WELCOME TO SPANISH I: 2016 - 2017

SYLLABUS

Instructor: Mrs. Brittany Baxter

Subjects taught: Spanish I, Spanish II, Spanish III & AP Spanish

Room #: 528 (East Wing)

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CLASSES I NEED BEFORE THIS ONE:None if in Spanish 1/Spanish 1A if in Spanish 1B

CLASS DESCRIPTION

Welcome to Spanish I. Spanish I is a beginner introductory high school Spanish course. The course is about learning the foundations of the vocabulary, grammar, and sentence formation. The students will receive all the necessary tools in order to advance into high level courses if they wish. Spanish I focuses on cultural aspects of Spanish speaking countries where the students will have to the opportunity to study geography, history, and common customs and practices of these Spanish speaking countries. The students will be listening, speaking, reading, writing, and using real life practices to further their Spanish speaking foundation.

OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS

Each unit is filled with student objectives. These objectives are the goals of each unit. The students will have the opportunity to self-monitor, and to rate their mastery level of each objective. After the rating of their mastery level, I will intervene with other activities and resources that will allow the student to master the materials if they feel as if they haven’t yet.

MATERIALS

We will rarely be using the Spanish textbook in this class. When using the book, it will remain in the classroom due to the fact that we will sporadically use the resources from the book but the students will not need the book at home at any time. The students are welcome to check out the books if they happen to feel like they are falling behind and need to catch up. Below is a list of materials the students will need for Spanish I:

* Loose Leaf Paper
* Highlighter
* Pencils or Pens
* At least ONE folder to store hand-outs
* (1) composition notebook
* Composition Notebook (used just for Spanish class)
* Spanish to English Dictionary (recommended but not mandatory).

\*\*\*PLEASE HAVE THESE SUPPLIES BY MONDAY, AUGUST 15th, 2016

CLASSROOM RULES:

In order to have a comfortable classroom climate where learning is the main goal, I do have class rules I expect the students to follow. Disobeying the rules will follow in direct consequences to the rules broken. Please take a look at the following rules I have in the classroom:

1. Be prepared with homework and all materials.
2. Be respectful and kind to yourself and others.
3. Be on time and in your seat when the bell rings.
4. Be alert, aware, and attentive.
5. Follow all classroom procedures.

\*\*\*In addition, expect all school rules to be enforced & NO electronic devices in class unless given permission\*\*\*

HOMEWORK

Students will receive homework & class assignments on almost always daily. Homework assignments need to be completed FULLY at the beginning of class ready to be graded. Students are to get out their homework along with getting out their bell ringer. Please lay the homework on your desk and wait for further instructions on grading. I advise students to complete homework in SWS if given available time.

LATE/MAKE-UP WORK

If homework is not completed, students have ONE DAY to turn in late work. Students can only receive ½ credit, but it is better than receiving a zero. Students DO NOT need to bring me their late homework but lay it on their desk and have it checked with the current day’s homework. I will NOT remind students about their late work. It is on you to remember and get your grade.

QUIZZES/TESTS

Students will be given a test at the end of every unit. If by chance, the student has missed the test due to an excused or unexcused absence they may make up the test before school, after school, SWS, or in ESS. Students need to make arrangements for their make-up. There will be deadlines that are set through-out the year where students must make up their exams before the set dates. This is due to the fact that many students tend to wait until the end of the year to make up an exam that occurred at the beginning of the year. Tests and quizzes will not always be in a traditional test-taking format but rather presentations, oral interview, etc. Also, not all tests will be available for a universal re-take if the grade is not sufficient to the student. Students do not need to assume they will always have a 2nd opportunity to retake a test and receive a higher grade.

FINAL EXAM

A final exam will be given at the end of each trimester. This will include information that was covered through-out the course such as grammar, vocabulary, culture, reading, and listening. A review will be given to go over the material on the test. The final exam will count for 20% of the grade.

PARTICIPATION

Students have to participate everyday in order to receive a sufficient grade in the participation portion of the grading scale. This includes:

-Attempting to answer questions in class.

-Showing an active status of learning and attempting to learn in class.

-Participating in group activities.

-The student is awake, alert, and involved in the activity.

-Taking notes when necessary and completing class work.

-Students are displaying good behavior and not goofing off. On-task is key!

TARDIES/STARTING CLASS

Student are required to be inside the room (both feet) when the bell rings. If I am watching you walk down the hall to class AFTER the bell has rang, you are considered tardy. I will immediately shut the door when the bell rings. Any student who is late has to fill out a Tardy Slip on the outside door before entering into the room. Have your slip ready to be able to enter & drop it into the basket of the entry table. Also, students are required to be in their ASSIGNED seats by the time I reach my desk after the bell rings. Being out of your seat or being in someone else’s seat by the time I return to my desk to take attendance will result in a loss of participation, and even referral if happened habitually.

