



Welcome to the WCSD Languages other than English Program

This course is offered through WCSD and offers an immersive language learning experience on a daily basis for all students. Our World Language programs offer honor societies at the High School Level for all of our languages as well as opportunities for cultural and collaborative learning at the secondary levels. Through our language program, our students have the opportunity to achieve their Advanced Regents Diploma, the NYS Seal of Biliteracy, and take Advanced Placement courses. Our students are guided by talented teachers with years of experience teaching in the district as well as at local colleges and universities. We align our work to the NYSED Standards of LOTE and the ACTFL World Readiness Standards for Learning Languages to provide opportunities for students to pursue their passion through language, culture and rigor.



Spanish 7 and Spanish 1

Teacher: Mrs. Elizabeth Cruz

Email: elizabeth.cruz@wcsdny.org → best way to contact me

Website: Click 'Cruz, Elizabeth' under the Van Wyck 'Teachers' tab

Course codes: Spanish 7 - L515, Spanish I - L516

Course Information:

The World Languages sequence of Spanish is broken down into two parts at the middle school level: Spanish 7 (7th grade) and Spanish I (8th grade). At the end of 8th grade students will receive one high school credit upon successful completion of the course and pertinent assessment(s).

The following six themes will guide our course of study for the school year:

1. Personal and Public Identities
2. Families and Communities
3. Contemporary Life
4. Beauty, Aesthetics, and the Arts
5. Science and Technology
6. Global Challenges

Course Objectives:

In my class, students will become listeners, readers, writers and, speakers of the Spanish language, while immersing ourselves in the culture of the Spanish speaking world. Students will begin to develop confidence using the Spanish language to communicate in various forms. Active classroom participation in all forms is of utmost importance and is the key to successfully acquiring a language.

Classroom Supplies: (when we return to the building)

Items you will need to bring to class:

- a section divider labeled "Spanish" in a shared binder
- one pack of pens and/or pencils (#2) - can use mechanical pencils if you wish
- a pencil sharpener (if you aren't using mechanical pencils)
- loose leaf paper

NO folders!

Additional Supplies:

1. One dispenser of hand sanitizer, 1 box tissues and 1 Clorox Wipes for the classroom.
2. 3 x 5 Index cards (with a zip-lock baggie for each set of flashcards made per topic)
3. Coloring supplies - crayons, markers or colored pencils (left at home until needed)
4. Construction paper or blank computer paper (for projects)

Classroom Rules (for both virtual and in-person instruction):

1. Be respectful -- of me, of each other, of our classroom resources, and our time together
2. Be responsible -- always do your best, complete all assignments in a timely manner, work daily to improve your Spanish skills, and ask for help if you need it
3. Be safe -- follow all directions provided by me, the WCSD Code of Conduct, and the district's guidelines for online learning and class participation

Grading:

Your quarterly grade will be calculated using the following criteria:

- Classroom Engagement** → **30%** this may include, but is not limited to: classwork, listening, reading, writing, speaking tasks, dialogues, etc.
- Projects/Quizzes** → **30%** (quizzes may or may not be announced in advance)
- Assessments** → **40%** (tests will always be announced in advance)

*The use of ANY online translators is forbidden in this class. I will provide you with the link to an online dictionary you can use when necessary. I'd rather you try your best and make mistakes than submitting work that is not your own! If I suspect a translator was used for any assignment you will receive 0% for that assignment, and you will not have the opportunity to re-do that assignment.

Attendance:

Attending class daily is mandatory and will be recorded in School Tool as per district policy. While you are learning synchronously you must attend the live class sessions following your student schedule. Our scheduled times are already in the Google Classroom banner. Please remember to attend. Please make every effort to use our daily live lessons to speak as much Spanish as possible -- the more you practice the easier it gets!

*It is the responsibility of *the student* to seek out and make up any missed assignments!*

This school year has begun like no other, but I am confident that it will be the best one yet! Let's work together and make Spanish class informative, enriching, and fun! :) I am always available by email (elizabeth.cruz@wcsdny.org) to answer any questions you may have.

Parents/Guardians: please print this document to retain with your records for reference throughout the academic year.

Gracias!