

# Spanish 4

## **Course description**

Spanish 4 is intended to extend the communicative approach to learning as a means to further develop the student's acquisition of Spanish. This course focuses on history, culture and grammar. Students will be exposed to a variety of challenging reading material through historical, literary and journal texts. Students are expected to primarily comprehend and speak Spanish in this rigorous course. In adherence to the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning, the course uses a communicative approach to learning and emphasizes the mastery of all four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Upon the completion of the year, students will take the Spanish Levels 1 & 2 CLEP test. A score of 63+ will earn students ACE (American Council on Education) credits to the equivalent of 1 1/2 – 2 years of Spanish at the college level. College score requirements for awarding credit vary. Contact the college(s) you plan to attend for more information on their requirements for Spanish CLEP scores.

## **Grading**

Each student will be graded on the following:

Assessments	55%
Participation	15%
Practice Work	10%
Projects & Presentations	20%
Midterm / Final Exam	20% (of semester grade)

## **Grading of assignments**

Assignments will be graded one of two ways:

- 1.) Every answer checked and points deducted for incorrect answers.
- 2.) Credit awarded if assignment is complete and on time.

\*Do not expect to be told how each assignment will be graded ahead of time.

\*All assignments are to be completed individually unless otherwise stated by the teacher.

\*Please check your Powerschool account to be updated on your grades and progress as I will not do so in class.

### **Grading of participation**

Participation grades will be determined by your regular **active** oral/aural (speaking and listening) participation in Spanish (avoidance of English). Be considerate of your classmates – listen when they are talking and be prepared to work in pairs. **STAY ON TASK; AT NO TIME IS IT ACCEPTABLE TO BEGIN CHATTING IN ENGLISH.** If you and your partner finish the assigned exercise before time is called, switch roles and redo it or engage in free Spanish conversation. Help each other with proper pronunciation. Oral and aural proficiency comes only with practice, practice, practice. Greet and meet your fellow students, thank them when they have helped you, encourage them to speak Spanish – as much as possible, do all of these things in Spanish.

### **Late work policy**

Any assignment that is turned in late (whether one hour or one day) will be subject to a grade deduction of 50%. Late work will be accepted up until the day of the chapter test. After the test, no points will be given. This also applies to **projects and presentations**.

Students who are absent on the day of a test or quiz will be given one week to make up the assessment. Make-ups should be scheduled before or after school with teacher.

### **Extra credit**

Extra credit is generally not given to any one particular student. Instead, it is given equally for all students to take advantage of. One such example is the “Pase del pasillo”. Every student will be allotted 5 hall passes each semester to be used at his or her discretion. Unused passes will be awarded extra credit at the end of each semester. Various other activities will be assigned for optional extra credit that will require students to work outside of the classroom time.

### **Academic dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty is committed when a student represents someone else’s work as their own. This includes copying homework, classwork, cheating on quizzes or tests, **as well as providing others with the opportunity to commit academic dishonesty**. This will not be tolerated and will result in a zero grade for the offender(s).

## **Respect**

It is very important to maintain a positive learning environment where both teacher and students feel welcomed, comfortable, and at ease. The best way to achieve this is through mutual respect and cooperation. As a result, we wish to foster a classroom in which profanity, name calling, disrespectful words and/or behavior are not tolerated.

An important part of respect is the student's willingness to be attentive while the instructor presents the day's lesson or explanation. If you have questions or comments during this time, please raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged before engaging in discussion.

Please remember to silence and keep cell phones, Chromebooks or any other electronic device stowed away unless the teacher advises otherwise.

**Chromebooks should be in their cases unless otherwise indicated by the teacher and ONLY used for the intended purpose of the lesson.** Games, messaging, or non-classroom related Internet browsing is not acceptable during class time and will result in the ipad being taken away.

## **Attendance policy**

Attendance is very important in a language class. Be in class and be prepared every day. Make as few appointments as possible during this class period. We cover a lot in class every day and you are held responsible for what you miss.

I strongly suggest you acquire a Spanish 'amigo' to help you when you miss a class. Always check the website when you return from an absence to get the day's Calentamiento and lecture PPT, and also with the teacher for any hand-outs and a summary of what was covered in class.

Being tardy to class is unacceptable. You will be given a warning for your first three tardies. Any subsequent tardies will result in a 10-minute detention or other various consequences given at the discretion of the teacher.

## **Classroom rules**

### **Respect Others**

- Use respectful words and tone of voice when talking to anyone.
- Leave other people's property alone.
- Work to solve problems constructively, without violence or abuse.
- Keep hand, feet and objects to self.

### **Be Prepared to Learn**

- Be in your seat and ready when class begins. Ipads should be in their cases
- Have appropriate materials (Spanish notebook, writing utensil, paper)
- Have your homework completed.

### **Follow Instructions**

- Follow reasonable instructions from adults the **first time given**.

### **Do Your Best**

- Participate positively in class
- Stay on task.
- Learn all you can

If classroom rules are not followed, logical consequences may include a phone call home, detention, seat change, referral, office visit, and/or OSS.

## **Parents or guardians**

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me or email me ([dlamas@bridgmanschools.com](mailto:dlamas@bridgmanschools.com)) at school. Email is usually best as I can check it throughout the day and call you back as soon as possible. To check your child's progress, please login to their account on Powerschool.

Thank you!

Dawn Lamas

## **Internet use and films**

With new advances in technology, we have available to us many primary sources online. Students will be asked to access these many resources on their own time. They are expected to follow all school internet policies.

In addition, we have available to us some excellent foreign language films of outstanding artistic, linguistic, and cultural value. Some of these films, because they are so current, authentic, and commercially successful may contain obscenities in the foreign language or in the subtitles. Signing this form grants permission for your child to view films.

## **Acceptance of Responsibilities**

Please sign and return.

I have read the course syllabus for Spanish. I understand the policies, procedures and requirements necessary for successful completion of the course.

Student's printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Course and Period: College Spanish (Level 2)

**Please return this sheet to Profesora Lamas!**