

Sra. Amy Mulcahy ~ Room G16  
amy\_mulcahy@fa.org  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish

### **Overview**

The goal of this course is to increase proficiency in Spanish in the areas of speaking, listening, reading and writing by creating a learning environment that encourages risk taking and active engagement. The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish course is the final course in a three year sequence that is equivalent to the Spanish Level 1 course in the Upper School. Students who successfully complete the sequence will take the Spanish Level 2 course when they enter the Upper School.

**The grades that students earn for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish course will appear on their high school transcripts.**

### **Upper School Placement**

Students wishing to be placed in the Spanish Level 2 Honors course in the Upper School will take the National Spanish Exam in March. Requirements for placement in the Spanish Level 2 Honors course include: minimum ranking of 70<sup>th</sup> percentile for the National Spanish Exam, a final grade of A for the course, and demonstration of academic maturity.

### **Materials**

Students should bring the following materials to class everyday:

- ✓ Plan Book
- ✓ School issued Chromebook (in the interest of equality, use of personal laptops during class will only be allowed under special circumstances and with teacher permission)
- ✓ Composition notebook
- ✓ Pen or pencil

### **Assessment Methods**

Assessments will include vocabulary check-ins, quizzes, projects, presentations, writing assignments, interviews, role-plays, skits, listening activities, and online activities.

*Final Exam will count as 15% of the student's grade for the year.*

### **Grading Policy**

Scores that students receive on assessments will be determined by how well students meet the goals of the assessment. The goals of assessments will be communicated to students in advance. Each goal is worth 5 points, and the overall grade is determined by adding the points earned and dividing by the number of goals listed for the assessment.

D <3.50	C- 3.50-3.64	C 3.65-3.84	C+ 3.85-3.99	B- 4.00-4.14	B 4.15-4.34	B+ 4.35-4.49	A- 4.5-4.59	A 4.6-4.84	A+ 4.85-5
------------	-----------------	----------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------------	-----------------	----------------	---------------	--------------

### **Homework**

Homework will be assigned nightly and will provide students with the opportunity to practice the skills presented during class and to increase their exposure to the Spanish language. Late homework assignments will not be accepted for credit. In addition to completing nightly assignments, students are expected to spend time each night reviewing chapter vocabulary and grammar notes.

### **Absence Policy**

Homework will be posted to the homework website on a daily basis and most handouts will be posted to the class page on google classroom. It is the **student's responsibility** to check the homework website and to hand in make-up work in a timely manner.

### **Academic Integrity**

**In keeping with the academic honesty policy, the work that any student brings to class should be his or her own, regardless of whether it is being collected or graded.**

- Online dictionaries are acceptable; however, online translators are NOT ACCEPTABLE.

### **Positive Habits of a Language Student**

- Arrives on time and prepared
- Participates fully, take risks, and makes mistakes
- Commits to speaking Spanish only during class
- Supports and encourages classmates
- Studies vocabulary nightly
- Utilizes grammar notes when completing homework assignments

### **Class Norms**

1. Show respect for each other and our learning space
2. Participate
3. Communicate in Spanish (Act it out, draw it out, describe it...No English)

### **Guiding MS Queries**

How am I showing up each day ready to learn?

How am I creating space for others to learn?

### **MS Code of Character**

FA seeks to nurture strong minds and kind hearts through the wisdom of the Quaker testimonies, so that we can all make the world a better place through good works. Ethical citizenship forms the foundation of all we do. We expect all members of the community to strive to respect and model these expectations.

1. Live with Integrity
2. Treat everyone with kindness
3. Employ empathy and peaceful resolution of conflict
4. Help to build an inclusive community
5. Care for our environment