



Phone: 713-688-1361

Website: [www.houstonisd.org/waltrip](http://www.houstonisd.org/waltrip)

## Spanish Native Speakers Course Syllabus 2022-23

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**Instructor:** L. Mera

**Email:** [lmera@houstonisd.org](mailto:lmera@houstonisd.org) **Room:** 3211

**Tutorial Hours:** Monday -Fri (7:35am-8:05 am)

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**Bienvenidos!** Parents and students, I look forward to a wonderful year of learning together. Please read thoroughly and keep for reference. Please sign the "Syllabus Contract" sheet and return to me as soon as possible.

Parents are encouraged to contact me regarding any questions or concerns regarding your child in my class. You can reach me at my email address, or you can leave a message at 713-688-1361 Ext #015276. I will do my best to return emails and/or phone calls within 48 hours.

### Course Content

**The course content is organized into units of study that take a chronological approach to the study of the literary works. These units comprise the content that colleges and universities typically expect students to master to qualify for college credit and/or placement.**

### Course Content

This semester students will effectively participate in the domains of written composition, oral expression, reading comprehension, grammar in context, and vocabulary development.

### Text

The textbooks for the course are as follows:

- Manual de Gramática y ortografía
- *Sendas literarias*

### About the Teacher

I was born and raised in Chiclayo Perú. After graduating from Peruvian Air Force University in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in Engineering System I came to Houston in 1998, gaining teacher certification at the University of Saint Thomas and master Degree at Salamanca University in Spain.

### **Ongoing Objectives**

- By the end of this course, the student will have mastered the reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills.

### **Grading Scale**

Grades are calculated as follow:

Classwork 50%  
Quizzes, Tests, and Projects 30%  
Participation 20%

### **Attendance and Participation**

Attendance and participation are required; it is difficult to learn the content if you are not present in class. Your class participation and attendance can be a deciding factor if your class average straddles two grades. Be sure to see me about any missed work if you are absent. All assignments have firm deadlines built into the HUB for completion.

### **Daily Required Materials**

1. laptop
2. pen
3. paper

## **COURSE OVERVIEW**

### ***Unit 1: The Influence of Language and Culture on Identity***

Students will learn to greet others and make basic conversation in culturally appropriate ways based on context and mode of communication (in person, by phone, text, or online). They will discuss classroom activities, daily schedule, target language countries, and like or dislikes. They will be able to communicate with the teacher and peers in the classroom, virtual context, and outside the classroom using the target language. Communication will take place in the target language 90% of the classroom time.

Note: Students will learn at the minimum the concepts indicated in this document with more exposure to real-life situation (context) and possibly in more detail. Ensure that activities and assessments are age compatible, reflecting students' level of maturity. In this course, students are expected to practice real-life situations in more depth and be more culturally involved than their counterparts in regular courses.

### **Unit 2: Families in Different Societies**

Students will discuss and compare their family structure with families in the target language countries. Learners will be able to describe themselves and their family members including extended family members. They will be able to describe their physical, emotional, personality traits and professions in more details.

### **Unit 3: Influences of Beauty and Art**

Students will learn to communicate in the target language when going shopping. They will be equipped with the skills to purchase and discuss clothing. Ask for sizes, styles, colors, and understand prices. Students will be able to discuss fashion in different target language countries. Also, they will be exposed to relevant art forms such as movies, paintings, music, books, and fashion in the target language.

### **Unit 4: How science and Technology influence Our Life**

**Students will connect technology to their daily activities and discuss the impact of social media and networks on daily life. They can use technology in formal and informal settings. They will discuss the impact of technological innovations and the future of technology with simple elaboration.**

### **Unit 5: Factors that Impact the Quality of Life**

**Students will discuss the factors that affect the quality of life, such as housing, eating habits, health, poverty and travel.**

### **Unit 6: Environmental, Political, and Social Challenge**

**Students will learn to discuss and compare the factors that constitute environmental, political and social challenges such as various means of transportation, global warming, recycling and waste between the U.S. and the target language country.**

The student is expected to:

® LOTE II.1(A) Ask and respond to questions about everyday life with simple elaboration in spoken and written conversation.

