Spanish 1

Señora Zeller

Room: Portable 9

Phone: 763-506-6686

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Office Hours : 7:10-7:40, 2:20-2:50 (In Portable 9 **or** World Language Office)

# COURSE DESCRIPTION

Spanish 1 is a beginning language course. Students in Level 1 practice speaking, reading, listening, and writing skills through a variety of class activities and homework assignments. Also, cultural aspects of various Spanish-speaking countries are examined.

# Objectives

1. Students will build skills in the Spanish language in four language acquisition areas: reading, writing, speaking, and listening.
2. Students will understand that culture and language are interdependent and that cultural knowledge will help them analyze, interpret, and appreciate other perspectives.
3. Students will learn various vocabulary, build skill in speaking in the present and past tense, and learn useful conversational Spanish.
4. Students will understand that the ability to communicate in another language offers many opportunities here and around the world.

#### Guidelines for Student Success:

Anoka-Hennepin Core Values:

* RESPECT
* RESPONSIBILITY
* APPRECIATION OF DIVERSITY
* INTEGRITY
* COMPASSION

Classroom Rules:

* Demonstrate a positive and respectful attitude.
* Use your Spanish at all times to strive for significant progress. Class participation is essential.
* You are tardy if you are not in your desk when the bell begins to ring. On your 3rd tardy for the quarter, parents will be contacted and the student will be given a referral.
* Food, drinks other than water, electronic devices, and backpacks are not allowed in class.
* **No cell phones** unless I say it is ok!
* Treat others how you would like to be treated!

#### Supplies needed

* Folder or 3-ring binder
* Notebook (or notebook paper)
* Textbook and workbook “En Español”

# Grading Scale and Method

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 90-100% 🡺 A80-89% 🡺 B70-79% 🡺 C60-69% 🡺 D< 59% 🡺 F | 45% Assessments25% Quizzes15% Homework15% Participation |

## **Assessments (45%)**

Chapter/Unit Exams:

Exams are given upon completion of chapters or units. All exams are designed to test your ability to use and transfer knowledge acquired in each chapter. Exams usually consist of listening, reading, writing, and speaking sections.

District Assessments: (None this year)

### **Quizzes (25%)**

The purpose of quizzes is to check your progress in pronunciation, listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills. It also gives you valuable feedback that you can use to prepare for exams. Quizzes are given once or twice per week.

### **Homework (15%)**

Homework provides needed practice of concepts and vocabulary, and it gives me an opportunity to provide you will feedback on your progress. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late homework will be accepted **before** the unit exam. Anything that is turned in after the test will receive half credit. Homework is usually checked for completion, then self-corrected and kept by the student to be used as a study aid; however, some assignments will be collected and given a score based on the accuracy or quality of the student’s practice. Follow me @SraZeller for homework reminders.

#### Daily Work/Participation (15%)

Your participation is very important to learning and enjoying Spanish. Ways that you can participate:

* Completing in-class activities
* Using Spanish in the classroom
* Asking and answering questions, attentiveness to teacher and other students
* Active participation and good sportsmanship in games, group activities, and paired practice
* Adherence to classroom and school rules

Points will be given and taken away based on teacher observation. Students are also expected to complete projects and participate in short presentations. These are usually done in a group and may be used to share information with the class as a whole or demonstrate progress to the teacher.

**RETAKE POLICY**

Sections of quizzes and tests may be retaken if arranges are made. Students are expected to have completed all homework and practice assignments before retaking.

**A-H CONNECT:** I will update grades on A-H Connect once a week.

**RESOURCES:**

Blaine High School Classroom Pages- Tirzah Zeller <http://www.anoka.k12.mn.us//site/Default.aspx?PageID=10557>

September 6, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

 ¡Hola y bienvenidos a la clase de español 1! Learning a language is important and I am excited that your student has decided to learn Spanish. Your student is going to learn a lot this trimester. It is a challenging but fun class and I know that he or she will find it rewarding. Along with words and phrase he or she will also explore cultural aspects of various countries and when your student completes this class they will have a better understanding of themselves and the world that they live in.

 I believe that diversity makes the world interesting and beautiful and it is my goal to celebrate it in the classroom. Each day, I strive to reach out to each student so that he or she is engaged and is able to gain knowledge and grow. Every student should have an equal opportunity to learn and it is my desire that each student achieves success. Every person learns in different ways and, consequently, I incorporate a variety of learning strategies into the classroom. Students will participate in activities that focus on the four areas of language learning: listening, speaking, writing, and reading. Learning a second language is a challenge for all and I encourage you to get involved and support your student. We have a curriculum that includes a textbook and workbook, as well as a Take-Home-Tutor that can be used for homework help and extra practice**. Students can expect homework four to five nights a week in the workbook along with daily assignments, quizzes, tests, and projects.** One of the best tools to help your student study is to ask him or her to teach you the current vocabulary words. This is a way to connect with your student and support his or her learning goals.

 I am excited that your student has chosen to learn another language and I am looking forward to helping him or her continue this journey. Once again, I invite you to participate in the education of your student by practicing at home and following his or her progress. **If you have any questions, concerns, or comments please feel free to contact me by email (****tirzah.zeller@anoka.k12.mn.us****) or phone (763.506.6686). Thank you for your continued support.**

Muchas gracias,

Tirzah Zeller

Blaine High School

Spanish Teacher

✂ ✂ Please return the portion below the dotted line so your student can earn his/her first 10 points! ✂ ✂

**Parent Signature Slip**

**Spanish 1: Señora Zeller**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read the syllabus with my student, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and we fully understand it.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Signature Date