

Sra. Steinman
Room JS 205
isteinman@esud.k12.ca.us

Spanish 1



Hola! and welcome to Mrs. Steinman's Spanish class! This year we will be learning how to listen, speak, read, and write in Spanish. We will also be viewing various aspects of the colorful Hispanic culture, such as music, dance, food, important celebrations, traditions, holidays, and day-to-day living.

Learning how to read, write, and speak Spanish will create opportunities for you in many aspects of your life---personal, academic, professional, etc.!

Becoming bilingual takes practice, practice, and more practice (just like learning how to play a musical instrument or a sport)! It takes work, dedication, enthusiasm, organization, passion, and self-discipline. **Together we will set high expectations, work hard, have fun, and learn a lot!**

As your teacher I love what I do, and most importantly, care about the success and well being of each one of you. If it is your desire to be successful in my class, you will adhere to the following expectations:

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR: I begin each year confident that all of my Spanish students possess integrity and intelligence. Together as a team, we will maintain a positive, fun and fair classroom environment that promotes learning and respect for one another at all times. *You are responsible for the behavior of only one person in this class—yourself!* It is my hope that you will make the choice to be polite and courteous at all times, and treat others the way you wish to be treated. *Being kind, polite, respectful, and responsible is exemplified in the following ways:*

- 1. BE IN YOUR SEAT WHEN THE TARDY BELL RINGS OR YOU WILL BE MARKED TARDY and begin to work on the bell assignment. Remain seated unless given permission to leave your seat.**
- 2. BE PREPARED FOR CLASS. Bring necessary materials to class each day (see below). Materials and homework should be on the desks at the beginning of class (when the bell rings).**
- 3. NO FOOD, DRINKS (except for water), CANDY, GUM, ETC. IN THE CLASSROOM. CHEWING GUM WILL RESULT IN CONSEQUENCES!**
- 4. RESPECT PROPERTY NOT BELONGING TO YOU. (If an item doesn't belong to you, please do not write on it or touch it without permission, this includes the tables and class textbooks).**
- 5. RESPECT OTHERS. NO PUT DOWNS. Raise your hand and wait to be called on when you wish to speak. Listen when others are presenting. Give your complete attention.**
- 6. TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR CLASSROOM by helping to keep it neat and clean. Please pick up litter without being asked.**

DAILY REQUIRED MATERIALS: You need to be extremely organized in order to keep up with all the activities in this class. Please bring the following materials to class each day: **3-ring binder with (2) pencils/(2) pens (blue or black), erasers, highlighters, silent pencil sharpener, grading pens (red, green or purple) and a pouch, 3X5 index cards for vocabulary, dividers, college ruled lined paper, a pocket folder and your binder reminder.** A pocket-sized Spanish/English-English/Spanish dictionary is optional but good to have. **Items to be purchased will be discussed in class!**

IN CASE YOU ARE ABSENT: All activities in class require your personal participation. If you are absent it is **your** responsibility to find out what work or assignments you missed. Check "schoolnotes.com" for work or ask a reliable friend. If you have any questions please see me after class. You may have as many days as you were legally absent to make up missing work and receive full credit. It is **your** responsibility to show me your completed work so that you can receive credit. If you plan to be away from school, get your work from me in advance. See me before or after school, but not during class time. If you are absent on a quiz or exam day, you may make it up after school on a day announced. **If you do not make it up on this day, a zero will be given for that quiz or exam.**

BOOKS: Textbook: BUEN VIAJE LEVEL 1 by Schmitt & Woodford
Workbook: BUEN VIAJE (to be purchased in the office for \$10.00)

QUIZZES AND EXAMS: There will be both **announced** and **unannounced quizzes** throughout the year. It is imperative that you keep current with the continuously new information you will learn. **Exams will always be announced** and given about every 2 – 2.5 weeks. There will be a comprehensive exam at the end of the year in order to determine if you are ready for the next level of Spanish. **READY FOR SPANISH 2 MEANS:** you have an **A** or **B** in the class and pass the final exam with at least a **C**!

If you should receive a **D** or **F** on any **EXAM** you have a chance to retake the exam on an announced day **after** school; (both grades will be averaged out)! **NO RETAKE OF THE FINAL EXAM!!!**

BE A “NEAT FREAK”! Please demonstrate care and pride in all your work by writing neatly and legibly. **You will NOT receive full credit for work that is messy, difficult to read or lacking the proper heading.** This applies to all work you do for this class!

HOMEWORK: In Spanish new concepts and vocabulary are presented almost daily, and missing just one homework assignment can put you behind in your progress. Doing your homework and studying vocabulary daily will help you succeed in Spanish and become bilingual sooner! If you consistently don’t do your homework your grade will reflect your lack of commitment. Quizzes and exams are based on in-class instruction and homework assignments. Homework will be due at the **beginning** of class. I will check for completion of the assignment before we go over it as a whole class.

You may complete your homework in pencil so you can make corrections easier. I WILL NOT ACCEPT WORK WRITTEN IN COLORS OTHER THAN BLACK OR BLUE!!

8th GRADE LATE WORK POLICY: Late work will only be allowed with a “Missed Deadline” pass attached. You will be provided two late work passes per semester. With this pass, you will be given one additional day to turn in the assignment with the “Missed Deadline” pass stapled to the paper. “Missed Deadline” passes may not be used with major projects (deemed major by the teacher). Any leftover passes will be collected at the end of each semester and 10 pts extra credit will be awarded for each pass unused.

If you have a valid excuse (illness, etc.), you will have the exact number of days you were absent to make up the assignment(s).

I suggest that you exchange phone numbers with a reliable classmate so that in the event of an absence, work can be easily accessed

GRADING: Your letter grade will be based on a **weighted grading scale NOT the accumulation of points throughout the trimester.** Your total grade is based on the following categories and percentages:

Exams:	35%
Quizzes:	25%
Class/Homework:	10%
Speaking/Participation:	15%
Projects/Portfolio:	15%

A standard grading scale will be used: **A: 90-100%, B: 80-89%, C: 70-79%, D: 60-69%, F: 0-59%**

CITIZENSHIP GRADES: Depending on your behavior in class, the amount of missing homework assignments and how often you are tardy to class during the semester your **citizenship grade** will be either **S-SATISFACTORY, N-NEEDS IMPROVEMENT** or **U-UNSATISFACTORY.** See your **“Binder Reminder”** for consequences if you receive **N’s** or a **U**!

CHEATING: If you get caught cheating in any way you will earn a **”U”** in citizenship, a **“0”** for the assignment, your parents will be notified and you will receive a detention.

TRUANCY: Will earn you a **“U”** in citizenship.

It is mandatory that you keep this course syllabus and refer to it throughout the year, so that there are no uncertainties as to what I expect from you as a student in this class.

******SINCE THIS IS A CLASS OF MIXED GRADE LEVELS ALL STUDENTS WILL FOLLOW 8TH GRADE CLASSROOM REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES!**