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Spanish 1 Course Syllabus 2020-21

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Room: 3216

Office Hours: Monday 3:25 to 4:10 & Tues-Fri 1:50-2:35

Join TEAMS link for N. Velarde ALL Classes during office hours to reach Ms. Velarde

Course Content

This semester students will be introduced to Spanish and focus on the four key areas of foreign languages study: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The primary purpose is to prepare students to be well rounded global citizens who can communicate effectively in a language other than English and are aware of cultural differences that influence our daily lives at home and abroad. In this course, students will learn basic sentence structure, vocabulary and have an opportunity to read, speak and write in Spanish.

Text-Resources Available

The textbook is found in the HUB under Digital Resources:

Avancemos Level 1 (look for the tile under LOTE/World Languages)

Apex—Has tutorials available for extra support found in the same area

Quizlet—search on your own however, links will be provided as we move through the course

About the Teacher

When people ask me “What are you?” they are usually referring to my ethnicity. I always say “I’m a Texan!”. I was born and partially raised in Texas on the border of Mexico until as a fourth grader I moved to Tampico, Mexico where I learned Spanish as a second language. Returning to the United States I completed my high school degree and continued on to Trinity University where I graduated with a BA in Foreign Languages and Sociology. I studied Spanish Literature for one semester in Colima Mexico and one semester in Grenoble, France for French. I received a Masters in Education with certification in Counseling from Our Lady of the Lake in San Antonio. Shortly after, I relocated for fifteen years to Mexico City where I raised my family. In 2001, I returned to the United States to teach middle school for three years and to Waltrip to teach for 16 years. We never know where life will take us, but being fluent in another language has always been a benefit in my life.

Ongoing Objectives

- By the end of this course, the student will have mastered the basic skills of greeting one another and writing simple present tense sentences.
- He/she will be able to describe in basic form likes and dislikes, people and places, the weather, participating in activities and to describe friends and family in the target language.
- The student will explore cultures different from their own , ie foods, clothes, traditions/ holidays and music

Portfolio

You are required to keep a handwritten composition notebook of your notes and vocabulary. It will be submitted once a grading cycle and should be present during every class whether the class is virtual or I person to take notes.

Grading Scale

Grades are calculated as follows: Classwork 50 %, Quizzes 30%, Participation 20%

Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation are required. It is difficult to learn the content if you are not present in the class. Your class participation and attendance can be a deciding factor if your class average straddles two grades. It is also too easy to fall behind if you miss a lesson since each lesson builds the foundation for the next lesson. You must see me *before* the end of a cycle to make up work. All assignments have firm deadlines built into the HUB for completion.

Daily Required Materials

Laptop Composition Notebook (See me if you need help acquiring one) Pen or Pencil
Occasionally crayons or map pencils to enhance work and notes, but not required

Unit Overviews

Unit One—Cycle One

This unit explores the influence of language and culture on identity. Students will learn to greet others in culturally appropriate ways. Students will learn the correct pronunciation of the letters and the sounds they make in the target language. They will also familiarize themselves with the benefit of cognates (words that look, sound and mean the same in two or more languages). Students will be able to introduce themselves and others, ask basic personal information. They will be able to function in the classroom making requests and responding appropriately.

Unit Two—Cycle Two

Students will learn how to discuss and compare their family members. They will explore different holidays, birthdays and celebrations unique to the countries of Latin America.

Unit Three—Cycle Three

Student will learn about fashion, art and shopping in basic terms. They will discuss purchases as well as money conversion, styles and sizes. They will be able to express likes and dislikes using numbers, colors and question words.

Unit Four—Cycle 4

Students will learn to express school and daily life including technology in the verbal exchanges. They will be able to express likes and dislikes regarding classes, school activities and compare cultural differences in the target language countries.

Unit Five—Cycle 5

Students will be able to express daily life in basic terms by describing their houses, health and express their personal opinions in the target language.

Unit Six—Cycle 6

Student will be able to describe foods using their basic vocabulary. They will be able to describe their likes and dislikes using the correct verbs in the Present tense, ordering as if in a restaurant.