

Syllabus

Spanish I – For Upper Middle Schoolers to High Schoolers

Instructor: Claudia Chao

This level introduces Spanish basics as a greeting, colors, numbers, body parts, animals, shapes, numbers, etc. Students will learn basic Spanish grammar to help them build fluency. Students will do research on various cultural topics. And they will know the essential verbs (tener, ser, estar, etc.), and progressively it will add gender as well as singular and plural in nouns and adjectives, definite and indefinite articles, possessive adjectives, prepositions, etc. to build up complete sentences. In this way, students will be more confident speaking and becoming familiar with the language.

I will start by getting to know my students and assessed them to understand where they are in their knowledge and understanding of the language. Thus, we can advance, and I will begin with the alphabet, vowel sounds.

In every class, students will be exposed to vocabulary, conversation, writing, and reading. Also, they will be quizzed to know their understanding. At times we will work in small groups, perform game or skit activities, and create project boards.

To spark our class, students will explore four countries, Colombia, Cuba, Spain, and Mexico, in a fun and dynamic way. Learning unique characteristics of each country as the culture, food, music, and customs.

Here are some of the activities that we will learn throughout the year:

- Alphabet, vowel sounds, and pronunciation.
- Colors, shapes, animals,
- Question words (Cuando, Quien, Donde, Porque, Que, Como, Cual, etc.)
- Greetings, introducing yourself and others
- Courtesy words (thank you, excuse me, yes, no, Miss, Mr., etc.)
- Telling time and talking about schedules
- Days of the week, months of the year, dates
- Talking about family members
- Holidays are celebrated in America as Valentine's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.
- Describing weather & seasons.
- Speaking in a restaurant: reading a menu, ordering, listening, asking and responding to questions
- Grammar: definite & indefinite articles, the primary verb to be, regular & irregular verbs, prepositions, adverbs of location, adjectives etc.

- In this level, students will be learning the present tense verbs and the imperfect tense, and the direct object.

As students learn different topics, they will be reading stories and doing various exercises to apply these themes. There will be individually and collectively projects and activities. By the end of the year, students will be able to read and create sentences in the present tense and have a basic conversation about themselves.

I will need the parents' participation to make sure they complete homework, and every day they read at home for at least 15'. Their reading must be recorded. This will be part of their grade.

Learning a foreign language is challenging and, at times, overwhelming. But it is essential today in our competitive world. I understand what it encounters and the unlocked opportunities because it gave me a competitive edge to participate effectively, be confident in different environments, and advance my career. Today is vital and indispensable to learn a foreign language to engage and succeed in our global world.

We will keep the same material as previously.

Students must provide a small 3-ring binder, a 2 pocket folder, and pens/pencils. There is a \$12 Materials Fee, per student, for the year. This will cover lessons, tests, and other materials, given for cultural enrichment.

Additional Materials to purchase before the start of class:

Excelerate SPANISH Lesson Book (LB)-by Caryn Powell Hammel - \$16.95

Excelerate SPANISH Workbook (WB)-by Caryn Powell Hammel - \$14.95 (One per student)

Spanish/English dictionary (an inexpensive paperback is okay) or mobile phone

Recommended for Parental Use:

Excelerate SPANISH Answer key (AK) – by Caryn Powell Hammel - \$6.95