

Michael E. DeBakey High School for Health Professions
LOTE Department
Laurie León
LLEON1@houstonisd.org
Room 233 / Conference period: B4 (by appointment only)
AP Spanish Syllabus Fall 2021 & Spring 2022

COURSE OVERVIEW *

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course is a rigorous course taught **exclusively in Spanish** that requires students to improve their proficiency across the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational). The course focuses on the integration of authentic resources including online print, audio, and audiovisual resources, as well as traditional print resources that include literature, essays, and magazine and newspaper articles with the goal of providing a rich, diverse learning experience.

The AP Spanish course provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to earn college credit and/or advanced placement as most importantly to achieve advanced fluency in Spanish, which will result in great advantages not only academically, but professionally in the increasingly competitive job market. By taking an AP course, students also demonstrate to college admission officers their abilities to perform successfully on rigorous college courses.

The AP Spanish course concludes with a college-level assessment (**on May 11, 2021, 8 AM Local**). Most four-year colleges and universities in the United States and universities in 60 countries recognize AP in the admission process and grant students credit placement or both based on successful AP Exam scores (visit www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy to view AP credit and placement policies at more than 1,000 colleges and universities). Scoring a 3 or higher on an AP Spanish Exam means more than just the successful completion of a course; it is a gateway to success in college.

IMPORTANT: The AP Spanish course **is not intended to focus on teaching grammar concepts**. Students enrolled in the AP Spanish course are expected to show mastery of concepts covered in levels 1, 2 and 3.

Organization

Lessons are designed with a variety of interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational activities revolving around the following thematic units and their recommended contexts:

AP Thematic Units

Thematic Unit 1: El individuo y su identidad

Theme: Personal and Public Identities / Las identidades personales y públicas

Contexts Covered:

- Alienation and Assimilation / La enajenación y la asimilación
- Heroes and Historical Figures / Los héroes y los personajes históricos
- National and Ethnic Identities / La identidad nacional y la identidad étnica
- Personal Beliefs / Las creencias personales
- Self-Image / La autoestima

Thematic Unit 2: Los efectos de la tecnología

Theme: Science and Technology / La ciencia y la tecnología

Contexts Included:

- Access to Technology / El acceso a la tecnología
- Effects of Technology on Self and Society / Los efectos de la tecnología en el individuo y en la sociedad
- Health Care and Medicine / El cuidado de la salud y la medicina
- Innovations / Las innovaciones tecnológicas
- Natural Phenomena / Los fenómenos naturales

- Science and Ethics / La ciencia y la ética

Thematic Unit Three: El valor de la familia y la comunidad

Theme: Families and Communities / Las familias y las Comunidades

Contexts Included:

- Customs and Values / Las tradiciones y los valores
- Education Communities / Las comunidades educativas
- Family Structure / La estructura de la familia
- Global Citizenship / La ciudadanía global
- Human Geography / La geografía humana
- Social Networking / Las redes sociales

Thematic Unit 4: Global Challenges / Los desafíos mundiales

Contexts:

- Economic Issues / Los temas económicos
- Environmental Issues / Los temas del medio ambiente
- Philosophical Thought and Religion / El pensamiento filosófico y la religión
- Population and Demographics / La población y la demografía
- Social Welfare / El bienestar social
- Social Conscience / La conciencia social

Thematic Unit 5: Contemporary Life / La vida contemporánea

Contexts:

- Education and Careers / La educación y las carreras profesionales
- Entertainment / El entretenimiento y la diversión
- Travel and Leisure / Los viajes y el ocio
- Lifestyles / Los estilos de vida
- Relationships / Las relaciones personales
- Social Customs and Values / Las tradiciones y los valores sociales
- Volunteerism / El trabajo voluntario

Thematic Unit 6: Beauty and Aesthetics / La belleza y la estética

Contexts:

- Architecture / La arquitectura
- Defining Beauty / Definiciones de la belleza
- Defining Creativity / Definiciones de la creatividad
- Fashion and Design / La moda y el diseño
- Language and Literature / El lenguaje y la literatura
- Visual and Performing Arts / Las artes visuales y escénicas

*Source: The College Board. <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com>

Resources

- <https://apclassroom.collegeboard.org/31/home>
- Handouts and worksheets provided by the teacher throughout the year.
- The HUB will be the main platform where students and parents can have access to Spanish class resources, assignments, information about deadlines and other announcements.
- OneNote -digital notebook

Items needed in every class

- HISD Laptop
- Headsets
- Class binder
- Lined paper
- Pencil/pen and paper to take notes (optional)

Grading Plan

Classwork / Homework/ Class participation 60 %
Quizzes / Tests / Projects 40 %

- The teacher will submit grades every week on the student's gradebook in [HISD Connect by PowerSchool](#). This information is available 24/7. Students and parents are encouraged to monitor grades at least once a week and notify the teacher of any errors if found.
- Students will ask questions about their assignments DURING school hours (preferably during the class period) to make sure the teacher can assist them before an assignment's deadline.
- Questions asked during non-school hours will likely be answered on the next school day.
- Students MUST report any problem in completing an assignment **before the deadline**; otherwise the assignment will be considered late.
- Students will contact the teacher at LLEON1@houstonisd.org.

