



Moultonborough Academy
2007-2008
Course Syllabus

SPANISH GRADE 8

Ms. Crane

Course Description

Students will continue to practice conversations as well as reading and writing, moving to longer and more complicated discussions and/or readings. They will advance their vocabulary as well as their knowledge of the grammar of the language as they attempt to speak and write in more complex sentences. The cultures of Guatemala and/or Chile will be studied during the reading of the novels, *Patricia va a California* and *Casi se muere*. By the end of the 8th grade, students who have been successful in both grade 7 and grade 8 are ready to enter the 2nd level of high school foreign language classes.

The methodology for teaching the Spanish language used in this course is Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling (TPRS), which was invented by Blaine Ray. It provides a language-rich environment that promotes foreign language learning by what sounds right. TPRS storytelling provides natural language acquisition through meaningful, personalized and often humorous situations. It does not stress grammatical instruction, but rather encourages grammatical correctness by repetition and modeling of structure in stories, speech and printed materials. Grammar is taught unsheltered and in context; simple regurgitation is not promoted. TPRS storytelling requires that students be active participants in class as they engage in conversation, answer questions and perform oral skits and presentations in Spanish. TPRS storytelling promotes long-term memory retention because it is visual, physical, acoustical and contextual.

**Opportunity to demonstrate Self-Management competency*

Assessment/Grading

Quizzes/Classwork	15%
Homework	20%
Daily Language Practice (Participation)	25%
Tests/Projects	40%

1. No individual extra credit will be offered. It is your responsibility to complete all assigned work.
2. Homework must be completed on time in order to receive credit. Students with an excused absence may turn in assignments according to the student handbook policy. Students are responsible for finding out what work they missed and for showing it to the teacher.
3. On nights that no written homework is assigned students should review notes and study vocabulary.
4. All tests and quizzes will be unannounced. Students should always be prepared.

5. Class attendance and participation is imperative. If a class is missed, the student will need to write a 75-100 word essay in Spanish using the vocabulary being studied. Please see Ms. Crane's participation guidelines to see how a student's participation will be assessed.
6. Missed quizzes and tests must be made up according to school policy.
7. Cheating on any work will result in a zero. Using a web - based translator for homework assignments is prohibited.
8. Students are expected to look up unknown words in a dictionary. Students may use on-line dictionaries such as www.wordreference.com.

Expectations

1. Only Spanish will be spoken in the classroom. Please see the exceptions to this rule listed on a separate student handout..
2. Come to class on time and prepared with all required materials (see list below). If you are late or need to go back to your locker for any materials you will be considered tardy to class. Three tardies will result in a detention during lunch.
3. Be in your seat and prepared to work when the bell rings. Pencils also must be sharpened before the bell rings.
4. Be courteous and respectful to your classmates, teacher and others in the room.
5. Do not work on anything other than Spanish in Spanish class. All other items will be taken from any student who chooses to work on other subjects or write notes/letters during class.
6. Do not bring any food, gum or drinks other than water to class.
7. Take everything you brought to class with you when you leave. Pick up all your things and dispose of all trash when you leave.
8. If you are going to be late to your next class because of an activity you are working on for me please ask me for a pass.
9. Students are allowed sufficient time between classes for restroom trips. Please limit restroom visits during class.

*Speaking only Spanish in class will help you build confidence, improve your pronunciation and further your understanding of the Spanish language. Most importantly, have fun learning Spanish. Knowing a foreign language can open a whole new world of opportunities!

Required Materials:

Notebook or 3 – ring binder w/ paper
 Writings utensils
 Folder or Pocket in notebook

Material provided in class:

Workbook
 Textbook

Contact Information:

E-mail awhitton@moultonborough.k12.nh.us
 School Phone: (603) 476-5517 ext. 126

Available times: 10:01 - 10:46 D Block
 12:47 - 1:32 G Block

Copies of Parent Guides can be viewed by logging on to www.moultonborough.k12.nh.us or by calling Moultonborough Academy at 476-5517