

Middle School SPANISH -8th grade
Señora Schnecke

Contact Information:

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Course Objectives:

Eighth Grade:

Focus on conversation, oral presentations, reading short books and writing in journals. Students in 7th and 8th grades participate in the National Spanish Exam (NSE) and compete with other middle schools and high schools in Spring. Our students place high on these exams. Among the topics we will cover this year are: Expanding on grammar (direct and indirect object pronouns, using frequency words, the imperfect vs. the preterit, and the present progressive), Numbers 0-10,000,000, Writing dialogues, Performing skits portraying real life situations. We will also be incorporating a Multicultural Unit. Students in 8th grade need to practice at home with TELL ME MORE (TMM) software **minimum 1.5 hours per week**. If you encounter any difficulties signing in or using the program, please see or e-mail Mr. Laimins (for technical problems). If you have questions about the content or a lesson, please contact me.

Classroom Rules:

Following these guidelines will help keep our class environment peaceful and productive.

1. Attention should be given to the teacher at the start of each class.
2. Treat each person in our class with respect and dignity.
3. Come to class on time and be ready to work when the bell rings. Participation counts!
4. Bring the required materials to class and take them with you when you leave.
5. TRY HARD and DO YOUR BEST ALWAYS!!!

Absences:

If you are ill, missing work must be completed in a timely manner (FOR EVERY DAY YOU MISS, YOU HAVE ONE DAY TO MAKE UP WORK). If you miss a test, it must be made up in a timely manner. Upon returning to class after an absence, check with the teacher for any handouts missed and/or turn in any work collected during your absence. If you know you will be absent, please let me know so we can either give you work ahead of time or make other arrangements. Make sure to check the Sycamore website for updates on projects and any assignments. Make a habit of personally seeing all your teachers the day you return from an absence.

Grading and Evaluation Criteria:

Students will be taking notes and receiving handouts. Students will be responsible for keeping these in order to study for tests and quizzes. In addition to this, students will have the opportunity to get additional practice and reinforcement through a series of workshops (listening, speaking, pronunciation with voice recognition, grammar, reading comprehension and writing) using a

software called TELL ME MORE. Students will be able to work on this in class once a week and are also expected to work from home for credit.

The grading will be broken down as follows:

Homework	20%
Quizzes	15%
Tests/ Projects	30%
Class Work	20%
Participation	15%
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	100%

Expectations:

The students have to come to class prepared with the required materials. This counts as a part of their participation grade. They need to bring a notebook, a 3-ring binder OR folder that holds all your notes and worksheets (Nothing is thrown out..) as well as their assignment notebook.

Students will return in assignments on the date set by the teacher. Generally there is homework 2-3 times a week. Homework, Quizzes and Tests are posted online. Students who score 74% or less on assignments or tests may Re-do the incorrect questions for partial credit. Students have 2 school days to complete and turn in the corrections. Corrections should be stapled to the original test/quiz or a special assignment.

Additional practice for vocabulary and on-line quizzes will be posted under Favorite Links. I strongly encourage students to take advantage of these sites.

I have discussed this information with the students, but please take a few minutes to review this letter with your child. Then sign and return the form below. Thanks for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Maria Schneck
Spanish Teacher 3-8

(Please cut along this line and complete the form below).

My child and I have read this information regarding the course objectives, grading criteria, rules and expectations for Spanish.

Student name: _____ Date: _____

Print name: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Print name: _____