

WAPPINGERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Second Language Department

Course Syllabus

Course Name	Spanish 5 Advanced Placement
Course Code	L556 (L555 for no Advanced Placement exam)
Duration	Full Year
Grade	9-12
Credit	1.0
Rank	1.06 (1.04 for no Advanced Placement Exam)
Prerequisite	Must have passed Spanish 4 or the equivalent.
Assessment	A teacher-created final exam, term paper or culminating project will be included and counted as 20% of the final course average. Students in this course are also expected to take the Advanced Placement exam in the Spanish language in May. There is fee for this exam which is determined by the College Board and is the responsibility of the student. In the event that a student does not take the AP exam, the student's report card and transcript will reflect only a course in Honors.
Textbook	<p>Students may use one or more of the following:</p> <p><i>Conexiones</i> (Prentice Hall, 2002)</p> <p><i>Abriendo Paso</i> (Prentice Hall, 1995)</p> <p><i>Una Vez Mas</i> (Prentice Hall, 1993)</p> <p><i>AP Book</i> (Prentice Hall, 1996)</p> <p><i>La Catrina, El Ultimo Secreto</i> (Addison-Wesley, 1999)</p> <p><i>Leyendas del Mundo Hispano</i> (Prentice Hall, 2000)</p>
Areas of Study	<p>This course is intended for the accelerated/honors student who is prepared to meet the rigorous academic demands of advanced placement work, as it is the final part of a two-year sequence that prepares students to meet the challenges of the College Board's Advanced Placement exam. As an Advanced Placement-level course, grades are weighted.</p> <p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to refine their listening comprehension skills as they learn to recognize nuances, subtleties and humor in the language of a native speaker Be able to expand their own level of communication in the target language through

	<p>the use of more specific vocabulary and idiomatic expressions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to comprehend and appreciate the content of a variety of authentic print texts – from newspapers and magazine to contemporary short stories • Be able to express feelings and opinions on a broad range of topics through the written form <p>Topics will include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Environment - the environment and ecological issues, impact on human life, economy, aesthetics. • Family Life – Rapport among members of the community • Meal Taking- Food, Drink, special occasions, eating out, socializing in public establishments • Education – diploma, roles, responsibilities, expectations, personnel, society's needs • Earning a Living – volunteer work, occupation, job market, interview, application, resume • Shopping – consumer publications, labels, information brochures • Current Events – Politics, world events, catastrophes, social issues, miscellaneous news • Travel and Cultural Exchanges – travel agency, itinerary, sites, historical sites, modes of travel.
For Information	<p>For the complete Advanced Placement course outline/syllabus, click here for John Jay or RCK.</p> <p>For more information on the Advanced Placement program, see http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/descriptions/index.html</p> <p>For a complete review of the NYS Learning Standards for Languages Other Than English (LOTE), see: http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/lot/pub/lotelea.pdf</p> <p>For a complete core curriculum for LOTE, (especially pp. 12 – 19), see: http://emsc32.nysed.gov/guides/lot/partI1.pdf</p>

Welcome back students:

A new school year has arrived and I want to welcome you back hoping that you enjoyed the summer and that you are looking forward, as I am, to a very successful and exciting academic year. As your teacher, I expect you to set positive, attainable academic goals.

Course Content:

The level 5AP course is a language intensive college level course. This course is also considered an Honors class and thus it is weighted as such. As a college level course, all topics listed under Checkpoint C of the NYS Foreign Language Objectives will be covered in preparation for the AP exam in May. The AP Spanish Language exam is a very demanding exam. Success in the AP requires an intensive two-year preparation which began in level 4. The intensity of this level will require you, the student, to take responsibility for your own learning. It is expected that you have learned the basic grammatical topics and vocabulary covered in levels 1 through 4. The structures covered in levels 1-4 will be quickly reviewed and new structures will be introduced and explained in detail. However, all conjugations will be learned and practiced at home so that we may use class time to effectively clarify any confusion in the uses of some of the most difficult structures.

As always, vocabulary will play an extremely important part throughout the entire course. The course will center around authentic reading and audio materials from the textbook, magazines, internet and short stories.

