



East Brunswick Magnet School
Spanish 1 CP Syllabus
Sra. McKay
Room: AC142
McKayE@mcmsnj.net



2025-2026

Welcome/Bienvenidos! This course has been designed to give students the necessary tools to not only communicate in Spanish but to understand cultural aspects of the Spanish-speaking world. Students will develop **novice-mid/high** proficiency in the four modes of language learning: speaking, listening, writing and reading. Students will be able to communicate using memorized words and some phrases to talk about familiar topics related to school, home, and the community.

Tutoring Hours: Every Wednesday & Thursday Rm AC142 3:30p-4:30p

Materials Required:

You must come prepared to class with the following materials:

- Chromebook and Chromebook Charger
- Notebook or Binder designated for Spanish
- Folder designated for Spanish
- Daily Planner/ Agenda
- Pen(s), Pencil(s), Eraser(s), Ruler, Glue Stick
- Box of Colored Pencils, Crayons, and/or Markers
- Cell phones are **NOT** permitted to be out during class unless approved by the teacher. Cellphones must be located in bookbags or locker.

Course Description:

Spanish 1 is a **beginning**-level course that covers and assesses the performance of (1) the basics of Spanish grammar, supported from and by each of the **four skill areas**: listening (novice mid level), speaking (novice low level), reading (novice mid level), and writing (novice mid level), and (2) the **three modes of communication** (interpretive, interpersonal, presentational). This course places emphasis on formulaic questions, key words and phrases for initiating, maintaining and ending a conversation, familiar topics, vocabulary accuracy, and correct pronunciation.

Intercultural communication is another key component of this course. Students are expected to investigate and interact through and with the Spanish language, so that they come up with and/or understand products, practices and behaviors characteristic of Spanish-speakers from a variety of countries, thus increasing their language and cultural awareness.

This course requires students' **commitment** to and **enthusiasm** for the Spanish language, looking to its legacy, importance, and usefulness in the United States and the global community.

Objectives:

1. Use the language to engage in **interpersonal communication**. (memorized words, phrases, questions, and answers)
2. Understand **words and concepts** presented in the language. (true cognates/friends, literal translations, similar syntax, familiar topics, language components [stems, prefixes, tones, verb endings, parts of speech], key concepts from different content areas)
3. Use the language to **present information** to an audience. (memorized items, appropriate pronunciation, reports, use of technology, roles and traditions in the target culture)
4. Compare the **students' culture** and the **target culture** (behaviors, cultural expectations, loan words, tangible culturally related objects) while enhancing awareness of and appreciation for the linguistic and cultural diversity of the Spanish-speaking countries.

*Make sure to check Google Classroom/Genesis every day for any missed work, updates, and messages.

CLASSWORK. All the work assigned in class must be turned in on time at the end of class, unless otherwise specified by the teacher, in order to receive full credit. Late classwork will receive partial credit of **10% off per day late**. After three days, late classwork will not be accepted, and a grade of zero will be given.

PARTICIPATION/CLASS COMMITMENT: You are expected to come to class on-time, prepared with your materials for class, the previous material learned, ready to participate, ready to study, be responsible for your work, and show mutual respect to your classmates and teacher.

HOMEWORK: Students will be given an assortment of Homework assignments that develop and then measure mastery. Homework is an essential part of learning, as it allows you to practice and reinforce the material covered in class. Completing homework assignments regularly is crucial for understanding the content, participating in class discussions, and keeping up with classwork. If you do not complete your homework, you may fall behind on key concepts. If homework is submitted late, there will be a penalty of **10% off per day late**. After three days, late homework will not be accepted, and a grade of zero will be given. Staying on top of homework is important to your success in this course. There will be a minimum of 5 homework assignments per MP.

QUIZZES: There will be a quiz after the completion of topics to check for understanding and may be bi-weekly. There will be a minimum of 4 quizzes per quarter and will add up to 20% of your final grade.

NOTEBOOK/BINDER: Students are required to maintain an organized Notebook/Binder for this class, which will be checked quarterly. Depending on quality and adherence to the teacher's criteria, students will earn either a quiz grade or a homework grade.

