

# Spanish IV

Señora Whitman

## Course Content and Methodology

Course content includes the vocabulary and the skills necessary to communicate on an intermediate to advanced level in Spanish. We will refine the skills already acquired while also learning many new grammar, culture, and language skills that will enable more proficient communication. All five language competencies (speaking, listening, reading, writing, and culture) are emphasized. In this course, students continue to build proficiency in both verbal and written language through exercises in listening to radio and tv/internet broadcasts, reading articles to stay current with global events, and exploring Spanish language literature. Additionally, more focus is placed on speaking and pronunciation as the students practice formal and informal questioning where they are able to build different skills of convincing, arguing, and explaining in real life situations. Students will begin communicating with more complex structures in the target language with a variety of topics, both concrete and more abstract. They will learn to not only comprehend the materials they read and hear, but will also be able to recognize significant details and more abstract undertones. Daily activities may include vocabulary and grammar exercises, conversation practice, listening activities, singing songs and reciting and memorizing sections of scripture in Spanish, reading stories and novels in Spanish, and cultural studies. The goal is for the students to speak exclusively in Spanish during class time.

## Required Materials

1. Large 3 ring binder with dividers labeled: *Notas, Escritos, Escuchando, Pruebas, and Exámenes*
2. loose leaf paper in binder (for Notas and Escritos)
3. writing utensils (I recommend multiple colors) – NO RED INK on assignments except for grading
4. Textbook & Workbook (Avancemos 4)
5. AMSCO Third Year workbook
6. New Explorer Spanish/English Dictionary (same as in Sp I, II, & III)

## Grades

1. Tests 35% 2-3 tests each 9 weeks – includes grammar, speaking, writing, listening & verb charts
2. Writing Comps. 10% 200 word compositions due every other Friday – topics TBA
3. Memory Verses/Speaking Activities 15% verbal/written quizzes on assigned Fri./speaking activities on Mon.
4. Quizzes 20% vocab./grammar will be both planned and pop
5. Grammar/Vocab/Reading 10% graded on completion & amount of effort – MUST BE LEGIBLE!
6. Listening & Sp. TV/Internet 10% listening activities & 1 hour/week of outside Spanish Broadcast viewing with 10 new words acquired (due every Mon.)

## **RenWeb**

I will utilize RenWeb to post assignments, and grades. RenWeb will be updated weekly. Please use this excellent tool to stay up to date on your average, upcoming activities and assignments, and any assignments you may be missing.

## **Cheating Policy**

Any assignment that has the potential of being graded is expected to be completed independently. This includes tests, quizzes, homework assignments, classwork assignments, bell work, pop quizzes, test corrections, etc. I encourage students to collaborate and learn from one another by asking each other questions and explaining the problems to one another. Collaboration of that kind is an excellent learning experience for everyone involved. However, copying of any kind on any assignment will not be tolerated! It is cheating to copy someone else's work. It is also cheating to give a classmate your work to copy. In cases where a student is caught cheating I will follow the policy as outlined in the school handbook and the student will be disciplined accordingly (considered a Level 2 or 3 offense).

## **Make-up Work**

Grades missed due to excused absences should be made up within 2 weeks of the absence. All work not made up within this time frame will be recorded as a zero. It is the **student's** responsibility to keep up with the work they need to make up, and the **student** must schedule a time with Sra. Whitman to get it done within that time period.

## **Extra-Credit**

1. Students may earn up to 5 pts. back on their tests for completing test corrections (may not earn over 100% with corrections). This is voided if corrections are copied from another student's test.
2. Students may earn up to 10 bonus points on tests by memorizing extra memory verses in Spanish (5 pts) and English.(5 pts.) Limit 1 per test – can be said to Sra. anytime during the 9 weeks.
3. Students may earn 10 pts. on the quiz of their choice by completing a documented service hour where they actually used their Spanish (coat giveaways, babysitting for English classes, working with Spanish speaking churches, community events) – Limit 1 hour/quiz.

## **Extra Help**

I will be available before school beginning at 7:15, but please be sure I know you are coming so that I can plan to be in my room during that time. I will also be glad to recommend tutors through our Learning Enhancement Program and work with them so that the time you spend is of value.

## **Individual Rewards**

Students who earn a 99% or above on tests will receive some sort of incentive.