Spanish will be used in class at all times during class and outside of class. I fully expect that your participation will likewise be in Spanish. **Always!!** Don't expect to be perfect. It's OK to make mistakes--just try to say what you need to say in Spanish by the use of circumlocution. Communication is our primary goal, not perfection. **I will not respond to your questions if you speak to me in English, so you are going to have to try to communicate in Spanish!** Have faith in yourself; you know more than you realize. Take a moment to think about what you want to say, then say it in Spanish. Your active participation in all class activities will help you to have a successful, and hopefully, enjoyable experience and it is very important in preparation for success on the new Advanced Placement exam.

Please understand that this course does not follow the same structure that you may find in levels 1 through 4. The preparation for the AP exam must be quite different to achieve our goal. As such the testing will also be different. Thus you will not find the usual fill-in the blank types of questions. You will be asked to read, listen and synthesize information to formulate your responses in both written and oral forms.

Course requirements:

1. **notebook** - I strongly recommend a three ring binder. There will be many handouts given throughout the year. The binder will help keep you organized.
2. **textbooks** – *Conexiones Comunicación y Cultura*, *AP Spanish Review*, *Abriendo Paso* and *Una Vez Más*.

Course grading:

TESTS + QUIZZES + HOMEWORK + CLASS PARTICIPATION = QUARTER GRADE

Expected distribution of grades: (This can change depending on the work assigned)

Tests and Projects- 25%, Quizzes- 25%, Homework- 25%, Participation- 25%

Oral grades are included as quiz grades unless they are part of a major test or project.

All homework will be posted on my website and announced in class daily. Make sure that you visit the website daily. If you do not have access to the internet at home, you may check the website at the beginning or at the end of class on the classroom's computer. My website address is <http://www.wappingersschools.org/229320615125029947/>. Each homework assignment counts toward the homework grade. If you do 30 assignments out of 30, then you will receive a 100% for your homework grade. If your assignment is not complete, you will not receive credit. In addition, homework less than half complete receives no credit. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of doing the homework consistently and thoroughly. **All tests and quizzes reflect the work covered in class and reviewed at home. If you understand the homework, you will experience success on the tests and quizzes. You will also have unannounced quizzes based on the homework assigned on a regular basis.**

Class participation is extremely important. I keep track of everything you do in class. Going to the board and volunteering answers are two simple ways of receiving checks in this area. These checks will count towards your grade. If you don't participate, you won't be able to do the homework assignments, and you won't be able to pass the tests and quizzes.

Make-ups:

It is **your** responsibility to see that you are current on all assignments, tests, etc., not the teacher's. Makeup's are to be done within two days of a legal absence. Any exceptions must be discussed with me BEFORE the work is late. **NO MAKEUP = ZERO. CUTTING CLASS = ZERO.**

If you are absent, I expect that you will find out the assignments due by either checking the website, calling a classmate or e-mailing me. When you return from an absence, I expect to see all work due on that day unless you have made arrangements with me. You will be expected to take any quizzes that are based on the homework assigned for that date. Thus, being absent on the previous day is not an excuse. Please note that, last minute changes may not be available on the website. I will **not** accept late assignments. Make use of my e-mail address at senorabeiner@gmail.com. You may also contact me via instant message.

Failure to hand in a project on time will result in a zero (0). I will not accept late projects. You will have plenty of time to do any assigned projects and to do them right!

Extra help:

This will normally take place after school. I will stay after school on any given day, as long as I have not made prior plans. Students should inform me, during class, of their intention to come in for extra help. If more extra help is needed, you should consider a private tutor. Please seek help well before the tests and quizzes take place.

As you can see, this course will be quite differently than your previous Spanish courses. I invite you to take this challenge and embrace the language and its culture. It will be a very exciting year with lots of interesting activities and topics. This is the only way to give you the college level experience at the high school level.

¿QUÉ VAMOS A HACER EN ESTA CLASE?

Muchas actividades interesantes y divertidas:

--Haremos lecciones de *Abriendo paso: Lectura* y de *Abriendo paso: Gramática*. Haremos tareas escritas, presentaciones orales, y exámenes sobre estos dos libros. Las lecciones incluyen gramática, lecturas, y temas para escribir.

-- El segundo semestre: Haremos actividades de práctica para el Examen A.P. del libro *A.P. Spanish: Preparing for the Language Examination*.

