

Course Description: Spanish AP Language is an advanced college level course that emphasizes advanced proficiency in the four main language skill areas of reading, speaking, listening and writing. **This class will be conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak in Spanish at all times. Failure to do so will result in a lower participation grade.** There will be ample practice of the four main language skills mentioned as well as high-level vocabulary building and intense grammar review. Throughout the course students will be required to express themselves through speaking and writing on topics presented through aural and written media originally created for Spanish speakers. All students who take the AP Spanish class are encouraged to sit for the AP exam.

Course content, objectives, and assessment:

- **Informal Writing:** Students will keep a journal. Grading will be based on completeness and on signs of increasing improvement over time. An exercise in Informal Writing takes place at a minimum of once per week in the first semester (usually on MONDAYS for a duration of 10-15 minutes). Informal writing will include writing letters emails, messages, dialogues and creative writing. Many of the prompts originate from the textbook Preparing for the AP Spanish Language Examination. Although this informal writing exercise is conducted throughout the year, in the second semester emphasis is shifted toward Formal Writing.
- **Formal Essays/Writing:** One formal essay 200 words in length every two weeks. Source material includes prompts from the textbook Preparing for the AP Spanish Language Examination and selected authentic material from periodicals and broadcasts. In the first semester most essays are done outside of class; this is done to provide ample time for the teacher to provide quality feedback on the essays and to give students confidence in their writing. In the second semester the 200 word essays are written in class and timed.
- **Informal Speaking:** A lab-type exercise in Informal Speaking takes place approximately once per week in the first semester. All informal speaking activities are recorded or downloaded onto the school server into the teacher's folder*. These are later assessed by the teacher, and written feedback is provided to the student. Many of the prompts originate from the textbook Preparing for the AP Spanish Language Examination. Although lab-type exercise is conducted throughout the year, in the second semester, emphasis is shifted toward Formal Speaking.

- **Formal Speaking:** As with the Informal Speaking, all Formal Speaking activities are recorded or downloaded onto the school server into the teacher's folder. These are later assessed by the teacher, and written feedback is provided to the student. The prompts originate from authentic audio sources and from the textbook *Preparing for the AP Spanish Language Examination*. More emphasis will be put on the Formal Speaking in the latter part of the year.
- **Reading:** Students will read a series of unedited short stories by important authors as selected by the teacher, mostly for homework and then to be discussed in class. During the latter half of the year some reading comprehension exercises will take place in isolation for test taking purposes.
- **Listening:** Teacher speaks exclusively in Spanish. All lab-type exercise in listening comprehension originates from authentic sources. Many of the sources originate from the textbook *Preparing for the AP Spanish Language Examination* or other authentic audio material as determined appropriate by the teacher. Some exercises in listening will utilize the textbook *Preparing for the AP Spanish Language Test*. As much as possible listening activity will involve subsequent speaking or writing exercise related to the listening passages in order to integrate skills. During the latter half of the year some listening comprehension exercises will take place in isolation for test taking purposes.
- **Culture:** Although daily discussions on culture will take place through the literature readings & listening activities, we will utilize current media sources as appropriate and as selected by the teacher.

Components of your grade:

Homework: 10%

Assigned daily and checked for completeness/ reviewed in class for accuracy.

Weekly Quizzes: 10%

Students take daily quizzes to perfect grammar structures & fine tune vocabulary. These quizzes are NOT announced but students may use their notes. Some of these quizzes may imitate a section of an actual AP test. (Reading or Listening)

Tests: 40%

Grammar/Vocabulary/ Listening/ Reading:

Students perfect the *grammar & cultural* topics presented in the text book *Conexiones*.

Formal & Informal Writing Assignments: 20%

- **Formal Writing-**

Students write compositions *in class* on a biweekly basis using given AP topics. Students are expected to make corrections on each composition using correction symbols to identify grammatical errors.

- **Informal Writing-**

Assigned weekly, usually on Mondays. Students will write in class for the first 10 minutes of class. Recorded in student journals.

Formal & Informal Speaking Assignments: 20%

In addition to practicing informal speech all year as part of the course expectation that students communicate in class only in the target language, they will also be evaluated on:

- **Formal Speaking-**

Once per MKP “presentations” and actual AP style Formal Speaking Assignments. These will be recorded using AUDACITY.

- **Informal Speaking-**

AP style Informal Speaking assignments, assigned weekly and also recorded using AUDACITY.

Source Publications (not an exhaustive list)

<http://www.cnn.com/espaol> (EE.UU)

<http://www.diario.com.mx> (México)

<http://www.laopinion.com> (Los Angeles, CA)

<http://www.eldiario.net> (Bolivia)

<http://www.laprensa.com.ar/> (Argentina)

<http://www.prensalibre.com> (Guatemala)

www.nacion.com (Costa Rica)

www.bbcmundo.com
www.elmundo.es (España)

Standards :

FL.12.7.1. AL. A.A. 1-5
FL. 12.7.1AL.B.A.1-5
FL.12.7.1AL.C.A 1-5

CAEP9.2 C.1 and 3
TECH 8.1.12 E1
TECH 8.1.12A3
TECH 8.1.12 ACS1