

SYLLABUS & EXPECTATIONS

Teacher: Señora Cross

Class: Spanish 1 Basic

Contact: Kristen_Cross@wrsd.net

Room: C108

Online: www.cuadernospanol.com (assignments, notes, calendar, etc.) & Google Classroom

I. Course Overview:

Online: Please check Google Classroom and the class website for notes and updates: www.cuadernospanol.com. For accommodation purposes: All copies of notes and study guides will be provided digitally on the class website. If the student requires paper copies, they/their guardian should contact Mrs. Cross at Kristen_Cross@wrsd.net for arrangements.

Wachusett Mission Statement

Wachusett Regional High School is committed to an educational process that fosters independence and responsibility in our students. By offering diverse, challenging, academic programs and rich co-curricular activities, WRHS strives to provide students with the skills and knowledge to achieve their potential as life-long learners. *Core Values: Communication, Citizenship & Responsibility, Critical Thinking & Problem Solving, Collaboration, and Creativity & Innovation.*

World Language Mission Statement and Wachusett District Goals for Languages:

The World Languages curriculum at Wachusett Regional High School supports communicative proficiency, based upon the development of the four language skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking as well as cultural awareness.

- Students pursue proficiency in another language so that they may achieve purposeful and meaningful communication.
- Students develop an understanding of another culture that supports their positive interaction with diverse people.
- Students understand the commonalities of language learning.
- Students experience language learning that encourages spontaneity, risk-taking, and personal growth.
- Students develop the language skills essential to understanding authentic materials such as newspapers, film, television, magazines, etc.

Requirements to move on:

All students must obtain an overall (year end average) of **60% (D-)** in order to continue on to the next level of Spanish (Spanish 2 Practical). Students must complete a minimum of 2 consecutive years in one language in order to graduate from Wachusett.

Overview:

Students will learn basic vocabulary and structures on a variety of topics as well as the customs and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. Each topic will be presented in several modalities. Students will participate in many hands-on activities – including skits, presentations, projects, posters, comics, and games.

Language Use:

Spanish is expected to be used by both the teacher and the student as much as possible. In the first year of instruction, there will be regular use of the target language, which will increase to prepare students for the frequent use of the language in Spanish 2 Practical. Note: if students are having difficulty keeping up with the class, they are encouraged to come for extra help before or after school.

Department Homework Policy:

In the World Languages Department, the purpose of homework is to provide students the opportunity to further develop their language skills and cultural awareness. It serves to reinforce newly introduced concepts and knowledge, review previously learned material, and supplement concepts that have already been introduced (especially cultural material). Given the skills-based nature of the World Language Curriculum, homework will be assigned regularly.

II. Course Topics:

Semester 1

Introduction – Spanish culture and language, geography, alphabet, important words

Chapter 1 – *Empecemos/España*: Greetings, introductions, days and dates, verb *ser*, forming sentences, accents and punctuation, culture of Spain

Chapter 2 – *A conocernos/Puerto Rico*: Describing people and things, likes, agreement, adjectives, prepositions, culture of Puerto Rico

Semester 2

Chapter 3 – *¿Qué te gusta hacer?/Texas*: Likes, pastimes, sports, activities, weather, -AR verbs, *gustar*, *querer*, *ir*, *jugar*, culture of Texas

Chapter 4 – *La vida escolar/Costa Rica*: school and classes, plans, verb *tener*, *venir*, *ir a*, -ER and -IR verbs, culture of Costa Rica

Chapter 5 – *En casa con la familia/Chile*: family members, describing people, talking about the house, stem-changing verbs, the verbs *estar*, *tocar*, and *parecer*, culture of Chile.

III. Course Objectives for Learning:

Wachusett Student Learning Expectations:

- Students will: exercise responsible citizenship, communicate effectively, think critically and solve problems, think creatively, collaborate and learn actively, and use technology effectively.

World Language objectives for students of Spanish:

- Students will converse in Spanish to provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
- Students will introduce and respond to introductions, express needs and emotions, ask and answer questions, ask and respond in order to clarify, conduct interviews, give and follow directions, read and interpret texts, write simple paragraphs.
- Students will understand and interpret ideas and information from written or spoken Spanish.
- Students will write and speak in Spanish to present information, concepts, and ideas on a variety of topics.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the traditions, perspectives, practices, and products of the Hispanic culture, including human commonalities as reflected in history, literature and the visual arts.
- Students will use Spanish within and beyond the school setting.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the nature of language through comparison of Spanish with their own language.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the concept of culture through comparison of the Hispanic culture with that of the United States.
- Students will use Spanish to reinforce and expand their knowledge of other disciplines and to acquire new information and knowledge.