## Classroom Schedule

We will do our best to follow the following schedule:

### **Mondays** – Listening and speaking exercises and activities

Listening activities in class will vary based on what Sra. Whitman deems appropriate, but may come from radio/tv/internet broadcasts from Spanish speaking countries, *Nuevo Destinos*, sermons in Spanish, and recorded exercises from previous AP or National Spanish Exams. You are also required to keep (in the Escuchando section of your folder) the weekly recording of your outside viewing of Spanish language broadcasts.

Speaking activities may include conversational practice with fellow students, retelling of a sermon or story we listened to in class, discussing current events and personal experiences, and may even include turning in recordings of yourself answering directed response questions.

### **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays** – Grammar and vocabulary instruction and exercises and reading exercises.

We will be utilizing the Avancemos 4 Textbook and workbook and the AMSCO Third Year workbook, plus other supplemental materials. All homework should be graded/corrected in RED ink.

Reading activities will come from selected materials provided by the instructor. These materials may be articles on current events, cultural/historical reading passages, fictional stories, and Spanish literature and poetry and then students will then answer questions or write a review of the reading.

### **Fridays** – Writing assignments and Memory verse quizzes

In class every other week, we will write a 200 word composition to be turned in at the end of class. These compositions must be written on loose leaf lined paper skipping every other line. You will have 45 minutes of writing time with an additional 5 minutes for proofreading. All compositions must be corrected when returned. Proper corrections will improve your score. Failure to improve as the year goes (making the same mistakes over & over again) will be graded more strictly as we progress through the year. Beginning the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, you will not be allowed to use a dictionary. You will keep these compositions in the Escritos section of your notebook.

On the other Fridays, you will be reciting your cumulative memory verses to me. These will be graded per syllable for pronunciation and memorization. In the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, we will be working on memorizing the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm in its entirety adding a section each time. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, we will be memorizing Philippians 2:5-11 until we can recite the whole section of Scripture.

## Classroom Expectations

1. Be respectful. We respect and honor one another because we are God's children, made in His image. I have zero tolerance policy for a lack of respect for me, for other teachers, and for other students.
  - a. This means we say "Sí, Señora. No, Señora. Por favor. Gracias. De nada."
  - b. This means we do not make fun of anyone. We do not intentionally hurt their feelings. We are never rude.
  - c. This means we do not take what is not ours. We respect others' personal space.
  - d. This means we raise our hands when we have a comment or question, and we wait until we are recognized.
  - e. This means we do not talk when others are talking (especially Sra.). We do not interrupt one another.
2. Be in your assigned seat, with homework out when the bell rings.
3. Always bring required materials & assignments to class – you will **NOT** be allowed to go back to your locker.
4. Be cooperative, positive.
5. No gum – "Chicle en la basura, por favor."
6. No food in class except for during a fiesta. You may have water as long as it has a lid and does not cause a distraction.
7. Do not make me spend valuable class time on dress code infractions. Be dressed appropriately to learn.
8. Turn in work on time – assignments will **NOT** be accepted late except for excused absences.
9. Please do not turn in poor quality work. Write legibly. If I cannot read it, you will not get credit.
10. Do your own work. Zero tolerance for cheating. (Use of online translators are considered cheating.)
11. Stay in your seat the entire class period (trash may be disposed of at the end of class).
12. Stay on task.
13. If you finish your work early, you have the following options.....
  1. Review your vocabulary flashcards or grammar by yourself or quietly with one partner.
  2. Work on verb charts.

\*Infractions of any of these will result in the appropriate consequence as outlined in the Discipline Guide in the Academy's Handbook.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am convinced that this will be a great year of growing and learning. I feel blessed that God has called me to this opportunity to teach and minister to your students, and I covet your prayers in this endeavor. It is my goal to provide your student with an excellent education in a God focused environment.

Your student will learn A LOT of Spanish this year! By the end of four years, he/she should be able to communicate very well. They will be better equipped for work in the mission field at home and abroad, and will be more marketable in our global world. How much your student learns depends on how committed your student is to his/her studies.

I look forward to getting to know your families as we embark on a journey to enable these students to be better ambassadors for God in a world that so desperately needs Him.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or needs.

In Him,

Sra. Beth Whitman

966-6241

[beth.whitman@lipscomb.edu](mailto:beth.whitman@lipscomb.edu)

**Signature** – due as a homework assignment on Wednesday, August 14

Your signature below verifies that you have read the expectations for your student in Spanish IV. Thank you for your cooperation and time.

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Student name printed

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Parent signature