

SYLLABUS: EXPLORATORY SPANISH

¡Hola! Welcome to a new school year! Your class has a unique opportunity. This is the first time since I have been teaching at PK that seventh graders can take Spanish. I understand that as this is an elective class that you are not looking for another academic class, but any class involves work. With that said and the understanding that is a new class here a PK, I want to share a general idea of what I hope to have happen in the class. Our work will focus on listening and understanding, with reading and writing reinforcing what we are learning. In addition, I would like to do class wide projects that include a focus on art and culture. I hope that by the end of the school year, you will know basic vocabulary, understand simple spoken information, carry on conversations about familiar topics and have a basic understanding of Latin and Spanish culture.

The following is some important, basic information:

Teacher contact information

Mrs. Annamarie Tijerino
325-392-1554 ext. 253
email: Tijerino@pky.ufl.edu

Help sessions

Official day and time is Tuesday after school, but I can be available just about any day before or after school as long as I do not have a required meeting as well as during lunch. Most questions can be cleared up rather quickly. Please ask if something is not clear, come in for help with homework before it's due.

Class materials

You will be expected to have the following with you every class period:

- notebook
- pens (blue/black) or pencils
- notebook paper

Grading policy:

Grades will be determined each nine weeks using the following weighted scale. Each category is described below.

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|-----------------------|---|
| • Projects | 25% (rubric provided at time of assignment) |
| • Quizzes | 20% |
| • Written work | 25% |
| • Class Participation | 20% |
| • Folder | 10% |

- *Projects*- Projects will be done individually, and in groups. Most of the work will be done in class. Presentation of these projects will be in written or oral format or both. They are an opportunity for students to show off their talents while polishing Spanish vocabulary and culture covered in class. Students will be given a detailed description of the project along with a rubric for grading. Major projects will lose one letter grade for each **day**, not class meeting, late. If you have a late project, you must bring it to me the very next day.
- *Quizzes*- Quizzes will cover small chunks of material and provide me with an idea of students' progress. These quizzes may be written or oral..
- *Written work*- is an opportunity for students to practice what they learn in class. Practice may make perfect but it doesn't have to be perfect; it does have to be complete and attempted with full effort. Some homework will be corrected in class using a green or red pen/ pencil. Other homework will be graded based on effort, accuracy in following directions, creativity and communicative effectiveness.
- *Class participation*- effective participation consists of several components. First a student must be physically prepared for class. This means being in class on time with all materials. Next a student must be mentally prepared. This means he/she needs to be focused on class activities. Finally, a student of language has to be willing to take academic risks. This means trying to speak and using the language as much as possible. Every student will start with an average grade in participation or a 75% C. During

the course of the nine weeks, each student will need to earn 25 more points for a 100% A. Each time a student volunteers to speak in Spanish or is “caught” diligently working on the task at hand, he/ she will receive an “ola azul” or a participation coupon. It is the student’s responsibility to hold on to his/ her coupons for the nine weeks. I suggest a Ziploc baggie for storage, and each student will be required to write his/ her name on the back when each coupon is received. Students will lose coupons for any off task or disrespectful behavior. If a student does not have the coupons available to hand over at the time of the infraction, he/ she will lose double the amount from the 75 point base. For every 5 points over the 100/ A+ level, a student will receive one point added to their class average up to 5 added points.

- *Folder-* folders are a source of information. The sections of the folder will include but not be limited to: notes, openers, and a TPRS section including 2 column notes, picture dictionary and stories. Folders will be checked at the end of each nine weeks.

Course Schedule for the first nine weeks will be posted on line:

Student signature _____

Parent signature _____