disrespectful behavior. If a student does not have the coupons available to hand over at the time of the infraction, he/ she will loose the amount from the 75 point base.
- *Compositions books-* Students will need a composition book for all openers and class work. Openers will be done from the front of the composition book and class work from the back. Each activity will be labeled with the date, page and activity number as appropriate. Work will be checked at the end of the nine weeks. If a student is absent, it is his/ her responsibility to find out what activities were missed and make them up.

Classroom Rules

1. Upon entrance, be seated immediately.
2. Follow directions the first time they are given.
3. No eating or drinking during class. That includes chewing gum.
4. No use of electronics devices: Mp3, iPods & phones, as stipulated in the school handbook.
5. No talking while the teacher is talking
6. All classroom work is evaluated as part of your grade, finishing on time will be a positive element for your final grade.
7. Always bring paper, pen and your folder to class.
8. RESPECT, items, and furnishings of this room.
9. Respect your peers: no swearing, no burping or bullying.
10. Last but not least: practice good manners, be kind and respectful, and you will see that everyday will be a good day!!!