IV. Required Materials:

1. Students must bring the following to every class. Students are encouraged to leave their Spanish Binder in the classroom when not needed. Having these materials is part of your grade.

- Separate 3-ring binder for Spanish class only, with lined paper
- Pen, pencil
- Headphones to be used with Chromebooks
- School issued Chromebooks.
- Chromebooks charger if you haven't charged your Chromebook.

2. There will be a physical set of textbooks in the classroom for student use. Students can access an electronic copy at home or in ASR. They should see Google Classroom for details. Textbook – ¡Exprésate! 1A ISBN: 0-03-073696-X

V. Spanish Binder:

Students should be keeping a binder of all paper work done in class. Students should keep all their work to use as a study guide for the mid-term and final exams. Binders are generally kept in class, but may be brought home/to ASR as needed. The binder may be checked for organization, assignments, and notes. Questions of the Day will be checked electronically. The binder should be split into the following sections:

1. **Vocabulario (Vocabulary)** – All vocabulary lists
2. **Apuntes (Notes)** – Notes taken during class and handouts given.
3. **Trabajo de Clase (Class Work)** – Any classwork or study guides completed.
4. **Proyectos (Projects)** – Any projects completed in class.

VI. Chromebooks, Class Websites, and Internet Access:

Usage:

Students will have assignments, notes and other resources that they will need access to the Internet for, both inside and outside of school. During class time, students may work on Chromebooks (either school issued or borrowed from teacher/media center when available). Outside of class, if they do not have computer and/or Internet access at home, students may utilize the media center before and after school, access the school Internet via Chromebook or phone before or after school, or arrange a time to use a Chromebook with their teacher. If a student will not be able to complete homework due to Internet access issues, they must see/contact their teacher prior to class for an extension and/or a printed copy that they can later transcribe. Students who have been issued a school Chromebook are expected to bring it charged every day. All extra copies of notes and study guides will be provided digitally at the class website unless arranged for otherwise with the teacher.

Conduct:

Use of Chromebooks and/or any other electronics in class will be solely at the teacher's discretion. Students should ask for permission from the teacher prior to using any electronic devices, including cellphones, smartwatches, or Chromebooks. Students may be asked to put the Chromebooks away and are expected to do so immediately or they will be subject to the school disciplinary code. No electronics of any kind are allowed to be used while taking an assessment. Use of any electronic (including smartwatches and cellphones) during an assessment will result in a zero and contact home. Cell phone usage is also solely at the teacher's discretion. Any inappropriate use of the Internet or electronics will be subject to the same penalties as other disciplinary infractions.

Online Class Resources:

Students should be accessing the class website **www.cuadernospanol.com** to view copies of class notes, study guides, vocabulary lists, etc. Students should also be accessing and checking the class **Google Classroom** page on a regular basis for assignments and links. Students will be given access codes to Google Classroom at the beginning of the year and will be using it to complete many types of assignments. In addition, because students will be issued a digital login and password to the class textbook, they will need to login to the textbook via the link provided on Google Classroom as needed for assignments, textbook access, and other materials.

VII. Rules and Expectations

1. Respect – you will be respectful of the teacher, classroom, other students and yourself.
2. Assignments will be completed and turned in on time. Assignments are due during class unless otherwise noted.
3. You will come prepared to each class and ready to work – bringing your binder/notebook, Chromebook, headphones, and a pencil. You are expected to be attentive and participate throughout the entire class.
4. Do not bring to or use in class anything that would disrupt or distract others. No cellphones, music, electronics (other than Chromebooks), games, makeup, or food allowed in class (other than snack time).
5. **Chromebooks** may only be used at the discretion of the teacher. They must be brought to class each day and must be charged. You should also have **headphones** which may only be used on assignments.
6. Bags and purses will not be allowed on desks. They must be stored under the desk or in a locker during class time.
7. Class attendance is very important for success in this course. You need to attend class and arrive on time. Tardiness is not acceptable (you must be in your seat by the time the bell rings!). Excessive absences may cause you to fall behind in your work. Keep up with missed work at cuadernospanol.com and Google Classroom.
8. **Cheating will not be tolerated**. Any student suspected of cheating may receive a zero on the assignment and/or additional punishment. Do not use an online translator or AI to complete any assignment or part of an assignment. Only dictionaries are allowed to look up unknown words and only with teacher permission. All work must be your own! Do not ask other students, relatives, or friends for help on assignments without permission from instructor. Providing assignments for others to copy/reference will also be considered cheating.