*****¡¡HABLAREMOS PURO ESPAÑOL EN ESTA CLASE DE HOY EN ADELANTE!!**

Con las actividades de *Abriendo paso: Lectura* y *Gramática*, practicaremos todas las habilidades para pasar el examen de A.P. en mayo. Se incluirán **actividades auténticas** de estos dos libros para desarrollar las

habilidades de **hablar, escribir, leer, escuchar, y analizar** en **registros diferentes** (en situaciones formales e informales) para que sepan usar el vocabulario apropiado para audiencias diferentes. Enfatizaremos la **gramática** apropiada, y leeremos de una variedad de **obras literarias** en español.

A partir de marzo, usaremos el libro *Advanced Placement Spanish: Preparing for the Language Examination, 3rd Edition* (José Díaz, et. al, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007), el que nos dará práctica directa para el examen en mayo.

Dear parents and guardians:

Your child is enrolled in the Spanish 5AP course. Advanced Placement Spanish Language is intended for students who wish to develop their proficiency in all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. This course prepares students for the AP Spanish Language Examination that attempts to evaluate levels of performance in the use of the language, both in understanding written and spoken Spanish and in writing and speaking with ease in correct and idiomatic Spanish.

Students should already have a basic knowledge of the language and culture of Spanish-speaking people and should have attained a reasonable proficiency in listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Extensive training in the organization and writing of compositions will be an integral part of the AP Spanish Language course.

Reading is the foremost vocabulary builder; it makes the language and culture come alive. Students will become critical readers, and must be able to summarize accurately an argument they have read, locate the thesis of an argument, analyze, evaluate, and account for discrepancies among various readings on a topic. The vocabulary will be based on the standard lexicon used in all Spanish-speaking countries. The readings are very diverse in content and authorship. The students will be provided with strategies to improve their reading skills, such as scanning, skimming, and decoding.

As thoughtful writers, students should be able to write effectively, present information in an orderly and coherent way, incorporate sources, into their own writing, and to develop a thoughtful argument of their own.

As far as the grammatical aspect of the course, the explanations of structure will be brief and clear, to enable students to concentrate on the structural practice for maximum efficiency in learning. The exercises will directly follow the points of grammar to which they apply.

The College Board, a national nonprofit membership association whose mission is to prepare, inspire, and connect students to college opportunity, as well as John Jay High School are committed to the principle that all students deserve an opportunity to participate in rigorous and academically challenging courses and programs. Our students, by taking The Advanced Placement Spanish Language course and passing the corresponding exam in **May**, will earn college credits while still in high school.

The Advanced Placement Spanish Language course covers the equivalent of a third-year-college course in advanced Spanish writing and conversation. It encompasses aural/oral skills, reading comprehension, grammar, and composition. Students taking this course, emphasizing the use of Spanish for active communication, have the following objectives:

- The ability to comprehend formal and informal spoken Spanish.
- The acquisition of vocabulary and a grasp of structure to allow the easy, accurate reading of newspaper and magazine articles, as well as modern literature in Spanish.
- The skill to compose expository passages.

- The aptitude to express ideas orally with accuracy and fluency.

The course content will best reflect intellectual interests shared by the students and teacher (the arts, literature, drama, poems, acting, music, history, current events, oral presentations, guided discussions. etc.). Therefore the grammar, vocabulary and orthography will be covered in context.

As you can see, this course will be quite differently than your child's previous Spanish courses. The intensity of this level will require your child to take responsibility for his/her own learning. The preparation for the AP exam must be quite different to achieve our goal. As such the testing will also be different. Thus students will not find the usual fill-in the blank types of questions. They will be asked to read, listen and synthesize information to formulate their responses in both written and oral forms.

I invite your child to take this challenge and embrace the language and its culture. It will be a very exciting year with lots of interesting activities and topics. This is the only way to give your child the college level experience at the high school level.

I firmly believe that students receive the best education possible when there is a good working relationship between parents/guardians and teacher. Therefore, it is very important that you and I work together toward achieving this goal. If you have a question or concern about your child's progress, please do not hesitate to call me here at John Jay (897-6700 ext. 116). If I am in class I'll return the call as soon as possible. If you are online, you may e-mail me if you wish. My e-mail address is senorabeiner@gmail.com. This is sometimes the best way to reach me as I check and respond to my e-mail every night.

Thanking you in advance for your support.

Nancy Beiner