



South Texas ISD
**Virtual
Academy**

GRADES 6-12

100 Med High Drive, Mercedes, TX, 78570
Phone: 956.514.4201

Instructor	<p>Instructor: Elizabeth Galnares</p> <p>Email: elizabeth.galnares@stisd.net Phone: (956) 514-4201</p> <p><u>.5 credits per semester</u></p> <p>I am available by phone during the hours posted below. Outside of those hours, please feel free to send me an email. I will respond via phone or email as soon as possible.</p> <p>Conference times available for communication: Monday – Tuesday 8:15 - 8:45 am</p>
Course Description	<p>The AP Spanish Language and Culture course is a rigorous course that is taught exclusively in Spanish and approximately equivalent to a 5th or 6th semester university course. The course requires students to improve their proficiency across the three modes of communication (interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational).</p> <p>The course focuses on the integration of authentic resources including online print, audio, and audiovisual resources, as well as traditional print resources that include literature, essays, and magazine and newspaper articles with the goal of providing a rich, diverse learning experience. Students communicate using rich, advanced vocabulary and linguistic structures as they build proficiency in all modes of communication toward the pre-advanced level as defined in the <i>ACTFL Performance Guidelines for K-12 learners</i>.</p>
Organization	<p>The course is divided into thematic units which are further based on recommended contexts and guided by essential questions. Corresponding cultural elements are integrated into the study of the units, and activities are directed with those cultural connections in mind.</p> <p>Discussion of the topics completely in Spanish is a requirement for this course.</p> <p>It is assumed that students have previously been exposed to advanced language structures in the courses leading up to the AP Spanish Language and Culture course; however, review of the mechanics is done within the contextual framework of each unit as needed.</p>
Learning/Performance Objectives	<p>Objective: The student will utilize knowledge of the language, enhance grammatical skills and research the country and history of Spain and other Hispanic countries. The student will be able to comprehend oral</p>



	<p>and written language and will express himself both orally and in written form using advanced vocabulary and structure. Students will improve knowledge of the target language and prepare research and analytical papers/projects using upper level skills. The course will follow guidelines provided by the AP syllabus as approved by the College Board.</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this course is to provide students with the experience of a college-level course. The intensive reading and writing activities will allow the students to develop and refine their critical and analytical Spanish language skills needed for their participation in this global environment.</p>
<p>Ongoing Assignments:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Participation – students will contribute orally during class independently or in small group discussions. • Diario de Notas y Vocabulario – students are required to purchase a small journal in which they will write down new vocabulary that they come across during in and out of class readings. • Conexión Cultural – students are provided with a cultural comparison questions and they must record their response in their journal and transfer it orally into a recorder. They will be timed according to AP guidelines. • Homework – Homework include reading / listening activities, AP reading selections, emails, and current events.
<p>Assignments per unit:</p>	<p>Practice Exams – students will be assessed on essential unit vocabulary, grammar reviewed, reading, and listening.</p> <p>All sections of the test will mimic and be timed as the AP exam format.</p> <p>Email – students will write at least 3 in class email per unit that mimics the AP exam format.</p> <p>Persuasive Essay – students will write at least one synthesis essay per unit that mimics the AP exam format.</p> <p>Oral Presentation – students will make at least 3 oral presentations per unit recording it and in front of the class.</p> <p>Quizzes – students will be regularly assessed on essential unit vocabulary and grammar review.</p>
<p>Adopted Instructional Materials</p>	<p>Materials such as journals, pencils, pens, etc. Also, Technology for STISD Online access (AP College Board/ Shmoop).</p>
<p>Resources:</p>	<p>The AP Spanish Language and Culture course will be taught using a multitude of resources to cover all aspects of the Spanish language. The primary resource is AP College Board.</p>



