

# AP Spanish Language



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R-103

## Course Description

The AP Spanish Language course is structured and contextualized around six specific themes, in order to develop students' oral and written comprehension and communication in the target language, as well as cultural awareness. The class is conducted entirely in Spanish, and the students use the language in real-life settings, practicing and developing the three modes of communication: interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational, through a wide variety of assignments.

Students do the following tasks consistently and rigorously in class and at home: Reading & Listening Comprehension and Analysis, Presentational and Interpersonal Speaking, and Writing formal emails & persuasive essays. Students are expected to take the AP Spanish Language Exam in the spring.



## Recommended qualifications

## Essential Skills developed

- Synthesis of information from multiple sources, fiction and non-fiction.
- Comparative & contrastive analysis of written, audio and visual texts, including charts & graphs.
- Cultural awareness, comparison and connections between different cultures.
- Acknowledgement and citation of reference tools and sources.
- Critical reading and listening of resources in the target cultural context.
- Vocabulary development in a variety of topics, including cognates and false cognates.
- Understanding the purpose of a message and point of view of the author.
- Interpersonal and presentational speaking.
- Writing formal letters & emails.
- Persuasive essay writing, citing different sources.

- Verbal fluency.
- Command of sentence structure and grammar of the Spanish language: “ser/estar;” “gustar;” indicative and subjunctive verb tenses; the command forms; coordinating and subordinating conjunctions, etc.
- 3-5 years of Spanish instruction prior to taking this course.
- Reading comprehension and writing proficiency in Spanish.
- High motivation and good work habits.
- Teacher recommendation based on students' skills.

# STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

## What I wish I knew before...

- “How important it is to speak in Spanish in previous years to feel confident in the AP class.”
- “Grammar won’t be taught in class anymore, so I should have kept and paid more attention to the grammar learned before, so I can speak and write properly now.”
- “We need to bring certain skills to the class, otherwise it is too hard if we are underprepared, and there is no time to catch up with others who have those skills.”
- “I cannot speak in English in class, and the teacher only uses Spanish. We didn’t like this at the beginning but it’s the only way to really learn.”
- “We work a lot, in class and at home. The class is intense but I feel I learn more and more every day thanks to all of the hard work and being immersed in the language. This class is different, but in a good way.”
- “We are being evaluated every day, in many ways, and we need to earn a lot of points every week. You shouldn’t believe that the class time is enough to pass it or to be prepared for the C.B. exam in May.”

## Benefits of taking the class...

- “You learn a lot and you feel good that you can communicate in Spanish at a level you never thought you would.”
- “It was fun, challenging, and it prepared me to succeed with the College Board Exam last spring.”
- “I’m not scared of speaking Spanish anymore. I overcame one of my major fears, and now I seek any opportunity to practice and prove that I can do it.”
- “I learned a lot of stuff and Spanish was just the tool. I learned about so many different topics that my vocabulary is twenty times better than before.”
- “I am way more organized now, and I know what college will be like, since we were treated like college students.”
- “I have higher expectations for myself and I believe in my abilities because the teacher never gave up on me.”
- “I can use what I have learn in real life and I can use this knowledge for job interviews, to get a better job or a higher salary because I am bilingual.”

## Average workload...

- “Work, work, work from bell to bell, but it’s not boring, everything is connected. We have a lot of support and help from the teacher all the time.”
- “We do a lot of assignments every week, not only in class. We use the “Supersite” to complete homework online and interact with the teacher.”
- “We write, read and speak a lot in class. We also listen to podcasts, watch short videos and discuss them, and almost everything is worth points.”
- “We have to work more than in previous years, but the teacher works way more than us to get us ready and to correct and evaluate what we do.”
- “The class is not easy at all, but if you participate and do what you have to do, you will pass. If you want an A you need to work hard for it and do the E.C. opportunities the teacher gives us every week. She is like a coach, always working with us, even during the weekends.”
- “I have to work an average of 20-30 min. on my Spanish everyday to do well. It also depends on your level and effort. Nothing we cannot handle.”