



SPANISH 11B

Instructor: Señor M. Posey
Academic Year: 2007-2008

Contact Information:

E-mail: mposey@collegiate-va.org
Phone: 804.740.7077 Extension 3614
Extra-help hours: by appointment

Course description:

In our ever-smaller world, in which we are thrust into instant communication with what were once remote and distant nations and peoples, the ability to speak a “foreign” language is more important than it has ever been.

Spanish is the official language, not only of Spain, but also of México, Central America, the Caribbean islands of Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic, and most of South America. Spanish is the fourth most spoken language on the planet and the United States is now officially the third largest Spanish-speaking country in the world.

The goals of this class are for the student to gain competency in communication and proficiency in the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. These goals will be reached through several media including the use of the Rassias method, a fast-paced language drill which encourages students to speak the language; Spanish videos which show native speakers in real-life situations; and project presentations which will highlight cultural and historical aspects of Spanish-speaking countries.

At the beginning of the term, students will review previous grammar and vocabulary and then undertake the study of new material. As in the past years, students will gain proficiency in the language through drilling, a continual review of vocabulary, listening exercises, short readings, writing assignments, in-class presentations, dialogues and other communicative activities. Students will also be exposed to elements of Hispanic culture through readings and projects.

Prerequisite:

Successful completion of Spanish IIA

Course content:

The following topics are presented in Spanish IIB:

- Daily Routines: personal hygiene and other daily routines, telling time
- Food: types of food, describing foods, meals
- Festivities: parties, celebrations, personal relationships
- Doctor's office: health care, the body, medical conditions
- Technology: home electronics, computers, automobiles
- The Home: parts of the house, household chores, table settings

Course objectives:

- ❖ To communicate in Spanish with greater fluency and accuracy
- ❖ To gain a better understanding of the formal structure of the Spanish language
- ❖ To be exposed to a variety of speakers and resources to gain linguistic confidence and understanding
- ❖ To explore various aspects of Hispanic culture
- ❖ To improve critical and analytical linguistic skills

Required Textbooks:

Descubre: Nivel 2: Lengua y cultura del mundo hispánico, Jose Blanco and Phillip Redwine Donley. Boston: Vista Higher Learning, 2008

Required Materials:

Three-ring binder with pockets: A **separate three-ring binder with pockets** is *suggested* for the class. There should also be sufficient amounts of regular lined paper in each section.

The notebook should be divided into five sections: **(1) Clase** (which will include class notes) **(2) Hojas**, **(3) Historia/Cultura**, **(4) Los deberes** and **(5) Pruebas/Exámenes**.

Optional materials (but highly recommended):

- 3x5 index cards (for vocabulary)
- Red pen or brightly colored highlighter
- Index card box and/or metal ring
- dry erase marker (for whiteboards)
- Flat notebook three-hole puncher
- Spanish aid: [Quick Study Academic: Spanish Grammar](#)
- USB keyring (jumpdrive)

Classroom Rules and Expectations:

Students are expected to be in their seats within five minutes of the previous bell with **all** their materials (pen/pencil, notebook, and texts).

Students are responsible for their work even if they miss class! Students may check current assignments by writing down homework assignments from the board and/or contacting a classmate or checking on-line and printed resources. I suggest that each student keep the e-mail address and/or telephone number handy of two classmates so that he/she can contact them in case of an emergency.

Students are **expected** to make up all graded assignments as soon as they return to school following an absence. Students will be given **one week** from their absence to make up graded material.

I would like to call your attention to the school's policy against **plagiarism** and other forms of cheating including copying homework from other students. Have confidence that you can do the class work on your own. Please refer to the Student Handbook for details and consequences.

Respect yourself, your classmates, your teacher and your classroom.

The following pledge in Spanish will be written on each major assignment, test and quiz with the student's signature.

Juro que no he dado ni recibido ayuda en este trabajo ni he notado ninguna infracción del Código de Honor.

Workload and Grading:

There will be a **weekly** quiz, regular **daily** homework assignments and **three** section tests each marking period, all of which will test a student's grammatical, aural and oral understanding and comprehension of the subject matter.

Progress Reports will be sent to parents/guardians periodically to indicate a student's progress and performance in class. Such reports are not limited to those students with poor grades. Positive reports will be sent as well.

Marking period grades will be computed as follows (*subject to change*):

Tests	35%
Homework	20%
Quizzes	25%
Project and presentation	15-20%
Participation	10%
Total	100%

Homework Policy:

The timely completion of homework assignments is crucial for learning the Spanish language. Homework is necessary to reinforce what is presented in class, identify problem-learning areas,

and facilitate student competency in Spanish. Regular preparation guarantees that students will recognize what they have learned and what they still do not understand. It gives the students and the teacher an opportunity to decide whether to review material or to go ahead. If students have not done the work, they are unaware of their own knowledge base.

Homework will be given almost every night, although usually in small, manageable doses (20-30 minutes). Homework assignments taken from your textbook, workbook or supplementary materials will be checked everyday, then reviewed in class. I would urge you to please make corrections to your assignments because much of the material reviewed in class will be reflected in the tests and quizzes.

Most of the homework activities will be done online, through the textbook's WEBSAM and Supersite. To receive credit for the activities done online, each student must first enroll in the *Vistas* site for this particular class, section, and instructor – see <http://vistas.vhlcentral.com>.

Along with the homework activities on the Supersite, the entire textbook can be viewed online. The audio and video components of the textbook can be accessed there. There are many other helpful components such as tutorials, pronunciation help, flashcards, and review games available on-line as well. From time to time students may also be requested to complete activities for homework that will be turned in as a hard copy.

Each quarter, the student will start out with 100 homework points. For each homework assignment not completed, the student will lose 5 points (half-completed homework assignments are worth 2.5 points).

Tests and Quizzes:

At the end of almost every chapter, students will take a culminating chapter test. In most cases, review sheets will be given to students prior to the test's date. Tests will **ALWAYS** be announced and posted well in advance. At least one quiz will be taken every week on chapter/section vocabulary. I encourage students to make vocabulary flash cards and/or utilize on-line resources in order to review vocabulary.

Reports and Projects:

Several written and visual projects will be assigned throughout the year and will be graded. These will be announced far in advance of their due dates and students will receive direction regarding requirements. Projects will focus on grammar and/or Spanish culture and oftentimes will involve some technological component. Much of the work will be done outside of the classroom. The class will utilize resources such as the computer lab and the library as needed.

Participation:

Students are given participation grades based on their effort during oral, aural, grammatical and reading exercises in the classroom. This grade is based on being on-task (paying attention), bringing necessary materials to class, volunteering to answer questions in class and following

rules and directions.

Each student begins each quarter with 100 class participation points. Failure to come to class prepared to learn and work will result in a loss of 5 points.

Technology:

Lastly, technology will play a large role in this class. Computers are provided for use by all students and many times throughout the year class will be held in the computer lab. Students are encouraged to check the class' web page often for supplementary materials.

Also it is important that students write down/remember their user name and password for class activities. In order to transport work from home and back to school, I would recommend that students invest in a USB keyring (jumpdrive) or send attachments via e-mail. Most importantly, misbehavior in the computer lab will not be tolerated.