**Spanish 1**

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Spanish 1 is a high school course, adapted for 8th grade students. At the completion of the class, you will earn high school credit. Please take your grade seriously, and ask for help right away when needed. My goal is your success, but that will take responsibility and effort on your part as well. Please contact me if you have any questions, concerns, comments, or conversations about Spanish. Together we can make this a successful year!

**Classroom expectations:**

1. RESPECT
	1. Others (students, teachers, visitors)
		1. Only positive language and encouragement
		2. Putting someone down is especially serious in Spanish class as we try new words and make mistakes all the time.
	2. Yourself
		1. Believe in yourself – you can never succeed thinking that you can’t!
		2. Dress appropriately according to the dress code
	3. The classroom and all materials
		1. No writing on books, tables, chairs, etc…. leave things better than you found them
		2. If something was meant to be used in the classroom, please do not steal it
2. Personal Best
	1. I know you have a lot of classes, and a lot going on in life outside of school. However, I do expect your personal best while you are in class and on all Spanish work. If you ever need additional help, please ask! Friends are good resources and I will gladly help you too. If you are lost/confused, do not wait until it is too late to get help! I love helping you learn and do your best – that’s why I decided to teach Spanish. ☺
	2. I appreciate your active participation, respect, effort, and creativity!
3. Positive Choices
	1. The classroom expectation is that you will make positive choices. Poor behavior choices will result in consequences. Please think before you do something that you will later regret.
	2. If you **choose** to do something that is not in line with the classroom expectations, you will receive a warning. Please use this opportunity to correct your behavior.
	3. If a second warning is needed, you will be required to fill out a “Reflejo de conducta” (Behavior reflection). This will need to be signed by yourself, a parent/guardian, and Sra. Goorhouse.
	4. If a student’s behavior endangers themselves or others, or by teacher judgment needs immediate attention, the student will be referred to the office and a phone call home will be made.
4. Come Prepared
	1. Come prepared to learn Spanish by having your mind and materials ready.

Things to bring to class DAILY:

* A writing utensil (preferably a pencil)
* A 3-ring binder OR expanding file (5-13 pockets)
* Lined paper
* Completed quality work
* Positive learning attitude

**Classroom Procedure:**

1. Come in respectfully and on time, and take your assigned seat
2. Have all homework done BEFORE class so it is ready to be turned in
3. Look at the side whiteboard for all important information
4. Learning targets – *Las metas de aprendizaje*
5. Daily agenda – *El horario*
6. Homework – *La tarea*
7. Calendar – *El calendario*

*\*\*\* It is YOUR responsibility to write down and remember the information on the board! \*\*\**

**Tardies:**

1. You are considered LATE if you are not in the classroom at the start of the class period.
2. Three tardies = lunch duty (last in line to eat and clean tables)

**Absences:**

1. When you are absent:
	1. Check the blog for any new information (hamiltonspanish.weebly.com)
	2. Ask a friend about what you missed
	3. Look for papers that were handed out in the “Copias extras” tray
	4. Ask for help from Sra. Goorhouse when you need it
2. Make-up work is YOUR responsibility
	1. If you miss two days of school, you will have two days to make up the missing work.
	2. If an assessment is missed, it must be made up as soon as possible. Most assessments may not be made up during class time, as you will then miss more new information. Instead they must be taken during lunch or before/after school (see Sra. Goorhouse for arrangements).

**Curriculum:**

Spanish 1 covers four units of study. At the core of each unit is a cultural focus. Lessons will be taught with the best practices of high target language use, comprehensible input, and the use of authentic materials.

***Unit 1***: Personal and Family Life

* 1. Greetings and Introductions
	2. Physical and Personality Characteristics / Feelings and Emotions
	3. Family Members
	4. Clothing and Colors

***Unit 2***: School Life

* 1. Numbers and Time
	2. Days, Months, and Calendar
	3. Classes, Schedules, and Supplies

***Unit 3***: Social Life

* 1. Interests and Leisure Activities
	2. Weather and Seasons

 ***Unit 4***: Community Life

* 1. Cities, Places, Activities, and Transportation
	2. Shopping
	3. Restaurants and Food

While each unit has a cultural focus, Sra. Goorhouse’s experiences will be integrated into lessons as well. The goal is for Spanish to become a useful language for you both now and in the future.

**Classwork:**

When classwork is assigned, you will have time to work on it in class. Please use this time wisely. This is also a great time to ask questions about anything that you do not understand.

If you consistently are not completing your work in a timely manner, you will be required to fill out a “Reflejo de conducta”.

There will be no extra credit accepted. However, extra practice is encouraged! Study guides, flash cards, online practice, extra worksheets, and mnemonic devices are excellent tools that you are encouraged to use.

**Assessments:**

A variety of assessments will be given for each unit. These include:

* + 3 Interpersonal Speaking Assessments
	+ 1 Interpersonal Writing Assessment
	+ 1 Presentational Speaking Assessment
	+ 1 Presentational Writing Assessment
	+ 1 Interpretive Listening Assessment
	+ 1 Interpretive Reading Assessment

**Grades:**

Hamilton Middle School uses Standards Based Grading. Please see the attached standards specific to the World Language Department, as well as the rubrics for each type of assessment.

2014 – 2015 Evaluation Scale

| Reported Score | Standard of Achievement |
| --- | --- |
| **4** | ***Exceeds Standard*** - I know it well enough to make connections beyond what was taught, and I am right about those connections. |
| **3.5** | I know it well enough to make connections beyond what was taught, but I am not always right about those connections. |
| **3** | ***Meets Standard*** - I know everything that was taught without making significant mistakes. |
| **2.5** | I know all the easy parts and some of the harder parts of the material that was taught. |
| **2** | ***Progressing Toward Standard*** - I know all the easy parts, but at this time I don’t know the harder parts of the material that was taught. |
| **1.5** | I know some of the easier parts, but I sometimes make mistakes. |
| **1** | ***Work Needed*** - With help, I know some of the harder parts and some of the easier parts. |

**Resources:**

1. Website: Please visit the Spanish class website for up-to-date information on assignments and assessments, links to helpful resources, practice activities, study guides, and much more.

hamiltonspanish.weebly.com

1. Quizlet: Quizlet is a website and also a free app that is very useful for studying. It includes flashcards of all our vocabulary and also games to practice.

quizlet.com/SraGoorhouse

1. Powerschool: The grading system will be updated regularly, so please stay up-to-date on your grade and ask for help whenever you need it!
2. Instagram: Share your Spanish learning experiences!

@SraGoorhouse

#htownspanish



**The key to learning a new language**:

Practice freely without worry of error. Although this is quite hard to do, it is necessary in learning a new language. We all make mistakes, even in our native language! The only way to improve is to be willing to try, and practice, practice, practice. Mistakes help us learn and there is no reason to be embarrassed about mispronouncing a word for the first, second, or thousandth time. Accepting constructive correction is just a part of the learning process. In this class, I challenge you to try without hesitation!

Along with that, helping others in a constructive and positive way not only builds community but also confidence. Helping another person also reinforces the knowledge for you.

I hope you enjoy learning Spanish as much as I enjoy teaching it! Together we can make this a successful year.

 ~ Señora Goorhouse