

Spanish 1 Course Syllabus

Sturgis Charter Public School 2010-2011

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Purpose: The purpose of studying French is to be able to communicate with, understand, and respect other people and their cultures.

Beliefs

We believe that anyone can learn a foreign language. We believe that speaking more than one language is a skill that makes us more capable and respectful global citizens in today's world.

Essential Questions

- What is language?
- Would you know about the world if you had no language or means of communicating with other people?
- Why is knowledge of languages other than English essential?
- What does it mean to be bilingual or multilingual?
- How important is it to learn a foreign language?
- How can I learn about communities and cultures through foreign language?
- Nowadays is learning a foreign language a luxury or a necessity?
- Does language influence culture or vice versa?
- Do you lose your culture if you are forced to learn another language?
- Does learning another language help me learn about myself and my culture better?
- Why does the I.B require me to take a language B?
- What connection does culture have with language?

Course Goals and Objectives

Students will be able to understand and use familiar, everyday expressions and simple sentences to satisfy concrete needs. Students will be able to introduce themselves or another person and be able to answer or ask questions about things which directly concern the person or about whom they are speaking. They will be able to communicate at an elementary level if their counterpart in the conversation is cooperative and speaks slowly and distinctly. Students will be able to answer simple questions about themselves or a peer, as well as questions regarding residence, age, or possessions. In addition, they will be able to greet, use everyday forms of

politeness and address, as well as idiomatic speech, describe pets and familiar objects; express his likes and dislikes. Students will be able to run a simple errand and/or make a purchase, while using correct speech and gestures; tell day and date, weather, etc.; fill out simple forms; write simple post cards, letters, emails, ads, brochures, etc.

Teaching Strategies and Resources

A. Strategies

1. The language of instruction and communication in the classroom will be Spanish. Immersion affords students the best opportunity to develop verbal and mental habits for communicating effectively and spontaneously in Spanish. Grammar explanations will be conducted in English only when necessary.
2. The students will learn vocabulary and grammar concepts by actively engaging each other and the teacher in guided conversations, reading and writing tasks that require personalized input.

2. Resources

1. Buen Viaje, Glencoe, McGraw-Hill
2. Authentic documents will be used to complement the text and serve as an indispensable source of expressions and vocabulary enrichment. Sources from other available media such as audio, visual, Internet, etc. will be used as well to enrich the learning experience.
3. International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (MYP) Course Guide – Students will receive portions of this guide that pertain directly to them (e.g. Assessment criteria.)

Assessment - all students may expect the following:

- A. Formative assessments (e.g.: 2 or 3 quizzes per chapter, homework, small projects)
- B. Unit assessments: 3 or 4 chapter tests and a comprehensive unit test each quarter; all will include a speaking and written component.
 1. All unit assessments are cumulative
 2. IB Assessment criteria will be used for oral exams and short essays.
 3. The same semester exams are given to all students, regardless of who the teacher is

C. Grading – Spanish is a living language and therefore oral and written components are equally stressed. Quarter grades will be divided 50% oral and 50% written.

50% Tests (oral and written)

25% Quizzes and pop quizzes (oral and written)

25% Homework and Class Participation (oral and written)

Writing assignments, papers, projects and presentations can fall under any of the above categories depending on the demand of the task. Students will be notified of the value of these tasks when they are assigned.

Classroom Policies

* All electronic devices must be turned off and stored out of sight or they will be confiscated and given to Mr. Marble.

* Laptops may be used only with teacher permission and only when taking notes

* No gum.

* No eating in class. Only drinks with a lid are permitted in class.

* Keep backpacks out of the aisles. If you can leave your backpack in your locker, please do so.

Absence, Tardies and Extra Help

A. Absence: You are responsible for getting any notes from the day(s) you were absent. You will be given the necessary time to complete any homework that was assigned while you were absent. Please see me to know what you missed. If you are absent the day before a test, but knew when the test was going to take place, you are responsible for taking it. If you are absent on the day of a test, the test will be taken the day you return. It is your responsibility to find me and arrange to take the test.

B. Tardies: Be on time to class. There are numerous interruptions throughout the year and we have a lot of material to learn. We need to take advantage of every minute for learning. Arriving on time for class will help you and your classmates to do so. Thank you!

C. Extra Help: You may come see me to review what we've learned, go over assignments you've missed or just spend a little extra time practicing oral communication. I am available ___ period and _____ after school from 3:15 until 4:15pm. If you are coming for extra help, you need to arrive on time.

Materials

- * Pen or pencil
- * Binder with dividers for taking notes
- * Textbook(s) and workbook
- * Any other text we are currently working on
- * Assignment book

Learning for Life

1. To learn a new language requires constant use and repetition in order to master the vocabulary and structures. The teacher will assume that the student will spend at least 30 minutes everyday practicing Spanish, even when no official assignment is given. In addition to written homework, students should spend at least 10 minutes every night studying the vocabulary and grammar we are currently working on, as well as reviewing previously learned material.

2. We are an IB World School and plan for the success of all students. More importantly, a new language means a bigger, richer, more exciting world for the rest of one's life. That is the real goal!

¡Disfruta de tu oportunidad para aprender español!