Las metas | Goals
Students in this introductory Spanish course will build their base in the language, gaining fundamental knowledge and abilities to succeed in future Spanish courses and in being able to communicate effectively in the language outside of the classroom.

These skills are nurtured and grown by integrating vocabulary, grammar, and effective communication skills into the appropriate cultural contexts.

The selected textbook for this course, Santillana Español I, will be used as a guide by which we will become familiar with a number of the countries that make up the Spanish-speaking world.

Poems, short stories, music, and a selection of other original contemporary and classical works in their original Spanish will help students develop an appreciation for the variety of cultures, histories, and experiences that continue to shape the language.

Los materiales | Materials
It is expected that students arrive each day with the following required materials:
- Loose-leaf or notebook-bound paper
- A practical quantity of pencils or pens
- A folder or binder in which to store loose-leaf paper/a notebook and handouts

Pre-IB Spanish I is organized into 8 units of study by the provided textbook, each one exploring different Spanish-speaking regions with cultural similarities.

Los recursos | Resources
I use Remind to communicate outside of class. This app allows communication between teachers and students without the exchange of personal phone numbers. This will be used for reminders about due dates, to allow students to ask questions about homework, or to communicate during a break or absence.

We will be using SeeSaw to keep a digital portfolio of our work during the year. Many assignments can be completed, graded, and kept for review within the app. There is also a version for parents or guardians that allow the tracking of a student's progress.

There is literature included that provides details on how to sign up for both services.

Access to technology is not always something that everyone has. If there ever arises a situation in which a usually-reliable device or service is not available, please let me know. I will accommodate any student who does not have their own device or access to the internet at home.
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Classroom procedures
1. Please, enter the classroom quietly and calmly.
2. Typically, students will have free choice of where to sit. However, as we will be varying our activities throughout the year, I will provide instructions as I meet you at the door on how to be seated if the day's lesson calls for a specific arrangement.

3. The class period will begin with an assignment projected or written onto the board in the front of the room. Students are expected to begin this "bellringer" activity when they have taken a seat in the classroom.

4. When a student has completed the beginning activity, they should review their answers, prepare any other materials for the day's lesson, or take out any homework from the previous night.

5. We, as a class, will review the beginning activity before moving on. This will usually be a refresher of what we learned the previous day, an exercise in a concept we are currently working on, or a light introduction into a concept we will begin to discuss that day.

6. If you need to get a pencil, tissue, etc., there is no need to get permission. I do ask that, in my classroom, you move with a purpose; get up, retrieve the item(s) that you need, and return to your seat.

Additional procedures

**When you are tardy**, enter the room quietly. Find and take a seat. If the beginning activity has been taken down, I will speak with you in class during independent study or after class to provide you direction for what you missed.

**When you are absent**, you will have 1 day per day missed to complete and return your missed assignments. Let me know after class if you have been out of and I will provide you with any hard-copy materials that you missed out on receiving. If the absence is unexcused, it will be at the discretion of the instructor to allow any missed work to be made up.

**If you have work that is late**, the teacher may require that a replacement assignment be completed for credit in lieu of the original, graded and returned assignment that was late. As your active participation will develop a strong foundation, homework assignments are designed to prepare you for upcoming summatives.

**If you need to leave the classroom**, raise your hand and wait for me to acknowledge you. I will give you a pass to fill out with the date, time, your name, and destination. Upon completing that, raise your hand again and I will either sign your pass and allow you to leave or ask you to wait a moment so as not to miss an important piece of instruction. Per campus policy, I will not be able to let you leave the classroom during the first or last 10 minutes of class.

**Cell Phone Policy**

DeLand High is a BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology) campus and therefore I intend to integrate students' personal technology into lessons as much as is practical. However, during instruction and activities that do not require the use of cell phones, I ask that they are kept out of use.

As discussed on the first day of class, any student using their phone at an inappropriate time will be asked to put the phone in a bin at the back of the room. They will be free to collect their phone and encouraged to speak with me when class ends so that we can discuss a plan to dissuade future interruptions.
Grading
Grading Scale:
90 - 100 A
80 - 89 B
70 - 79 C
60 - 69 D
0 - 59 F
Grade Weighting:
0% Diagnostic
40% Formative
60% Summative

Please note that I may override any final grade if a student's performance warrants it.

Students will have the opportunity to retake at least one summative assessment each 9 week grading period within 3 weeks of receiving an exam's results.

I am truly looking forward to a productive, fulfilling, and thought-provoking year of language learning for all my students. If there is anything that I may clarify or any resource I can provide, please have no hesitation in contacting me.

Zach Prather
ZAPrathe@volusia.k12.fl.us