

Course

Spanish Cultures & History



INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

Course Objectives

This course provides an in-depth exploration of the historical evolution and diverse cultural landscapes of the Spanish-speaking world, from pre-Columbian civilizations to contemporary global societies. Students will refine their language proficiency while analyzing the social, political, and economic factors that have shaped Hispanic identity and its ongoing influence on the global community.

Unit Title

Foundations of the Hispanic World (Pre-Columbian to 1492)

Time Frame

22 Days



Unit Title

Empire, Encounter, and Global Exchange

Time Frame

23 Days



Unit Title

Enlightenment and the Path to Independence (1700-1898)

Time Frame

22 Days



Unit Title

The 20th Century: Upheaval and Transformation

Time Frame

23 Days



Focus of the Unit

This unit examines the social structures and cultural contributions of early American civilizations alongside the formation of the Spanish state.

Focus of the Unit

Students will analyze the political and economic shifts caused by the Spanish Empire and the resulting cultural synthesis.

Focus of the Unit

This unit focuses on the transition from colonial status to independent nationhood and the social conflicts inherent in that change.

Focus of the Unit

Students explore major political upheavals, including the Spanish Civil War and Latin American social revolutions, and their impact on modern society.

Board Approved 8/2026

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This course provides an in-depth exploration of the historical evolution and diverse cultural landscapes of the Spanish-speaking world, from pre-Columbian civilizations to contemporary global societies. Students will refine their language proficiency while analyzing the social, political, and economic factors that have shaped Hispanic identity and its ongoing influence on the global community.

Unit Title

Artistic and Literary Landscapes

Time Frame

22 Days

Unit Title

Contemporary Social Issues and Identity

Time Frame

23 Days

Unit Title

The Hispanic World in the Global Community

Time Frame

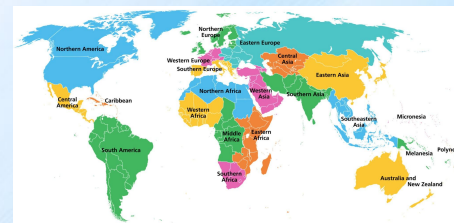
22 Days

Unit Title

The Diaspora and Local Influence

Time Frame

23 Days



Focus of the Unit

This unit examines the evolution of Hispanic artistic movements and literary traditions as expressions of cultural identity and protest.

Focus of the Unit

Students investigate modern issues such as migration, gender roles, and environmental concerns within diverse Hispanic communities.

Focus of the Unit

This unit explores the interconnectedness of Hispanic nations within global organizations and the international marketplace.

Focus of the Unit

The course culminates in a research project exploring the specific contributions and influences of Hispanic communities within the student's own region.

Unit Title

Foundations of the Hispanic World (Pre-Columbian to 1492)

Time Frame

22 Days

**INNOVATIVE**
ARTS ACADEMY**Essential Question(s)**

How did the intersection of indigenous civilizations and the Spanish Reconquista forge the initial identity of the Hispanic world?

**Focus of the Unit**

This unit examines the social structures and cultural contributions of early American civilizations alongside the formation of the Spanish state.

Standards

8.4.12.A: Evaluate the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development throughout world history.
12.3.4.A: Explain a variety of services, products and customs of the target culture.

Learning Targets

I can evaluate the social and cultural contributions of indigenous groups.

Learning Targets

I can analyze the impact of early Spanish historical documents and artifacts on subsequent global development.

Learning Targets

I can identify and discuss unfamiliar products and customs from early Hispanic history using target language resources.

Learning Targets

I can describe how early belief systems and social organizations in the Iberian peninsula influenced historical continuity.

**Resources**

Google Drive, Chromebooks, YouTube, EdPuzzle, HMH online resources

Unit Title

Empire, Encounter, and Global Exchange (1492-1700)

Time Frame

23 Days


INNOVATIVE
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Essential Question(s)

What were the long-term global consequences of Spanish imperial expansion and the encounter with the Americas?

Focus of the Unit

Students will analyze the political and economic shifts caused by the Spanish Empire and the resulting cultural synthesis.

Standards

8.4.12.C: Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.

12.1.4.E: Describe the influence of historical events in the target culture/language that have an impact on the English language and culture.

Learning Targets

I can evaluate how Spanish commerce and industry during the colonial era impacted the development of the modern world.

Learning Targets

I can describe the influence of historical imperial events on the evolution of the English language and culture.

Learning Targets

I can analyze the role of key individuals in the political development of the Spanish Empire.

Learning Targets

I can compare multiple perspectives on colonization by evaluating historical sources and considering fact versus opinion.

**Resources**

Google Drive, Chromebooks, YouTube, EdPuzzle, HMH online resources

Unit Title

Enlightenment and the Path to Independence (1700-1898)

Time Frame

22 Days



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ARTS ACADEMY



Essential Question(s)

How did global conflicts and Enlightenment ideals catalyze the independence movements across the Spanish-speaking world?



Focus of the Unit

This unit focuses on the transition from colonial status to independent nationhood and the social conflicts inherent in that change.

Standards

8.4.12.D: Evaluate how conflict and cooperation among groups and organizations have impacted the development of the world today
12.3.4.C: Analyze perspectives, beliefs and assumptions evident in the target culture and other cultures.

Learning Targets

I can analyze how conflict and cooperation among social groups influenced the development of independent Hispanic nations.

Learning Targets

I can evaluate the role of nationalism in both uniting and dividing citizens during the struggle for independence.

Learning Targets

I can analyze the perspectives, beliefs, and assumptions evident in the political documents and literature of the revolutionary era.

Learning Targets

I can evaluate the importance of 19th-century historical documents as critical milestones in world history.