® LOTE III.1(A) Ask and respond to questions about and beyond the scope of everyday life with simple elaboration in spoken and written conversation.

® LOTE II.1(B) Express and exchange personal opinions or preferences with simple supporting statements in spoken and written conversation.

® LOTE III.1(B) Express and exchange personal opinions, preferences and recommendations with supporting statements in spoken and written conversation.

® LOTE II.1(D) Articulate requests, offer alternatives, and develop plans with simple supporting statements in spoken and written conversation.

® LOTE III.1(D) Articulate requests, offer suggestions, and develop plans with supporting statements in spoken and written conversation.

® LOTE II.1(E) Interact and react in spoken conversation using culturally appropriate expressions, register, and gestures.

® LOTE III.1(E) Interact and react in spoken conversation using culturally appropriate expressions, register, and gestures.

® LOTE II.1(F) Interact and react in writing using culturally appropriate expressions, register, and style.

® LOTE III.1(F) Interact and react in writing using culturally appropriate expressions, register, and style.

**Strand (2) Interpretive Communication: Reading and Listening. The student comprehends simple connected statements from culturally authentic print, digital, audio, and audiovisual materials as appropriate within contextualized situations and sources. The student uses the interpretive mode in communication with appropriate and applicable grammatical structures and processes at the specified proficiency levels.**

**The student is expected to:**

**® LOTE II.2(A) Demonstrate an understanding of culturally authentic print, digital, audio, and audiovisual materials in everyday contexts.**

**® LOTE III.2(A) Demonstrate an understanding of culturally authentic print, digital, audio, and audiovisual materials in a variety of contexts.**

**® LOTE II.2(B) Identify the main idea, theme, and supporting details from fiction and nonfiction texts and audio and audiovisual materials.**

**® LOTE III.2(B) Paraphrase the main idea, theme, and supporting details from fiction and nonfiction texts and audio and audiovisual materials.**

**® LOTE II.2(C) Infer meaning of unfamiliar words or phrases in highly contextualized texts, audio, and audiovisual materials.**

**® LOTE III.2(C) Infer meaning of unfamiliar words or phrases in contextualized texts, audio, and audiovisual materials.**

**® LOTE II.2(D) Identify cultural practices from authentic print, digital, audio, and audiovisual materials.**

**® LOTE III.2(D) Compare and contrast cultural practices from authentic print, digital, audio, and audiovisual materials.**

#### **GRADING POLICIES:**

-Quizzes will be given bi-weekly. Almost all quizzes will be announced. They will often consist of vocabulary, reading assignments or any work covered in class.

-NO LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED! The only acceptable excuse is an excused absence from the office. Homework must be TURNED IN before the class period begins. There is no partial credit offered so make sure it is done on time.

-Classwork will be graded based on the following: notes taken in class, class participation and work assigned in class. Classwork must be completed upon the ending of the period to receive credit.

-Homework and Quizzes will be posted on Power Teacher Pro website.

-Projects and Tests will be posted on the board as well as on my website. It is the student responsibility to make a note of them.

-Extra Credit will be offered according to student effort, good behavior, and class participation.

- MAKE-UP WORK: When a student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to make arrangements with me to complete the work. Students have the number of days absent plus one class day to complete the work. The student must make up missed tests, quizzes, listening and speaking activities during my tutorials since these are often a disruption to the class in progress. Please make an appointment with me.

\*\*\* If a test or project is assigned and material covered before the absence, then the test or project is due on the day the student returns.

-TO IMPROVE YOUR TEST or PROJECT GRADES= RE-ASSESS: FULL Credit!

- 1) Attend a minimum of 1 Tutorial with Mr. Mera.
- 2) Complete all Missing Formative and Summative Assignments in person at Tutorials that Mrs. Mera requires of you to demonstrate that additional learning has taken place.
- 3) Re-Assessments must be completed within 10 days of the end of the Unit being tested. Re-assessment will cover the same material- but may be in a different format to demonstrate mastery.

-PROGRESS REPORTS:

Dear Parent/Guardian- Your student will receive his/her average grade every four weeks throughout the year...so please ask about it and stay informed of your teenager's progress! Please see Parental Portal Genesis on the OHS website for student grades and missing assignments. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or suggestions for your student's Spanish class learning experience. We all want this class to be a positive and successful experience for your student.