School Policy: All students' academic work must reflect their own honest efforts. Cheating and plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to copying homework, papers, lab reports, or quiz or test answers; acquiring or disseminating quizzes or tests before they are administered; or using information from the Internet or other outside sources without proper attribution. Any student known to have cheated will be subjected to penalties, up to receiving "0" for the work. Students who collaborate with others in cheating by allowing their papers to be copied or by other means will be subjected to penalties commensurate with their involvement, which may include the student receiving "0" for the work or suffering significant grade reduction. Generative AI, such as ChatGPT, is able to produce content (written, audio, visual) which bypasses the creative functions of its users. Similar to the school's policy on plagiarism, students at WRHS are responsible for submitting their own work, displaying their own understanding, knowledge and creativity. Like with plagiarism, teachers will be monitoring the use of AI within their classroom and student work. It is the responsibility of the student to prove that AI was not used by showing the evolution of their work through outlines, drafts, editing, proper citations, etc. If the student admits to using AI or cannot sufficiently defend the authenticity of their work, the consequence will be the same as plagiarism. In all cases, the principal or the class administrator along with the department head and teacher will be informed about both the incident and the penalty imposed, and the parent/guardian will be notified. The administration reserves the right to impose other penalties up to and including removal from the course, removal from honor societies, and loss of eligibility for scholarships with "honor" as criteria.

VIII. Consequences

Failure to comply with classroom expectations will result in a discussion about your behavior after class/school, a detention, a call home to your parents, and/or a team meeting. The student may be required to write a one-page essay describing why they are serving the detention, what they could have done differently to avoid receiving the detention, and their plans to modify their future behavior. Continual disruption to the class may result in grade penalties and/or a behavior meeting.

VIX. Grading:

Term Grade:

40% - Summative Assessments (Tests & Projects)
30% - Formative Assessments (Quizzes)
20% - Class Work & Binder Checks
10% - Homework

Year Grade:

20% - Term 1	20% - Term 3
20% - Term 2	20% - Term 4
10% - Mid-Term Test	10% - Final Exam

- **Summative Assessments:** At least one per quarter. This may include department standardized tests, classroom projects, and classroom summative assessments/tests. These assessments will generally be given near the end of a unit to assess students' skills and knowledge. They are comprised of four sections: listening comprehension (25%), speaking (25%), written composition (25%), and reading (25%).
- **Projects:** Students will be given several projects throughout the year and will be responsible for completing it during the assigned class time and outside of class if needed. Projects are equivalent to summative assessment grade.
- **Formative Assessments (Quizzes):** Given throughout each unit. Formative assessments may include department standardized quizzes, classroom formative assessments/quizzes and take-home quizzes. They may cover vocabulary, grammar, culture, and other content discussed during class.
- **Class work and participation:** Work done during class time. Based on participating in class discussions, answering questions, and completing assigned class work. Students will work in the five main areas during class to practice: speaking, listening, writing, reading, and culture.
- **Homework:** Homework is an essential part of learning and practice. You are expected to complete it fully and bring it on the day it is due. Vocabulary lists will be counted as a triple homework grade. *Late homework will **not** be accepted.* In the case of an absence, regular makeup time is given to complete the missing homework.
- **Homework passes:** Passes are worth 5 points and may be used for a missing homework assignment or added to a classwork grade. They may not be used for vocabulary lists or parental signatures or take-home quizzes.
- **Binder checks:** Equivalent to a classwork grade. Checking to see that you have been taking notes, keeping handouts and answering the question of day.
- **Extra credit:** Options will be given throughout the year for points on homework/classwork. However, students should not rely on extra credit to make up for not turning in assigned work. (ie. extra credit may not be accepted if a student has missed a large number of other assignments. Extra credit is not applicable to assessments.)
- **Make up/Missing work:** Students should try to make up work within 2 school days for every day absent. For more than a week absent, make up time will be done on a case-by-case basis – see teacher **immediately**. It is the *responsibility of the student* to stay on top of missed work and arrange for a time to make up any missed quizzes/tests. Students will not be allowed to make up quizzes/tests during the school day. They must come in before or after school to make up work. All makeup and missing work is due by the end of the grading quarter unless otherwise specified. Check **PowerSchool, cuadernospanol.com, & Google Classroom** for missed work when you are out! If you miss an assignment or assessment while absent a zero/absent will be put in PowerSchool until the assignment is made up.

X. Contact

Contacting Sra. Cross:

If you have any questions including needing help with work/assignments or arranging makeup times, you may talk to me before or after class, email me, or message me through Google Classroom. My email address: **Kristen_Cross@wrsd.net**. You can also visit **www.cuadernospanol.com**, the **Google Classroom** site for resources and the link to the online textbook.

Before/After School Extra Help and Makeups:

Extra help and makeups are offered most every day before school and after school specific days a week in room C108. For after school extra help and makeups, students must arrange a day and time prior to staying after and can check the posted days that are listed weekly in C108. Students are also welcome to come in for extra help before school starts – I will generally be in C108 by 7am.