

Denver School of the Arts
School Year 2015-2016
Spanish 4X Syllabus
Instructor: Diego Cerón
Classroom: 209; hours by appt. only
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I. Course Description:

This is the fourth course in a five-year sequence that culminates in AP Spanish Language. This two-semester course continues expanding students' proficiency in the four basic domains (listening, speaking, writing and reading). Students will be able to do the following in Spanish: Extract information from what they listen, carry out an informal dialogue and be able to communicate information in a formal presentation, read and understand stories, articles, poems, and fiction and non fiction books, write stories, book reviews, poems, articles, and essays.

The course reviews all the Spanish grammar in the context of communication. Students will practice how and when they need to use a particular part of grammar to make communication possible.

This course includes some reading literature written by authors from Spain, Hispano-America, and United States. The students will also watch some authentic movies in Spanish or with Spanish subtitles, and listen to different singers from the Hispanic world. This course adds to the knowledge of all aspects of Spanish culture. Classes are almost entirely taught in Spanish and students are encouraged to participate freely in discussions and to communicate, even among themselves, in Spanish.

II. Materials & Supplies

Students are expected to bring the following to class on a daily basis:

- Textbook: *Abriendo paso; Gramática* (Prentice Hall)
- A notebook
- Pens and pencils
- Previous handouts

III. Course Content Outline

These are some elements we are going to focus on this year.

Communication Topics

- How to narrate and describe in the past
- How to talk about your life and other events in the past
- How to describe and compare different things
- How to describe similarities and differences
- How to describe activities you or others are doing
- How to tell, persuade or influence others to do something
- How to express desires and obligations

How to express desires, plans and ideas about your future
How to speculate about present and future
How to talk about your emotions, feelings, and doubts
How to express past desires, plans, ideas, emotions, feelings, and doubts

Grammar Structures

Preterit, Imperfect, Present Perfect, Pluperfect
Adjectives, Pronouns, Comparisons
Present, Progressive Tenses
Imperative, Present Subjunctive
Future, Future Perfect
Imperfect Subjunctive
Conditional

This outline may be expanded, reduced, or modified as necessary.

IV. Grading

Grading Criteria

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| • Process Tasks | 40% |
| • Product Tasks | 50% |
| • Semester Assessment | 10% |

Grading Scale

A	93 – 100
A-	90 – 92
B+	87 – 89
B	83 – 86
B-	80 – 82
C+	77 – 79
C	73 – 76
C-	70 – 72
D	60 – 69
F	below 60

V. Tutoring

For after school help or make up work I will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school.

VI. Expectations

- **Attendance and Participation:** Absences are detrimental to your learning. Students are expected to come prepared with materials and to be ready to participate and learn in all speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities.
- **Tardy Policy:** If tardiness becomes persistent I will contact home and talk to the administration.
- **Late Work:** Late work will be accepted for **excused** absences and must be completed within **48 hours**. After that, no work can be made up unless you have contacted me beforehand. **All other work is accepted for 75% of your grade for**

that assignment and must be completed within 2 weeks. It is the student's responsibility to find out what was missed during an absence.

- **Food and Drinks:** Coffee, tea, water, and candies are acceptable. Food is not acceptable.
- **Electronic Devices:** Keep your phone off or set it to "silent". Don't text in class or listen to music on your own device. There is NO individual music during tests. I will take your phone/iPod away if you abuse this policy, and you are welcome to pick it up from me at the end of the day. Repeated violations will result in discussions with parents/administration.
- **Class Rules:** Students are expected to behave properly in the classroom by following these class rules:
 1. **Respect Yourself and Others**
 2. **Speak Spanish**
 3. **Respect the Teaching/Learning Process**

These rules will ensure that we will have a great year! If one or more of the above rules are broken, I will follow the Denver Public School Discipline Matrix while taking these steps:

1. Verbal warning and conference with student
2. Conference with student and call home
3. Conference with student, call home and parent/teacher conference
4. Student is referred to the administration

VII. Signatures

Please go over the 4X Spanish syllabus. When you have read it and discussed it, bring back this page no later than the second week of class signed by both yourself and your parents, or have your parent send me an email acknowledging that you went over it together. Make sure that the student name and class period is on the email confirmation. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I am looking forward to a successful and fun school year with you.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____