

*La clase de español (Spanish Class):*  
Information, Goals and Descriptions

A. General Information about Spanish:

1. In Spanish-speaking countries, Spanish is known as "español" or "castellano" (Castilian).

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castille>

2. Spanish is the 4th most-spoken modern language in the world today (after Mandarin Chinese, English and Hindi, respectively).

<http://www.soyouwanna.com/site/toptens/languages/languages3.html>

3. Spanish is mostly Latin-derived, with approximately 25% of the language being Arabic-derived.

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/33446260/Arabic-Influence-on-the-Spanish-Language>

4. Spanish is a member of the Romance language family, having French, Portuguese, Italian and Romanian as "sibling languages."

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romance\\_languages](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romance_languages)

B. Benefits to learning Spanish (Taken from: [http://www.studyspanish.com/topten\\_reasons.htm](http://www.studyspanish.com/topten_reasons.htm))

1. Because it can be a lot of fun
2. To better appreciate Hispanic cultural contributions to the world
3. To strengthen your brain and help prevent dementia in old age
4. To help others, be it on mission trips or elsewhere
5. To completely transform your travel experiences
6. To open your mind and expand your world view
7. Because Spanish is the 4th-most spoken language in the world, with over 390 million speakers
8. To help your business or the part that you have in your business
9. To keep pace with popular culture



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C. Careers that require knowledge of a foreign language:

(Taken from: <http://www.wtps.org/wths/imc/pathfinders/careers.htm#Careers%20Using%20Spanish>)

D. Some goals for all the Spanish classes:

1. To use Ms. Sazama's artifacts from Ecuador and Mexico in class activities as often as possible
2. To then use artifacts from students' daily lives in class activities as often as possible
3. To view a full-length movie in the target language, study vocabulary from it and express aural comprehension of what is spoken
4. To promote appreciation for world languages and global awareness

E. Courses and Their Descriptions, etc.

Español I (Spanish 1):

Description:

Spanish 1, for many students, is their first complete exposure to a second language. Students work on establishing the trains of thought and other approaches necessary to acquiring and applying vocabulary in another language. In regards to verbs, students in Spanish I master the present tense and begin to study preterite tense by the end of the academic year. Otherwise, the focus is more on nouns, pronouns, question words and other expressions. Themes covered include: items in the classroom, school subjects, names of sports and other activities, transportation, buildings, family, rooms of the house, clothing and food.

Course length: One academic year

Textbook used: Voces y vistas (Voices and Views)

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Español II (Spanish 2):

Description:

Spanish 2 is an intermediate level of study that involves "filling in more gaps," with regards to grammar. Students will continue to build their aural comprehension, as well as build their vocabulary through dialogues and literature. Students will read their first AR book in Spanish in the Spring Semester and take a quiz for it to count toward their over all AR score. Themes covered in Spanish II include: tv/movie vocabulary, the beach, farm and zoo animals, the airport, jewelry/accessories, foods from Spain and other Spanish-speaking countries,

Europe, comic books, anatomy and items around the house (toaster, lawn mower, etc.). Students will master the preterite tense of regular and some irregular verbs, as well as direct/indirect object pronouns, affirmative/negative words and stem-changing verbs.

Course length: One academic year

Textbooks used: Voces y vistas (Voices and Views) and Pasos y puentes (Steps and Bridges); various AR story books

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Español III (Spanish 3):

Description:

This course takes Spanish to an advanced level by increasing students' communication, levels of thinking and aural comprehension in the target language. The class begins with 75% of instruction being in Spanish and increases to 100% by the beginning of second semester. Each student will read and take a quiz over one to two AR books in Spanish per semester. Each student will also cook one to two recipes, as well as follow directions on how to can food or build something--in Spanish. Students in Spanish III will attend one to two field trips. For example, they may go to a Mexican restaurant, where they'll have to order their food in Spanish. Or, they will go to a Mexican grocery store and request information about products in Spanish. Students will focus more on advanced verb tenses, like conditional, imperfect, subjunctive and imperfect subjunctive. Themes covered are more interpretative, based on individual needs, areas of interest and/or the future job goals of the students.

Course Length: One academic year

Textbooks: Pasos y puentes (Steps and Bridges), Arcos y alamedas (Arches and Avenues/Boulevards); various AR story books, cookbooks and other sources of literature