DISMISSING FROM CLASS

Students are not allowed to gather at the door or pack up early. Students are not allowed to get out of their seats until I dismiss the class as a whole. If students are seen out of their seats or packing up early, all students will have to remain in class for an additional seconds after the bell rings. If habitual students are continually causing this problem this will be dealt with individually.

ABSENT:

While students are doing their bell-ringer, this is the opportunity to ask me about missed work. I will hold onto worksheets or materials given in class for students if they are out. When students miss, they need to copy the notes from another classmate or friend. It is the student’s responsibility to catch up on any missed work. Student’s will be given time that matches the school absence policy to complete any work that is out. If a student needs a certain worksheet or activity, they may put their name on the “Work Board” and list the document they need, I will have it ready for them in class.

DISCIPLINE PLAN

Students are expected to obey the classroom and school rules in order to insure safety, order, and a comfortable classroom environment. If a student chooses not to obey the rules, there will be consequences. These consequences will vary due to the degree of disobedience. Possible examples are A) Phone Call Home to Parents B) In class detention C) Lunch Detentions D) Extra work if the student is suffering with low grade E) Office Referral

CELL PHONES/ELECTRONICS:

It is a school rule that cell phones and other electronic devices cannot be used in the classroom unless the teacher gives permission and it is used for instructional purposes only. They are to remain out of site and turned off during class. If I see them, the 1st time the students’ phone will be taken, and be handed back at the end of class. The 2nd time, the students’ phone will be taken & held onto until the end of the day. The 3rd time will result in taking the phone and turning it into the office along with a parent phone call. If the student refuses to hand over their cell phone, this will be an automatic referral followed by further consequences.

EVALUATION

Grades are based on homework, class work, tests/quizzes, projects, and participation.

The parent will be notified if a child’s grade drops to a D. I send home failing letters, and make frequent parent phone calls. Also, email is a great way to get immediate feedback. Students are encouraged to discuss any concerns or questions about their grade before or after school. If there is any available time at the end of the class, students will be given their updated grades & may ask questions.

GRADING SCALE:

Students will be graded upon a points system. Every assignment is worth a certain amount of points. Below are the frequency & rank of the importance of the points:

Participation………………………………..Highest Points Given in Class as well as Daily Grades

Class work/Homework………………….....Next to Highest Points Given in Class

Tests & Quizzes…………………………....Given Sporadically through-out the Unit

Final Exam…………………………. …......One time 20% of grade at the End of Trimester

A: 100 – 90% B: 89 – 80% C: 79 – 70% D: 69 – 65% F: 64% or below

BATHROOM/OUT OF ROOM PASSES

Students are given 4 out of room passes per 12 weeks. It is very important that students respect and understand this rule. The student’s out of room visits will be kept on record in their agenda & on a confidential class roster (this is for my personal records if ever needed). If the student has a medical issue, please bring in a doctor’s note that will be kept on file. This will allow the student to visit the bathroom when needed. The passes you receive will include trips to the bathroom, locker, last class because you forgot something, a drink of water, etc. If you have to leave the room…you will need a pass. If you have already used all your passes, you will not be allowed to go SO SAVE THEM FOR EMERGENCIES. If the student is called out by the office, administrator, or another teacher, this does NOT count as using a pass. Also, DO NOT use my class as your errand running/daily bathroom trip! I will not permit you to go.

FOOD & DRINK

Students may bring in food and drink as long as it is simple & always finds its way in the trash at the end. For example, bringing in a full meal from McDonalds everyday would be a distraction as well as messy. Also, I have seen that larger meals distract the student from being able to do their work. I often give food and drink as rewards to the classroom. I am not bothered by drinks in the classroom as long as I can tell exactly what the drink is, and that the student is not drinking a substance that is illegal or forbidden on school grounds. Allowing food and drink is a privilege and is rewarded at the beginning of the trimester. If issues arise, this privilege can be taken away from a whole class or individually.

CHEATING POLICY

If a student is caught cheating or helping another student cheat, both parties will be given a zero for that assignment. Each student will be turned into the principal’s office and parents will be notified. Cheating means giving answers, copying papers, using online translators without permission, writing down information for cheating purposes later on, talking during assessments, or using technology.

PLEASE DETATCH CONTRACT FORM/SYLLABUS AGREEMENT SYLLABUS

Mrs. Baxter – Spanish: 2016 - 2017

Contact Form and Syllabus Agreement

I have read and understand the rules, procedures, and information regarding Spanish Class. I, the student, am going to contribute and follow all procedures and rules. I understand Mrs. Baxter holds high expectations for my performance in the class and I plan to try my hardest and perform to the best of my ability. I understand there are consequences to the rules broken in her class, and will try my hardest to comply with all the rules and procedures of the class and classroom.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_