

Veterans Tribute Career & Technical Academy

2010-2011 Course Expectations

Course: Spanish I

Instructor: Scott Benedict

Contact information:

799-4710, ext. 3105

rsbenedict@interact.ccsd.net

<http://profefeb.com>



Course Scope and Goals:

Course Scope:

This one-year course is designed to acquaint students with the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish at an introductory level. The focus is communication in Spanish incorporating understanding of Hispanic cultures, connecting with other disciplines, comparing native language to Spanish, and participating in multicultural communities. The course provides practice in correct use of basic vocabulary and language structures to enable students to function effectively within realistic settings. Instructional practices will incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to our society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one elective credit required for high school graduation.

Course Goals:

1. To participate in simple conversations in Spanish, using correct pronunciation, to share feelings, emotions, opinions, and information. [NS: 1, 2, 3]
2. To comprehend simple oral and written communication on a variety of topics. [NS: 2]
3. To present information to an audience in Spanish. [NS: 3]
4. To explore the relationships among the practices, products, and perspectives of the diverse Hispanic cultures. [NS: 4, 5]
5. To connect knowledge of Spanish with other disciplines. [NS: 6]
6. To recognize the distinctive viewpoints of other cultures. [NS: 4, 5, 7]
7. To compare the nature of the Spanish language to native language. [NS: 8]
8. To relate Hispanic cultures with individual ethnic backgrounds. [NS: 9]
9. To employ the Spanish language both within and beyond the school setting. [NS: 10]
10. To develop an interest in continuing the study of the Spanish language for personal enrichment. [NS: 11]

Textbook:

Realidades by Pearson Education and *¡Cuéntame más!* by TPRS Publishing will be used as resources. No text will be distributed to students; however, *Realidades* is available for checkout upon request.

Course Materials: Notebook, paper, pencil, blue/black ball point pens, set of 4-color of highlighters, portable flash drive.

Grading Policy:

Letter grades are calculated using a weighted average as follows: speaking 25%, writing 25%, listening 20%, reading 20%, culture 10%. Grades are updated weekly. **Grades are not rounded in this class.**

✓ **Grading Scale:**

advanced	3.5 - 4.5 (90-100%)	A
proficient	2.5 – 3.4 (80-89%)	B
intermediate	1.5 – 2.4 (70-79%)	C
novice	0.5 – 1.4 (60-69%)	D
beginner	0.0 – 0.4 (50-59%)	F

As learning Spanish is a skill that one practices rather than a subject one studies, grades represent the student’s progress from beginner through advanced. Beginner means that a student is at the beginning level and doesn’t know much language. As students progress through novice, their comprehension skills are beginning to develop. A student at the intermediate level generally has good comprehension skills, but is still developing oral and written communication. A student who is proficient is

Veterans Tribute Career & Technical Academy

2010-2011 Course Expectations

able to comprehend oral and written language as well as communicate orally and in writing at the class-appropriate level. Those students who are at the advanced level have exhibited full proficiency at the class level and have progressed beyond those levels and are moving into the beginner stage of the next level of Spanish.

- ✓ **Unannounced Tests and Quizzes:** With the exception of Quarter and Semester Exams, all tests and quizzes are unannounced. This is done in order to adequately assess what students have actually learned and retained, rather than assess what they have studied/crammed for.
- ✓ **Make-up Tests and Quizzes:** With the exception of quarter/final exams, all tests and quizzes have to be made up the day of your return because of their unannounced nature. **Any speaking or listening sections must be made up BEFORE or AFTER school. You will receive a failing grade on any test or quiz missed if you are truant.**
- ✓ **Low Test or Quiz Grades:** You are **highly encouraged** to make an appointment with me any time you receive a C or lower on any quiz or test for early academic intervention.
- ✓ **Projects:** All projects must be turned in with the grading rubric. If you are absent when a project is due, it must be turned in by another student or placed in my mailbox by 2pm **on or before the due date. NO LATE PROJECTS WILL BE ACCEPTED!**
- ✓ **Practice:** Practice, when given, is generally not given over weekends or school breaks. *Practice is checked RANDOMLY and the whole class or just one section of class may be checked!* **Only 100% completed assignments will be accepted!** On-time assignments will receive full credit (equivalent to an A), late assignment will receive half credit (equivalent to a C), and missing assignments will receive no credit (equivalent to an F).
- ✓ **Quarter and Final Exams:** Quarter and final exams cover the major concepts covered in class including culture, vocabulary, structures, listening and reading comprehension, speaking, and writing. Final exams are worth 10% of the semester grade.

Citizenship Policy:

Citizenship is a combination of classroom participation and daily-language practice (25%), unexcused absences (25), unexcused tardies (25%), and classroom behavior (25%). If you pay attention, are prepared for class, are on-time with no unexcused absences, cause no major disruptions, **AND** have a minimum a B in Participation, you will receive a Satisfactory citizenship grade. In order to receive an Outstanding citizenship grade, you must go beyond the average expectancy. **Any student sent to the Dean from this class may receive an Unsatisfactory citizenship grade. Truancies and excessive tardies may reduce your citizenship grade.**

Late work Policy:

With the exception of projects, late work is accepted. All late work must be turned in prior to the last week of any given quarter and work from previous quarters cannot be turned in. If it is an ungraded assignment, you will receive a C regardless of how late it is turned in. If it is a graded assignment, your grade will be reduced by two grades for turning it in late.

Makeup Work:

- “Teachers shall provide an opportunity for a student to make up missed work due to any absence, and students shall be held accountable for the work. When a student is absent, however, the educational experiences lost during that absence might be irretrievable because the instruction and interaction in the instructional setting cannot be duplicated through makeup work.” Students shall be allowed a minimum of three (3) days to complete makeup work.
- School sanctioned absences such as field trips, RPC’s and suspensions will not be counted as absences for the purpose of attendance enforcements, but students are required to complete all missed work/assignments. Absences should be kept to a minimum. Makeup work cannot replace classroom lectures, group activities, and other learning that takes places in the classroom during the school day.

Behavior expectations:

All students are expected to behave appropriately while at school, on the bus, or at any extracurricular activities. In order to guarantee a successful learning environment for all students, the following school-wide discipline plan has been formulated. It is based on the expectation that:

- No student will interfere with teacher instruction
- No student will interfere with another student’s learning
- No student will engage in any behavior that is not in his/her best interest or in the best interest of others.

Veterans Tribute Career & Technical Academy 2010-2011 Course Expectations

When students engage in inappropriate behavior, a progressive discipline plan will be followed that will include firm, fair, and consistent action.

- *Warning*
- *Parent Contact*
- *Counseling Referral/Parent Teacher Conference*
- *Discipline Referral*
- Depending on severity of the student action, the teacher may send the student to the Assistant Principal at any time.

Students may be subject to a range of disciplinary actions based on the nature of the infraction, the number and type of behavioral referrals, and the frequency at which the student is referred for disciplinary action. *Students and parents are responsible for reviewing the CCSD Student Behavior Guidelines and Student Handbook, both given to students the first week of school.*

VETERANS TRIBUTE CTA HONOR CODE:

In order to help promote academic honesty and integrity, the Veterans Tribute CTA Honor Code will be followed. **In addition any student caught cheating will receive a double F for that assignment, quiz, or test AND a U for Citizenship.**

Cheating is considered to be (but not limited to) the following:

- Copying or giving answers on any homework assignment, project, test, quiz, etc.
- Any talking during tests or quizzes
- Eyes looking anywhere but on your own paper during a test or quiz
- Acquiring any handout, test, quiz, or assignment without teacher permission
- Use of any electronic devices (for example: PDAs, cell phones, headphones, pagers, translators, etc.) during a test or quiz
- Unauthorized use of notes, book(s), cheat sheets, etc.
- Plagiarizing: "To steal and use (the ideas or writings of another) as one's own." (The American Heritage Dictionary 946)
- **Having a more advanced Spanish student or teacher/tutor edit your work or using any type of language translator, including web/online translators** (The only online dictionary approved for this class is on my website)

TARDY POLICY

Students are expected to be in the class and seated when the tardy bell rings including first period. Students have four minutes to pass from one class to another. There is no warning bell. Students arriving late to school for any reason will be marked tardy.

If the student is more than 30 minutes late to any class period, the student will be marked absent. If the student is late due to a medical appointment, the parent/guardian must provide documentation to the attendance clerk when the student arrives on campus.

If the student needs to use the restroom, the student must arrive to their next classroom first, and then obtain permission/restroom pass from the instructor.

Students tardy to class will be subject to the following discipline:

First Infraction	Verbal Warning
Second Infraction	Parent Contact
Third Infraction	RPC-A with School Administration
Fourth Infraction	RPC-T with Assistant Principal
Fifth Infraction	Suspension

STANDARD STUDENT ATTIRE POLICY

Students are expected to adhere to VTCTA's Standard Student Attire policy.

Students not compliant with VTCTA's SSA policy will be subject to the following discipline:

First Infraction	Verbal Warning
Second Infraction	Parent Contact
Third Infraction	RPC-A with School Administration
Fourth Infraction	RPC-T with Assistant Principal
Fifth Infraction	Suspension

**Veterans Tribute Career & Technical Academy
2010-2011 Course Expectations**

This page must be returned to the course instructor by: Friday, October 1, 2010.

Print student name _____ ID Number: _____

By signing this page, both parent/guardian and student state that they have read and understood the course expectations for Spanish I.

By signing, the parent/guardian and student were given the opportunity to contact the instructor with questions before signing.

_____ Date _____
Student Signature

_____ Date _____
Parent Signature