Late Work Policy and Make-Up Policy

- A student is expected to complete any assignment/assessment by the due date.
- Late assignments/assessment are graded based on a scale of 70 points unless due to an excused absence.
- A missed assignment or assessment must be completed within three school days; otherwise, the grade will be zero.
- A student who have been unable to complete assignments/assessments due to an excused absence (i.e.: illness or other special circumstances as determined by DeBaKey HSHP policy) should complete them within three school days counted **from the day the student has returned to school**. After three school days, the grade will be zero.
- If absent, a student is responsible to find out what work needs to be completed by checking the Spanish class page on the HUB.

Cheating Policy

- Copying work from another student; giving your work to another student to copy, or presenting someone else's work as your own constitutes cheating and it will have consequences according to the [DeBaKey HSHP Student Code of Conduct](#).

Re-Take Policy

- If a student receives a failing grade on a test, he/she may request a re-take. This applies to tests only; it does not to quizzes or projects.
- Re-takes are NOT allowed on common assessments or final exams.
- The re-take grade will be the average of the two scores, the original and the re-take, unless the average is higher than a 70. If the average is higher than a 70, the grade defaults to a 70. The highest grade a student can receive on the retake test is a 70%.
- The re-take must be completed **within 5 school days** after receiving the first graded test.
- Re-take opportunities must be scheduled outside of regular class time.

Tutorials (by appointment)

- During Homeroom (11:45 a. m. – 12:15 p. m.)
- Wednesdays afternoon (3:30 p. m. - 4:30 p. m.)
- Schedule your tutorial in person or by email at LLEON1@houstonisd.org at least **24 hours in advance**.

CLASSROOM RULES

1. **Before entering the classroom:** Make sure you are wearing your protective mask properly (fitted to the face; completely covering your mouth and nose). Follow current HISD health protocols.
2. Students not following these HISD health guidelines will not be allowed to enter or stay in the classroom.
3. Be on time.
4. Be prepared.
5. Follow your teacher's instructions.
6. Ask for help if you are having difficulties.
7. Keep your area clean. Refrain from bringing food or drinks to class.
8. Be respectful.
9. Be honest.
10. Take care of your restroom /water needs during passing time. Any medical condition that causes a student to go to the restroom frequently should be reported to the school nurse to request special accommodations if applicable.
11. Refrain from using electronic devices (cell phones, cameras, music players, tablets, etc.) unless authorized by your teacher. Unauthorized devices will be taken up and turned in to the administration according to the DHSHP policy.
12. Always follow the DeBakey HSHP Student Code of Conduct.

NOTE TO PARENTS – PLEASE READ

How to monitor your child's progress in the Spanish course:

There is no need to wait until you receive a progress report or report card by mail to learn about your child's progress. You can obtain a detailed report on your child's grades and attendance at any time by accessing [HISD Connect by PowerSchool](#) (please note that, per HISD policy, teachers are not allowed to send progress reports electronically).

Monitor your child's grades at least once a week, and communicate any concerns via email to LLEON1@houstonisd.org

Learn your child's log in information on the HUB, to have access to lesson plans and announcements for my class.

Report any condition temporary or permanent that interferes with your child's performance or attendance to school administrators and teachers.

Verify that your contact information in [HISD Connect by PowerSchool](#) is current and accurate to receive communications from our school.

A successful learning journey can only be possible with the active participation of teachers, students and parents or guardians.

I look forward to working with you on your child's academic journey.

Best

Ms. Leon

PARENT - STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

PERIOD _____

STUDENT NAME: _____

STUDENT ID:

By signing this paper, you are indicating that you have read, understood, and kept a copy of:

- (1) Ms. Leon's Spanish class syllabus
- (2) Classroom rules
- (3) Grading plan.

In the event of any change to any of the items mentioned above, Ms. Leon will notify parents/guardians in writing.

_____	_____	_____
Student name (print).	Student signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Parent or Guardian name (print).	Parent or Guardian signature	Date
Parent or guardian 's email address: _____		
Parent or guardian's phone number: _____		

This paper should be signed and returned to Ms. Leon on:

Monday, August 30th, 2020 (A classes)

Tuesday, August 31st, 2021 (B classes)