

Syllabus

Spanish I

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Greater Atlanta Christian School

Classroom expectations:

Each member of the class is expected to demonstrate respect for self, others and the physical environment of the school at all times. Additionally, each student should honor God and His commandments by loving himself. The fruits of these expectations will be respectful behavior to teachers and fellow classmates, polite and courteous behavior, expressions, and language at all times a spirit of love and cooperation: and a desire to act and to make decisions based on honor and integrity. To this end, the student is expected to guide his or her behavior by Biblical principles as well as by the guidelines and policies stated in the GACS Parent/Student Handbook and in the GACS Student Honor Code.

Failure to abide by these expectations will result in consequences ranging from verbal warnings, parent contact, conferences, detention and if necessary suspension from class. All of these consequences are intended to correct any disruptive or destructive behavior and will be determined by the classroom teacher or other GACS support staff in order to achieve the appropriate change in the student's behavior or attitude.

I expect (YOU) the student to:

1. come to class prepared
2. follow directions
3. participate in class activities

You may expect (ME) your teacher:

1. come to class prepared
2. be available for assistance
3. be consistent in grading and discipline
4. respect everyone in the class

Positive Recognition: Positive feedback, positive notes, privilege passes, phone calls home

Consequences for class disruption:

1st offense-warning, 2nd offense-stay after class, 3rd offense detention , a call to the parent, or both,4th offense a definite phone call home, detention and parent conference if needed,5th offense-immediate office referral. Severe cause: immediate directions to go to the office.

Abiding by these expectations will result in good classroom relationships, more time for instruction and practice, more opportunity for improvement of skills, and greater feelings of accomplishment and success.

Absences: School policy on make-up work for absences. Tests will be made up on the scheduled days. YOU are responsible to see that you get make-up work done according to the handbook. When you miss a group activity, you will be expected to make up the points with an alternate assignment so that you will not miss mastery of a concept that we have studied. The key to not having to make up a group assignment or excused assignment is by being in attendance as much as possible! Make-up work is for excused absences and pre-planned absences only. I do not take late work for any other reason. If you forget an assignment at home, bring it the next day with a note from your parent or guardian that you did the assignment on the day it was assigned for full credit.

Academic Expectations:

Welcome to the first year of Spanish I. During the course of the year, we will be using the Buen Viaje,Level I curriculum from Glencoe. Our goal will be to speak, write, and understand the Spanish language using vocabulary at the beginning level.Buen Viaje, Level I contains a wide variety of useful vocabulary, sections on grammar, abundant opportunities for conversational and writing practice, as well as cultural and interdisciplinary connections. Videos and tapes for both listening and speaking will accompany each chapter lesson. Students will also have the opportunity for further drill or practice as needed at home by going online to the Glencoe Spanish Web site. Additionally, the textbook contains a handbook that has valuable study tips and reference materials.

Please remember :YOUR GRADE IN THIS CLASS WILL BE FIGURED INTO YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GPA.

Learning a language is both a challenging and rewarding process. This year we will use audiocassettes, language lab, videos, and activities to make learning the language fun. However, the key to your success is YOUR participation. Please come to Spanish class prepared and focused on learning Spanish.

Each student is encouraged to set high goals for language learning. These goals can best be achieved by:

1. Consistent class attendance Absence from class is a main contributor to academic struggles in a foreign language. Students may be able to make up a missed assignment but the learning that takes place during classroom interaction cannot be made up.
2. Active class participation Students can be active participators by choosing a seat in the classroom where they can maintain their focus; volunteering to read aloud or otherwise participate in classroom activities; being on task during note taking activities; and displaying interest and initiative in the classroom activities.
3. Daily review and study learning a foreign language requires daily study. Retention of information such as vocabulary or verb conjugations requires study in small "doses" over several days. Students should also look for opportunities to listen to, read, and speak the Spanish language on a daily basis.
4. Keeping a class notebook provides a complete record of the student's work as well as a valuable source of review materials. These notebooks will be evaluated at the end of each six-week period. A point system will be used to reward or penalize the keeping of this notebook.

Grades:

Grades are cumulative throughout the semester. Assessment of a student's work will take many forms, including (but not limited to) tests, quizzes, oral presentations, homework, reports, and special projects. A wide range of evaluative methods will be used in order to achieve a fair and balanced assessment of each student's work. Expectations, point values, and due dates for each assignment will be clearly explained to the students when the assignment is given.

Students: You are expected to complete homework assignments on time, as daily practice is essential to language learning.

Homework is an important part of your grade. I do not give busy work! To study a foreign language, you should be prepared to devote at least 20 minutes every day.

Late work: I do not accept late work unless the student (YOU) have an excused absence or have an excused pre-planned absence

Grading will be based on a point system of total accumulated points.

Major tests: 50-100 points

Homework/daily grades: 10-20 points

Projects, if assigned: 50-200 points

Quizzes: 10-30 points

Help Sessions:

Tuesday mornings at 7:30 A.M. Students should communicate in advance with the teacher in advance if they plan to attend.

Contact: Please feel free to contact me at school or call me at home 770-645-8665 or by e-mail alicejo@gacs.pvt.k12.ga.us with any questions from either parent or student.

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