## 1. RESOURCES

Websites for Grammar Practice: cplosangeles

## 1. CLASSROOM RULES

- The goal is 100% use of Spanish.

### RESPECT

- All students must respect one another. Absolutely no words or actions that are unkind will be tolerated.
- Be silent and listen when someone else is speaking and raise your hand when you want to speak. You must also respect our learning environment and stay on task.
- Treat the classroom with respect. Sticking gum under desks, writing in class textbooks or any other form of disrespect will result in disciplinary action.

### BE READY

- Make sure to bring all materials to class and be ready to begin when the bell rings. The door will be locked at that moment and you will need to get a late pass to be able to come in. All homework must be finished and completed before the bell to receive credit.
- Absolutely no cheating will be tolerated! You must be ready and prepared for every test, quiz and/or assignment. If any cheating occurs the student will receive an automatic zero on the assignment and parents will be contacted immediately along with disciplinary action (see below).

- All policies in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity Policy will be followed.

\*\*\*Cell phones, iPods, and other distractions must be turned off and not used in this classroom unless permission is given by Mrs. Mera.

\*\*\*If caught cheating (or with phone) during a TEST- immediate referral to AP and "Academic Dishonesty" on your permanent record! Be smart! Don't mess up your chances for honors and scholarships due to dishonesty!

State law requires attendance 90% of class time. If a student fails to attend the required number of classes, credit cannot be given without making up time missed and approval from the Attendance Committee. One of the easiest things you can do to obtain your goal of graduation is to COME TO CLASS EVERY SCHOOL DAY!

Note to Parents/Guardians:

I am looking forward to working with your child. I strongly encourage parent/teacher conferences. If needed, a conference may be set through the counselor's office. The more you know about your child's school performance, achievement, and behavior, the more we will be able to assist him/her to obtain his/her achievement and success. Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions about this class. I wish you and your child much happiness and success this school year! Thanks.

¡Saludos! Estoy contento de poder trabajar con su hijo/hija. Para asegurarnos de que sea exitoso y alcance todos los objetivos propuestos en esta clase. Creo fielmente que usted y yo debemos trabajar juntos. Le invito a pasar por mi salón de clase para poderle conocer y así juntos afianzar esfuerzos. También, se puede comunicar conmigo vía correo electrónico o por teléfono. De necesitar una cita o hablar conmigo llame a la oficina y gustosamente nos pondremos de acuerdo para tener una conferencia. Estaré dando tutorías algunas mañanas, y les pido que anime a su hijo/hija a aprovechar esta oportunidad. Muchas Gracias.

AP Spanish  
Prof. Mera

Please print this page, sign and return to Mr. Mera.  
This signed form is due by Friday September 23th, 2022 and it will be counted as a homework grade.

I have read Prof. Mera Syllabus posted on the class website and the rules/procedures have been explained to me in class. I realize and understand my responsibilities and the class procedures listed. I also realize that no late homework will be accepted, all my electronic devices must be turned off and away from me, and there is no use of electronic devices without permission, or the device will be sent to the office.

I understand that it is my responsibility to turn in my work on time, check my grades every week, and be aware of any missing grade.  
I accept responsibility for my work and actions in the classroom and will not revert to excuses. I will work hard and strive for excellence at all times! I know that if I want to learn Spanish, I will need to study, work hard, participate in class, and have fun learning!

Signing as a parent/guardian, I am aware that I can see all of my child's grades online at any time on School Website and that directions for using the online grade book are available on Waltrip website. I am also aware that my child is not able to use electronic devices in class and upon use, they will be confiscated and only I am permitted to pick up the electronic device(s) at the end of the school day.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name (Parent) \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name (Student) \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!!!

Parent Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ (Mr. Mera  
will send you a welcome email to this address, please respond).

We do have access to a computer:      yes\_\_\_\_\_      no\_\_\_\_\_

We do have access to internet:      yes\_\_\_\_\_      no\_\_\_\_\_

We do have access to a printer:      yes\_\_\_\_\_      no\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Initials

Student Initials