

SPANISH 1
Teacher: Brandon Bennett or Señor Bennett
Room 102, Timberline High School
Syllabus for Remote/Online Learning 2020-2021

Email: bbennett@nthurston.k12.wa.us

¡BIENVENIDOS a la clase de español! I am delighted that you have chosen to study Spanish this year. You have made an excellent choice to learn the language of one of the fastest growing and vibrant population sectors of the United States today. As you will discover, it is the main language spoken throughout the Americas and in many other parts of the world. The skills you acquire in Spanish 1 will further your knowledge of other disciplines and help you to gain a unique perspective on the world through the lens of the Spanish language and the many cultures that embrace it.



Course Description

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language, customs and culture of Spanish speaking countries, with an emphasis on practical and interactive communication. Students will build vocabulary and develop knowledge of grammar to communicate at a basic but meaningful level. They will learn to introduce themselves, to communicate using a calendar, describe people and places, comprehend numbers, pose questions to gather information, and express feelings, opinions, and needs. *Historically, first semester themes include friendship, school, pastimes, weather and food. The second semester will cover locations around town, future activities, family, and physical descriptions. As a class, we will have opportunities to learn and practice the language through, games, songs, and projects.

(*Please note this list of topics might be adapted or be minimized due to remote learning. It's hard to know how much can realistically be covered.)

In class we will use a class set of the Textbook Realidades (we have virtual access to the textbook, and physical copies if we are back in the building). This is our primary text and the source of the vocabulary and grammar points of instruction. We will also use copies of Spanish readers (small books) and other online websites with teacher loaded material. We will access all materials through Canvas via links and explanations of where to go.

World Language Power Standards

1. The student communicates in languages other than English (**Spanish!**)
 - Students engage in conversations, provide information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
 - Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.
 - Students present information, concepts and ideas to an audience on a variety of topics.
2. The student gains knowledge and understanding of other cultures.
 - Students understand traditions, practices, products and perspectives of the cultures studied.

Required Materials:

1) **Pencils**, we will use one every day!!!

2) **Two 70 page college ruled spiral notebooks.** (one for vocabulary and grammar notes (“vocabulario”) and one for writing sentences and doing work (“trabajos”) If you lose this, you will re-copy all the notes from the whole year so don’t lose it.

*Even during remote instruction, all world language teachers will be requiring students to take physical notes into a notebook. Notetaking is part of the participation of the class and these notes will be graded periodically.

3) School provided **Google Chromebook.**

Classroom Rules

1) Students are expected to **respect the learning community** that we are all a part of in the classroom. If a behavior does not contribute to learning, it is not appropriate.

2) Students are expected to **respect fellow students, their teacher, substitute teachers,** school property and the property of others.

3) Students are expected to **arrive on time** to class with the required materials (Pencil, 2 spiral notebooks, and finished homework) and be ready to begin when the bell rings or the online learning time begins.

4) When we are remote learning (from home), eating and drinking should not be a distraction and students should refrain from getting up to get a snack/drink during class time. *If we are in the building-* Students are **not allowed to eat or drink in class.** Water bottles with lids are permitted.

5) *If we are in the building-* Seating: Students will sit in their assigned seat and will move around during group activities.

6) In the building we have a policy of no electronics that are not part of the lesson. The policy is specific and challenging to enforce when in the building.

During remote learning electronics are still a distraction when we aren’t using them for learning. Please be mindful of your learning. Limit your distractions, put down your phone, watch the screen, read the chat in the online classroom, ask questions, pay attention. These habits will help you learn and be productive.

7) **Use of electronic and on-line translators is prohibited.** Their use is considered plagiarism or cheating. If it is determined that a student has used an electronic or on-line translator, a “0”/failing grade will be assigned. This offense skips consequence step one, two and three.

Grading Categories:

1) Participation 10% - The main goal of this class is to develop an ability and desire to communicate in Spanish. To get there, students must participate and try to have fun doing it. Specific instances will be awarded participation points throughout the learning. Further, our notetaking will be a part of the participation grade.

2) Assignments 45% - Assignments reinforce students' individual skills and development. Most assignments relate directly to the vocabulary and grammar structures being learned in class and through the guided notes, google slides, and videos. Doing these assignments aids in preparing students for assessments and projects. Language learning is cumulative and builds upon past learning. Stay on top of your assignments and ask questions if you do not understand.

3) Assessments 45% - (Projects, Quizzes and Exams)

Students will complete several projects throughout this course.

Small quizzes will check comprehension and larger exams will show cumulative learning.

Our readers (mini novels) will have comprehension quizzes with most chapters and other online quiz tools will be used to assess understanding.

Retakes- For some assessments and quizzes retakes will be allowed and made available. For others this will not be possible due to the nature of remote learning. If not available in Canvas as an option for a re-take, reach out to me and we can discuss if the assessment can or should be retaken. Testing students remotely is challenging and the ability to take pictures, copy directly from notes, or use online translators makes this area challenging, but I want to work with students to be reasonable and find solutions.

Letter grades will be awarded based on the following percentages.

93%-100%	= A	77%-79.99%	= C+
90%-92.99%	= A-	73%-76.99%	= C
87%-89.99%	= B+	70%-72.99%	= C-
83%-86.99%	= B	67%-69.99%	= D+
80%-82.99%	= B-	60%-66.99%	= D
		0%-59%	= F

Late Work Policy

As a simple, general rule, for me late work is accepted up to two weeks after it was due. This work can receive up to 70% of the points. Do your work on time and avoid this habit as it will make all new learning very difficult and also hurts your overall grade.

Our department (world languages) has a policy to allow late work within a specific unit. This means you can turn something in as long as we are still in the unit. (two weeks is roughly the same result)

*For long-term illness or extenuating circumstances, special arrangements will be made.

Attendance

Attendance is essential in a foreign language class. Since the lessons build on each other, you will miss crucial material if you are absent from class. Moreover, repeated and varied exposure to the language is necessary for acquisition to occur, so try not to miss much class! Entering Canvas (our online class work/information page) and completing assignments will also technically count toward attendance (district/school policy), but should not substitute actually being present in our virtual classroom. Come to class and learn the most you can.

Academic Honesty: No cheating!

As a student of Spanish, your own growth and learning is of paramount importance to me. Please be advised that plagiarism, copying assignments, cheating on exams, and using electronic translation devices/websites are prohibited in this course, and will result in a "0" for the assignment. However, you are encouraged to use dictionaries and other informational texts, and to seek help with assignments when necessary, as long as you are learning from that assistance. This course follows THS's Academic Honesty Policy (available in your student handbook).

I am totally committed to helping you succeed, and to that end, I will make myself available to answer any questions or give extra help if you need it. Our times of availability are available on the calendar and I will be waiting for you to reach out to me. My email is at the top of this document.

Mr. Bennett thoughts about this school year and Covid 19-

Teaching during a pandemic and teaching remotely are many things: challenging, scary, frustrating come to mind. For me as a teacher and parent (and husband), I have no idea how this year is really going to go. But I am not alone, no one really knows.

Let's approach the year trying our best. Let's use this online platform as a way to both learn and stay connected. Let's work together to find ways to keep learning and growing. Our students and families deserve the best.

I can say this. I will try my best to deliver my Spanish content, provide consistency, and offer my time. I want students to leave this year knowing more Spanish than they started and also knowing that they are capable of doing difficult things in spite of the uncertainty.

After we get through this, we all will be stronger. How great it will be to be back in the classroom teaching all those bright faces! For now, we will do our best to learn remotely.

Take care everyone and be well,

Brandon Bennett

THS- Spanish One and Two

bbennett@nthurston.k12.wa.us