

AP Spanish Language and Culture

Course Overview: AP Spanish Language and Culture is designed to develop students' proficiency in Spanish and their understanding of the diverse cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. The course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness.

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Spanish 4 Honors or equivalent.
- Strong foundation in Spanish grammar and vocabulary.
- Ability to understand and participate in conversations conducted entirely in Spanish.
- Commitment to regular practice and active participation.

Course Content: The course is structured around six thematic units:

1. Families and Communities: Explore the role of family and community in different Spanish-speaking cultures.
2. Personal and Public Identities: Examine how identity is shaped by culture, language, and personal experiences.
3. Beauty and Aesthetics: Discuss the concept of beauty and its cultural significance.
4. Science and Technology: Analyze the impact of scientific and technological advancements on society.
5. Contemporary Life: Investigate current issues and trends in Spanish-speaking societies.
6. Global Challenges: Address global issues such as environmental sustainability, social justice, and human rights.

Skills Developed:

- Interpersonal Communication: Engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
- Interpretive Communication: Understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.
- Presentational Communication: Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.
- Cultural Competence: Gain insights into the cultural practices, products, and perspectives of Spanish-speaking communities.

Assessment: The AP Spanish Language and Culture exam assesses students' proficiency in the three modes of communication:

- Multiple Choice: Interpretive communication through listening and reading.
- Free Response: Interpersonal and presentational communication through writing and speaking.

Preparation Tips:

- Practice Regularly: Engage in daily practice of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish.
- Immerse Yourself: Watch Spanish-language films, listen to Spanish music, and read Spanish literature.
- Use Authentic Resources: Utilize news articles, podcasts, and other authentic materials to enhance your understanding of the language and culture.
- Participate Actively: Take part in class discussions, group activities, and language exchange programs.

Resources:

- Textbooks and Workbooks: Use recommended textbooks and workbooks for structured learning.
- Online Platforms: Leverage online resources such as Duolingo, Quizlet, and AP Classroom for additional practice.
- Cultural Experiences: Attend cultural events, festivals, and exhibitions related to Spanish-speaking cultures.