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	<p>With daily practice using the digital activities, the students will improve their writing, listening and speaking skills. Primary source for communication will be Canvas, AP Classroom, Shmoop, Albert.io and Middlebury Interactive Languages will be used as resources through the school year.</p>
Important Date:	AP Testing Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2024 @8:00 am
Instructional Methods	Lectures, multimedia elements, class discussions, case studies, projects and individual assignments, cooperative learning.
Grading Policy	<p>This course will be comprised of the following grading categories:</p> <p>Major Assessments 50% Minor Assessments 30% Daily Work 20%</p> <p>The academic year is divided into four quarters, or 9 -week periods. The weight for each nine-week period will be 37.5 percent and the semester exam will weigh 25 percent. There will be a minimum of 5 grades per student during each three weeks progress report grading period. This course will be comprised of 3 grading categories: Major Assessments 50%, Minor Assessments 30%, and Daily Work 20%. There will be a minimum of 9 assessments per nine-week grading period to constitute students' course grade for that grading period. These assessments will minimally be comprised of 3 major assessments (valued at 50%) and 6 minor assessments (valued at 30%). There may be more than 5 grades posted during a three-week period.</p> <p>For more information, please refer to the Student and Parent Handbook.</p>
Cell Phone and Technology Policy	<u>Cell phone classroom policy:</u> Please refer to the Student and Parent Handbook.
Assessment Policy	<p>Frequently during the year, formative assessments will be given. These will be in the form of homework, written or oral quiz, readings and discussion, student writing, or tests. Feedback will be given on all formative assessments.</p> <p>The formative assessments are critical to learning because they provide feedback as to what essential learning we will focus on next. They will help influence and shape the process of learning while we still have time to improve before test or grades are given.</p>
Retesting Procedures	<p>Students may retake tests only upon receiving a failing grade of below a 70%. Additional assigned material during tutorial may be a prerequisite to taking a retest. The time and date for all retests is determined by the teacher. No penalty is assigned for the weight of retest grades.</p>



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	Semester Exams will not be eligible for retest.
Student's Responsibilities:	<p>As a student in this class, it is your responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attend class every day, be punctual, and ready to take notes.• Participate in all classroom activities, making effort to use Spanish language as much as possible.• Login five minutes before class begins and always be prepared to learn.• Before class, review the materials assigned for that day.• Ask questions.• After class, read and studied the materials reviewed in class.• Submit all assignments on the due date, regardless of whether you are present or not.• Contact your teacher and request a recovery session when missing a class to get an update on classroom activities and assignments. You are responsible for all assigned homework or material presented in class.• Check your email every day and visit the course webpage daily to stay up to date.
Late Work Policy	<p>All work is due at the designated assigned time.</p> <p>Late work due to absences: Students absent on a day work is due shall receive a due date for the next class meeting. All homework is due at the beginning of the class hour. Assignments submitted electronically are due before the beginning of class time on the scheduled due date. Students who are absent on the day work is assigned will be assigned said work upon their return to class and given the same time frame for completion as originally assigned. Work turned in during this time shall receive full credit.</p> <p>Late work not due to absences: For all assignments turned in late, 10 points shall be deducted for each day an assignment is late with the maximum penalty not exceeding 50 points.</p>



CLASSROOM RULES	<p style="text-align: center;">The goal is 100% use of Spanish</p> <p>-All students must respect one another. Absolutely no words or actions that are unkind will be tolerated.</p> <p>-Be silent and listen when someone else is speaking and raise your hand when you want to speak. You must also respect our learning environment and stay on task.</p> <p>-Cheating will NOT be tolerated! You must be ready and prepared for every test, quiz and/or assignment. If any cheating occurs the student will receive an automatic zero on the assignment and parents will be contacted immediately along with disciplinary action (see below).</p>
Netiquette:	<p>Please adhere to the same standards of behavior and professional respect online that you would follow in face-to-face communication with others, but most particularly when writing email and when taking part in collaborative and discussion board activities. Students are expected to adhere to the South Texas ISD Acceptable Use Policies when Using Networks.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Always use your first name and last name at login2. Please use a background or check your surroundings before sharing video.3. Please use school appropriate clothing and language when sharing video.4. Mute your microphone when you are not speaking in class.5. Use the 'raise hand' feature when asking or answering a question.6. The chat will be public so that we may learn from each other.7. Avoid using CAPS when typing in the chat8. Be involved in class and stay on task9. Respect each other's' privacy. <p><u>We want to build a great classroom experience where we can all learn.</u></p>
Plagiarism:	<p>Plagiarism: is “the act of taking the writings of another person and passing them off as one’s own” (Britannica, 2020) Students must adhere to the district and school policies regarding plagiarism. Students will NOT receive credit for assignments copied or plagiarist. Those deliberately providing answers will also be penalize and loose credit for the assignment Students are expected to seek assistance and advocate for their learning. Any questions please let me know.</p>