

Northland Preparatory Academy Spanish IV Syllabus: 2019-20

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Course Description and Objectives: Spanish IV is a continuing course that assumes prior knowledge or experience with the language at the Spanish I - III levels. This course aims to develop all five language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural competence through the use of authentic materials and those designed for Spanish learners. In an effort to synthesize knowledge gained in SPA I-III, students will be required to spend the majority of their time on language production (speaking and writing) and task-based learning. Instruction is conducted primarily in Spanish and students will achieve a greater understanding of the target language. Students will also investigate some historical and contemporary issues important to life in Spanish-speaking countries through film and literature. Students will continue to build their skills for interpreting readings dealing with social and cultural issues and will comment on such texts.

Students will increase their levels of proficiency via the everyday use of the target language. By continuous practice of the target language, it is expected that students will be able to spontaneously create with the language, initiate, sustain and close intermediate-level exchanges, ask and answer questions and possess the skills necessary of circumlocution when faced with a more difficult communicative task. Additionally, students will be able to meet intermediate practical writing needs by creating compositions.

Movies: The films used in class will be announced soon and the rationale for each will be added as an addendum to this syllabus soon.

Required Materials:

1. 3 Ring binder
2. College Ruled paper

Recommended:

1. Use of www.wordreference.com
(online Spanish/English dictionary)
- If you are able download the app.

Student Learning Outcomes: Active engagement with the content of this course will allow students to:

1. Increase their level of proficiency in the use of the target language not only enabling them to communicate in the context of everyday situations, but also to discuss and express opinions on more in-depth subject matter.
2. Understand the main idea and supporting details of both spoken and written Spanish intended for native speakers and/or students of the language on topics related to daily life and Hispanic culture.
3. Initiate and respond verbally to statements, ask and answer questions and spontaneously create with the language as well as participate in conversations about familiar topics with sufficient accuracy in pronunciation and grammar so as to be understood by persons accustomed to interacting with learners of Spanish both within and beyond the school setting. Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.
4. Meet practical writing needs by creating coherent compositions, descriptive narratives and summaries with sufficient accuracy in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and vocabulary so as to be understood by persons accustomed to interacting with learners of Spanish and native speakers.
5. Understand some significant cultural traits of the Spanish-speaking world (customs, lifestyles, attitudes, geography, famous people, etc.) so as to be able to function appropriately in typical social situations. Demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

Assessment of Learning Outcomes:

This course will be graded using a total point system. Within a total point system a student has the ability to earn a certain number of total points. The actual number of points earned is compared to the total possible points in order to determine the student's grade.

The **semester grade** will comprise of points earned in both quarters and the final exams.

Homework: Students will be assigned homework tasks on a daily and weekly basis. These assignments may include practice sheets, writing assignments, research, and reading.

Daily oral performance: As this is a language class, **students will be expected to interact in Spanish as much as possible.** Failure to participate (arrive on time, communicate in Spanish: ask/answer questions, volunteer, demonstrate, contribute to class discussions and group work, share experiences...) will result in a loss of points.

Compositions: You can expect to write several compositions during the course of the year. Your instructor will determine the topic of each essay. Your compositions in Spanish will be graded on content, vocabulary, and the appropriate use of learned grammar.

Exams: There will be an exam for each chapter which will include listening comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension and cultural information. If absent, it is the student's responsibility to make up a missed exam **as soon as possible.**

Late Work: Late work will not be accepted. Failure to turn in work by the given due date will result in a zero for that assignment. However, students will still be required to complete these assignments in lunch detention or after school detention as needed. Students who are absent, for extenuating circumstances, will be given one week after the due date to turn in assignments.

Preparedness for Class: Each student is responsible for his or her necessities of class. Students must arrive to class with all the items necessary for the class for that day

Absences: Absences and tardiness should be kept to a minimum. Learning Spanish may become difficult if a student shows up late to class or does not show up at all. Emergencies and extenuating circumstances will be handled on a case by case basis. If you know that you are going to be gone from class ahead of time, let me know as soon as possible. You are still responsible for the information given that day.

Absences due to Sports and Extracurricular Activities: Sports and extracurricular activities **DO NOT EXEMPT YOU FROM AN ASSIGNMENT OR KNOWING THE INFORMATION PRESENTED IN CLASS IN YOUR ABSENCE.** You are still responsible for the information and any homework given while you are away must be turned upon your immediate return from any sport/extracurricular activity. *Playing a sport and participating in an extracurricular activity is not a right it is a privilege.*

Late Work: Students who are absent, for extenuating circumstances, such as an illness, will be allowed to turn in late homework. For each day the student is absent, that student will have an equal amount of time to turn in the assignment. However, if a student *forgets* homework for any reason, a detention will be given and the student has until the following day to turn in the assignment for a 10% deduction of the assignment, an additional 10% deduction will be applied for everyday the assignment is late. The assignment **must** be turned into me even if the homework will be graded as a ZERO. Extenuating circumstances will be handled on a case by case basis.

Bathroom/Hall Passes: If you need to use the facilities during a class period, you may, however, you must ask to leave the class in Spanish for that very reason. Once permission is granted you sign out. Then take a yellow pass (1 for the girls and 1 for the boys) and do your business. You must return to the class in a reasonable amount of time, or I will send out a search party for you.

EVERYDAY students will PRACTICE RESPECT for one another. Threatening to destroy or destruction of property; social, verbal or written aggressions; intimidation; sexual harassment; racial, cultural or ethnic harassment;

or gender harassment will never be tolerated. Each aggression is considered to be severe and will be reported. A student that does not comply will receive an immediate referral to the Dean of Students and will be asked to immediately leave the class.

I expect you to:

- Ⓢ Be respectful to everyone!
- Ⓢ Attend class every day!
- Ⓢ Be on time to class every day!
- Ⓢ Not to chew gum or have food in the classroom!
- Ⓢ Participate fully in class activities!
- Ⓢ Work to the best of your ability!
- Ⓢ Try, try and try again!
- Ⓢ Don't make a mess, if you do, clean it!
- Ⓢ Turn in homework on time!
- Ⓢ Study daily, even on the weekends!
- Ⓢ Ask for help when you need it!
- Ⓢ Have fun!

Classroom Rules

1. Listen with the intent to understand.
2. One person speaks and the others listen.
3. Support the flow of conversation.
4. **DO YOUR PART!**
5. Nothing on the tables unless told otherwise.