Resources

Google Drive, Chromebooks, YouTube, EdPuzzle, HMH online resources

Unit Title

The 20th Century: Upheaval and Transformation

Time Frame

23 Days



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Essential Question(s)

How did internal conflicts, such as dictatorships and civil wars, reshape 20th-century Hispanic societies?



Focus of the Unit

Students explore major political upheavals, including the Spanish Civil War and Latin American social revolutions, and their impact on modern society.

Standards

8.1.12.B: Evaluate the interpretation of historical events and sources, considering the use of fact versus opinion multiple perspectives, and cause and effect relationships. Speak and write enhanced vocabulary and idiomatic expressions for complex oral and written communication

Learning Targets

I can evaluate the interpretation of historical events like the Spanish Civil War, considering multiple perspectives and cause-and-effect relationships.

Learning Targets

I can speak and write using enhanced vocabulary to discuss the impact of current and past political events in Spanish-speaking countries.

Learning Targets

I can analyze how military conflicts during the 20th century impacted regional economic stability and social structures.

Learning Targets

I can comprehend complex written sentences and news reports concerning major historical transformations of this era.



Resources

Google Drive, Chromebooks, YouTube, EdPuzzle, HMH online resources

Unit Title

Artistic and Literary Landscapes

Time Frame

22 Days



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Essential Question(s)

How do the arts and literature of the Spanish-speaking world serve as a mirror for its social and political realities?



Focus of the Unit

This unit examines the evolution of Hispanic artistic movements and literary traditions as expressions of cultural identity and protest.

Standards

12.1.4.F: Demonstrate mastery of certain target language skills by connecting influences of target language in another subject area.
12.3.4.D: Research and select culturally competent information from multiple sources for presentation.

Learning Targets

I can demonstrate mastery of Spanish skills by connecting cultural influences to other subject areas.

Learning Targets

I can synthesize cultural information from multiple sources to make presentations on significant Hispanic authors or artists.

Learning Targets

I can analyze how military conflicts during the 20th century impacted regional economic stability and social structures.

Learning Targets

I can interpret complex written paragraphs from short stories, dramas, and poems using advanced idiomatic expressions.



Resources

Google Drive, Chromebooks, YouTube, EdPuzzle, HMH online resources

Unit Title

Contemporary Social Issues and Identity

Time Frame

23 Days



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Essential Question(s)

What are the primary social challenges and identity questions facing the Spanish-speaking world in the 21st century?



Focus of the Unit

Students investigate modern issues such as migration, gender roles, and environmental concerns within diverse Hispanic communities.

Standards

12.3.4.B: Assess cultural patterns in a variety of social settings.
8.4.12.C: Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.

Learning Targets

I can analyze misconceptions that occur in cross-cultural situations regarding modern Hispanic identity and traditions.

Learning Targets

I can evaluate how contemporary belief systems and social organizations impact the world today.

Learning Targets

I can research findings on modern social issues, such as gender issues in the workplace or environmental concerns in the target culture.

Learning Targets

I can analyze the influence of global institutions on the social and economic development of Spanish-speaking nations.



Resources

Google Drive, Chromebooks, YouTube, EdPuzzle, HMH online resources

Unit Title

The Hispanic World in the Global Community

Time Frame

22 Days



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Essential Question(s)

How does the Spanish-speaking world interact with and influence international politics and the global economy?



Focus of the Unit

This unit explores the interconnectedness of Hispanic nations within global organizations and the international marketplace.

Standards

12.5.4.C: Assess available opportunities at the global level to continue involvement with the target culture for lifelong learning and personal enjoyment.
8.4.12.A: Evaluate the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development throughout world history.

Learning Targets

I can assess available global opportunities to continue involvement with Hispanic culture for lifelong learning and personal enjoyment.

Learning Targets

I can evaluate the effectiveness of international governmental and non-governmental organizations operating in the Spanish-speaking world.

Learning Targets

I can research and describe global employment opportunities where advanced Spanish language proficiency is a critical requirement.

Learning Targets

I can compare and connect global employment opportunities for those who speak both English and Spanish.



Resources

Google Drive, Chromebooks, YouTube, EdPuzzle, HMH online resources

Unit Title

The Diaspora and Local Influence

Time Frame

23 Days



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Essential Question(s)

How has the Hispanic diaspora influenced the local, regional, and national identity of the United States and Pennsylvania?



Focus of the Unit

The course culminates in a research project exploring the specific contributions and influences of Hispanic communities within the student's own region.

Standards

8.1.12.C: Analyze, synthesize, and integrate historical data, creating a product that supports and appropriately illustrates inferences and conclusions drawn from research.
12.5.4.C.: Assess available opportunities at the global level to continue involvement with the target culture for lifelong learning and personal enjoyment.

Learning Targets

I can analyze historical data from research to create a product that illustrates the local impact of the Hispanic diaspora.

Learning Targets

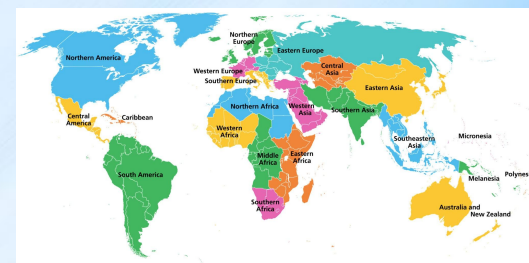
I can research and use local authentic materials to identify career and enrichment opportunities related to Spanish culture in the community.

Learning Targets

I can evaluate how conflict and cooperation among Hispanic groups have influenced the growth and development of the U.S. and PA.

Learning Targets

I can assess available opportunities in the local community to participate in Hispanic ethnic celebrations and cultural traditions.



Resources

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