TESTS/PROJECTS (AND PRESENTATIONS): There will be at least 1 test given near the end of each MP to check for mastery. There will be paper-based benchmarks in the middle and end of the school year. There may be at least 1 project assigned per MP that has to be done according to the criteria specified in a rubric. The rubric will be shared in class to ensure the expectations are clear. Any projects not in alignment with the rubric will be scored accordingly. Tests and projects will count towards 30% of the final grade.

***For all Assignments**

- Expect to receive verbal and written assignments regularly.
- **Verbal use of the Spanish language is mandatory as this is part of learning a language and will be required throughout many class assignments.**
- SOME late classwork, in other words, work not submitted by the designated date and time, will be accepted but a deduction of points will be at the discretion of the teacher (based on factors such as the release of answers, quality of work, etc.).
- Students are required to complete missed work due to absences from school. As per District Policy, students will have 2 days for each day absent to make up work. In this regard, all students must communicate with the teacher in order to make up for missed work, in a way to keep communication a two-way street.

- You are expected to participate and put forth effort in class.
- It is the responsibility of the **student** to get the notes and/or assignment and make up any missed work during an absence.
- *Assignments are to be completed only by the student. Specific assignments where it is evident that a student has copied from another student, plagiarized, used Artificial Intelligence, etc will lead to a zero on the assignment as well as a referral to school administration. Acceptable use of online translators for some classwork will be modeled in class and must be in accordance with the class contents. This means that mistranslations, computer based translations, plagiarism, incorrect vocabulary, inaccurate verb tense/grammar, misspellings, among others, will affect the assignment grade.
- If a student fails to complete an assignment and there has been no communication, the student will receive a temporary failing grade (zero, NOT meant to discourage you), which must be taken as a reminder of the pending assignment. If the work is not eventually submitted, then the failing grade (zero) will be permanent.

Classroom Procedures / Expectations:

(These policies are in addition to the school policies in the Student Handbook which all students must follow.) **Please note – this syllabus is subject to revisions throughout the year. Any changes will be made clear.

1. Be Respectful! You must be respectful to your classmates, to learning and to the teacher.
2. Always be prepared and put effort into your work. Take responsibility for your education and work hard to achieve success!..
3. Follow directions and use the resources provided to you by me! NO outside resources permitted unless approved by the teacher.
4. Be on time! (unexcused/unexplained lates will result in after-school detention).
5. Be present-- participate and ask questions. NO work from any other classes will be permitted during Spanish class.
6. Electronic devices –You may **NOT** have your cell phone out unless permission was granted in advance or it's being used for an instructional purpose. **(Unprohibited use of cell-phones without permission will result in after-school detention)**
7. Passes are required before leaving the classroom.
8. Dismissal Procedure --Remain seated at the sound of the bell until dismissed by Sra. McKay. Please wait until I dismiss you.

Communication:

If you have questions about an assignment, you must see/contact me by email (mckaye@mcmsnj.net) or respond in the corresponding google classroom assignment. I will reply as soon as possible (max. 48 hours). As a piece of advice, do not wait until the last minute to get in touch.

You must check your Google Classroom course for assignments and your Genesis account for grade updates regularly.

***Unmet class procedures/rules and academic requirements will result in:**

- 1. Parent contact and/or afterschool detention.**
- 2. Administrative Disciplinary action.**

Grade Distribution and Minimum Assignments in gradebook:

The final grade will be determined in accordance with the following distribution and minimum gradebook assignments per marking period.

GRADING BREAKDOWN:

- Tests/Projects **30%** - (minimum 2 per MP)
- Quizzes **20%** - (minimum 4 per MP)
- Classwork/HW **20%**
- Writing assignments - **15%**
- Speaking Assignments -**15%**

100% - 20 assignments minimum per marking period

Grading Scale

A+ = 98-100	B+ =86-89	C+ =76-79	D= 65-69
A = 92-97	B = 82-85	C =72-75	F = 65 & below
A- =90-91	B- = 80-81	C- = 70-71	

Please review, print your name, and sign below to acknowledge that you understand and agree to the policies/procedures/expectations:

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____