



Middlesex County Magnet Schools

Course Syllabus – Spanish I

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¡Bienvenidos!

Welcome to **Spanish I**! I am excited to begin a year of learning, exploration, and growth with you. This course is designed to introduce you to the Spanish language at the **novice level**, while also helping you connect with the **cultures of Spanish-speaking communities** around the world.

From the very first day, we will focus on using Spanish to communicate. Expect the class to be taught **primarily in Spanish** through **Comprehensible Input (CI)**, visuals, gestures, and authentic resources such as music, videos, and short readings. You will be expected to use Spanish actively—listening, speaking, reading, and writing—at a level that grows with you throughout the year. This course will be considered a 75/25 immersion course, meaning 75% of the course will be in the Spanish language.

****This course emphasizes the four basic skills in a language: READING, WRITING, SPEAKING, and LISTENING. Please keep in mind that in order to successfully learn another language you must put forth effort, participate often, study, and practice, practice, practice!**

I look forward to a great and productive school year with you!

Required Materials (every day)

- Charged **Chromebook** and charger
- **Notebook** (dedicated for Spanish notes)
- **Folder** for handouts and assignments
- **Pen/Pencil**

Being prepared for class is a requirement.

Course Goals & Objectives

By the end of Spanish I, you will be able to:

- Use **basic vocabulary and expressions** to communicate in Spanish
- Participate in conversations using familiar structures (greetings, descriptions, questions, likes/dislikes, activities, and more.)
- Understand and respond to **spoken Spanish** in class through context and repetition.
- Read and interpret **authentic materials** at a novice level (short stories, signs, menus, simple articles).
- Write short, simple messages, descriptions, and dialogues in Spanish.
- Develop an appreciation for the **cultures, traditions, and perspectives** of the Spanish-speaking world.

Important: Communication in the Spanish language is a requirement in this course. Mistakes are expected —they are part of learning!

Resources

- **Descubre 1** (VHL) – used as a guide for vocabulary and practice activities. (Textbooks remain in class; online access will be provided.)
- **Authentic resources** – songs, videos, stories, cultural texts, and real-world Spanish materials.
- **Google Classroom** – daily assignments, notes, vocabulary, announcements, and resources will be posted here.

Check Google Classroom daily.

Assignments & Assessments

- **Classwork & Participation (in Spanish!)** – daily speaking, listening, and interactive activities in Spanish.
- **Vocabulary Practice** – **frequent study is necessary.**
- **Homework** – short language practice activities including vocabulary and grammar, in addition, research topics and discussion topics are to be expected.
- **Projects** – cultural and language-based projects (some in class, some at home).
- **Tests & Quizzes** – vocabulary, listening comprehension, writing tasks, and unit tests (unit tests are always announced).

Class Participation & Language Use

- Spanish will be the main language used in the classroom with the use of English for clarification and some cultural topics and assignments.
- You are expected to **use Spanish every day in class**—even with limited vocabulary. Use what you know: greetings, basic expressions, sentence starters, and class vocabulary. Vocabulary is posted all throughout the classroom for your use.
- Participation includes effort in **listening carefully, responding in Spanish, and staying engaged**.

Remember: The more Spanish you use, the more confident and fluent you will become!

Grading Breakdown

- Classwork/Homework/participation (in Spanish) = 20%
- Quizzes = 20%
- Writing = 15%
- Tests/Projects = 30%
- Speaking = 15%

Class Rules & Expectations

- **Be respectful.**
- **Cell phones away.** Cell phones are not to be used during class time and must be put away in backpacks.
- Be on time and prepared- Come to class ready to learn with your chrome book, notebook, and a pen or pencil ready to begin at every class meeting.
- **There is No eating in class.**
- Take responsibility for your learning—ask questions, take risks, and try your best in Spanish.
- No Headphones during instruction and interactive activities.
- **No computer-based translations are allowed. All work must reflect your own Spanish knowledge. Plagiarism will result in a zero or failing grade. Using AI responsibly is permitted for brainstorming, practice, or feedback, but not for direct translation or replacing your own work.**

Consequences:

1. Grade reduction.
2. Parent contact.
3. Detention / Administrative disciplinary action.

Final Note

This course is designed to help you **communicate and connect** in Spanish. Every day, you'll be using Spanish to build your skills and confidence. Embrace mistakes, celebrate progress, and be open to discovering the cultures and voices of the Spanish-speaking world.



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I have read and understood the course policies and expectations.

print student name

student signature

date

parent/guardian signature

date

parent email

parent phone number

Which form of communication is preferred (circle one):

Email

Phone