

Spanish 2

COURSE OVERVIEW

Why study a foreign language? Studying a foreign language can improve your English skills, give you a wider view of the world, help you make friends, help other people, help you get a job, and develop empathy for someone learning English as a second language.

Why Spanish? I am tempted to over-emphasize the practical uses of Spanish as a resident of the U.S. such as Mexico being a next-door neighbor, applying for jobs, finding native speakers to practice with easily. However, for me, most of the benefits of learning Spanish are just as enriching as learning any other foreign language; each individual has their personal reasons for being drawn to a certain language. What I love about Spanish is that it's spoken in so many countries that I've gotten to know many cultures just by getting to know speakers of the Spanish language. I hope to develop this same cultural appreciation in my students.

POLICIES

All district and school policies apply to my classroom.

Attendance/Tardies: I will follow Hillcrest's attendance policy.

MATERIALS

- Pencil
- Pen
- Lined white paper
- 3 ring-binder

Absent Work: Look at the class website (srtahawkins.weebly.com) to see what was missed. Do not ask me right before, during, or just after class. Work due on the day of an absence must be turned in by the student's second day back for credit. After that, it will be counted as late (see *late work* for more details). Submit absent work to the "Make-up" basket stapled to a make-up form.

Late Work: Work that is not submitted by indicated due dates (not because of absence) can be submitted to the make-up basket up to two weeks after the due date with a 50% reduction. Do your late work. 50% makes a difference on your grade and helps you keep up with the class and not fall behind on tests. Submit late work to the "Make-up" basket stapled to a make-up form. *Work turned-in after it is called for is considered late. Pay attention and follow instructions.

Extra Credit: At the end of the quarter, students with no 0's will receive a 2.5% grade raise. Students with perfect attendance will also receive a 2.5% grade raise. Students who have both "potty passes" will also be given extra credit points. Throughout the quarter, random cultural opportunities and extension assignments will also be given. These will be announced on the class website.

GRADING SCALE

A	90-100%	C+	75-59%	D	60-65%
B+	85-89%	C	70-74%	F	0-59%
B	80-84%	D+	65-70%		

PARTICIPATION (40%)

Credit in this category comes from diario (writing journal), calentamiento (warm-up), in-class activities, material checks, participation points (speaking Spanish), and extra credit pesos. Students can make up “el diario” by writing a paragraph in Spanish at home. Students can make-up “calentamiento” by copying notes from a classmate. Get a classmate’s phone number to call for help whenever you’re absent (or even present for that matter).

TAKE ASSIGNMENTS SERIOUSLY AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS THE FIRST TIME. THERE WILL BE NO REDO’S UNLESS SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED BY ME.

HOMEWORK (30%)

Any work that takes time or place outside of class is considered homework. Homework assignments are usually grammar or vocabulary practice, projects, or studying. Students who do not have a computer, internet access, or a printer at home will need to find another time and place to complete this work outside of class. Sometimes students have to work with other classmates and need to find a time and place outside of class to do this as well. Students are required to come in before school twice a quarter—once for a speaking test and once for a Student-Teacher Conference. Students are expected to check the website each night for their homework. Students will not be responsible for anything not listed on the website.

ASSESSMENT (30%)

Credit in this category comes from tests and quizzes. Quizzes are vocabulary and grammar based. Tests are Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking based. No retakes will be given. See me for extenuating circumstances.

FAQ

Why do you always speak Spanish? How is my student supposed to learn when they can’t understand you? For language learning to occur it is ideal that 90% of instruction be given in the target language. It would be easier for me to teach in English, but, paradoxically that would be the worst thing I could do to my students, because I want them to learn Spanish. Students are not expected to comprehend everything I say, but they are expected to listen carefully to what is said, trying to understand. I will use gestures, facial expressions, words that are similar in English and other clues.

RULES

1. *Work until class is over* – Students are to remain seated and refrain from packing their things until the bell rings.
2. *Be prepared* – Come to class with all necessary materials (regardless of whether they’ve been used in previous class sessions).
3. *Respect* –When I talk, you listen. Respect your peers by participating in group activities and bringing your best every day.
4. *Safety* – The classroom needs to be a safe environment for learning to happen. Straighten your desk before leaving each day and take responsibility for keeping our workspace tidy.
5. *Be positive* – Classes that have positive attitudes get better grades. Focus on solutions. Mercy is shown towards grateful students.

Name _____ Period _____

I have **read** Srta. Hawkins's disclosure statement and hereby **understand** the terms and expectations for her class.

X _____ X _____

Student

Parent

I understand that all **homework** assignments and make-up assignments are to be found on the class **website srtahawkins.weebly.com**.

X _____ X _____

Student

Parent

I understand that **90-100% of class is conducted in the Spanish** language and will follow the tips for communicating in a foreign language.

X _____ X _____

Student

Parent

I understand that I am **required to come in before or after school three times per quarter** and will prepare accordingly so I can be there*.

**This means notifying parents/carpool of your transportation changes and taking responsibility to sign up for preferred time slots as soon as the sign-up goes out (notified online, in skyward, and by text if you register).*

X _____ X _____

Student

Parent

Date: ____ / ____ / 2014

Administrator Signature

Date

Any health or medical issues I should know about?

Other concerns:
