



# EXPLORATORY SPANISH

## SRTA. FAUSON

Welcome to Exploratory Spanish! The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the Spanish language and cultures from the Spanish-speaking world. My hope is that by the time you leave this class, you will be excited about Spanish and foreign language study in general, and I hope that you will also pursue learning a foreign language for years to come.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

- Telephone: 517.668.3286
- E-mail: fausonk@dewittschools.net
- Website: <http://fausonespanol.weebly.com>
- Instructional support/material will be found on Google Classroom

### MATERIALS

- Pencils
- One-subject notebook or lined paper
- Folder
- Student planner or equivalent
- If you have your own cell phone, I highly recommend downloading the Quizlet app and bringing your phone to class daily. Flashcard sets will be available for course vocabulary in Quizlet.

### CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

My ROAR expectations are posted on the wall in my classroom. There are a few special expectations that apply to learning a foreign language that I would like to share here.

1. Respect
  - Keep an open mind regarding other cultures and the way people in other cultures do things.
  - Not all students will learn language at the same pace. When a student is really trying hard, be encouraging.
  - Avoid laughing at other students when they make a mistake. Everyone will make a mistake at some point.
2. Own It
  - Language learning may come easy to you, or you may find it difficult. Therefore, not all students will have to study and practice the same amount. Take ownership of your learning. Study and practice however much you need to be successful.
3. Act Responsibly
  - Practice the language outside of class every day. Coming unprepared to class will be frustrating for you, but it will also be frustrating for your partner and other classmates who are depending on you to be able to participate in speaking activities.
4. Reach for Excellence
  - Seek opportunities to use the language or learn about the cultures of the Hispanosphere outside of school. Visit websites in the language. Watch programs on the National Geographic, History, or Travel channels. Go to a cultural event such as a festival, dance performance, or music performance. If you know a native speaker, practice with him/her.

## **HOMEWORK**

- As language is a skill, it is important to practice as much as possible. Students will be given practice activities (some written, some oral) and are expected to practice for a short period of time each evening outside of school to reinforce what they've learned in class.
- Practice assignments are designed to help you learn. These assignments are not typically collected and scored, and they are usually not part of your grade. I will keep track of whether or not you are completing this work on time, however. Assignments will be marked as either Turned In (which means completely finished), Incomplete (if partially or not thoroughly completed), and Missing (if not completed at all).
- Late assignments will be logged in to Infinite Campus up until the quiz or test for that particular learning target has been given.

## **GRADING AND EVALUATION**

- A traditional grading scale (points-based, with percent determining the grade) will be used in this class. The standard Junior High grading scale will be used.
- Grades in this class will be weighted as follows:

<b>Name of Category in IC</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Contents of the Category</b>
Content Mastery	100%	Tests, quizzes, projects, writing assignments, and other assignments that demonstrate mastery of the content and are therefore summative evaluations.
Completion	0%	Practice assignments (turned in/incomplete/missing), practice quiz scores, and formative assessments that I may want students/parents to see but are NOT part of the grade.

## **RETAKES**

Retakes are offered at my discretion. They are available for students who have worked hard and taken responsibility for practicing the language but still did not do well on a quiz or test. They are not to be used as a substitute for hard work and responsibility. Take responsibility for your learning before the quiz or test by letting me know when you need extra help. The following policies apply to retakes in this course:

- To be eligible for a retake, you must have thoroughly completed all work that applies to the standards tested on time (not counting excused absences, of course). This includes completing practice assignments and bringing them to class for discussion, correcting and fixing mistakes on practice assignments, and completing flashcard study when assigned.
- If you would like a retake, you must notify me as soon as the quiz or test is returned.
- The retake window for each quiz or test is five school days after it is returned and you know your score. After five days, that quiz or test will not be open for retakes.
- Retakes are held after school by appointment. Retake appointments are testing situations and must be taken seriously. If you do not show up for an appointment, you will not be given a second appointment.
- I reserve the right to give you a different version of the quiz or test.
- The previous score will be replaced with the most recent score.
- If you are asking for retakes frequently, we need to figure out why. I will likely ask for a conference with you and your parents to figure out why you're having difficulties.

**PLEASE PLACE IN YOUR FOLDER FOR FUTURE REFERENCE. THANKS!**