



FREEDOM PROJECT
ACADEMY

Syllabus for Spanish I: 2021-2022

Teacher: **Señora Crum** (Mrs. Ailene Crum)

Live Class: **TBD**

Teacher Talk: **10 am Tuesdays**

Description

¡Bienvenidos a la clase de español 1! Welcome to Spanish I class! Learning Spanish will help you to:

- communicate with those who speak the third most common language in the world,
- appreciate the influence of Spanish throughout our country,
- fulfill college requirements, and
- prepare yourself for many careers.

Becoming proficient in listening to, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish as well as developing an understanding of basic geography, traditions, music, art, history, and foods will be challenging and fun! The more you invest yourself in learning Spanish, the faster you will move toward fluency and the more joy and reward you will find in it.

Required Materials

¡Avancemos! 1/uno

Authors: Dr. Audrey Heining-Boynton, John De Mado, Dr. Barbara Rupert Mondloch, Dr. Ricardo Otheguy

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- **Student Text, Level 1 | ISBN 9780544861213**

Also needed:

- **sections in a binder for this syllabus, weekly assignment sheets, and completed notes**
- **writing utensils**
- **FPA technology requirements including printer and working headset with microphone**

Course Expectations

As your teacher, you can expect that I will:

- respect you and treat you fairly and impartially,
- listen to you and be available for extra help during Teacher Talk or via Maestro email,
- provide you with opportunities and activities to learn, practice, and assess your language skills,
- speak Spanish as much as possible and make it comprehensible to you,
- grade and return your work as soon as possible,
- provide you and your parents with regular feedback regarding your progress, and
- create a class that is challenging, rewarding, and enjoyable!

As a student, I expect that you will:

- respect your fellow students and teachers during live class and when communicating through Maestro,
- make live class attendance a high priority and, when possible, have your parent notify me by email ahead of time if you must be absent,
- watch the class recording as soon as possible following an absence and arrange for making up of any missed work,
- log in to our Adobe Connect classroom (ideally a few minutes early so that you can perform Audio Setup) prepared with necessary materials, including a **working headset/microphone**,
- focus, be attentive, and participate in Spanish (unless permission is given to do otherwise),
- **form the good habit of daily following the *Hoja de asignaciones* (Weekly Assignment Sheet) published weekly under the Assignments tab in Canvas,**
- practice *daily* by completing the daily assignments and preparing yourself for tests,
- maintain academic integrity by following assignment directions carefully and, when directed, avoiding any outside helps that would be considered cheating, and
- seek help from me as needed.

Due Date Policy

Please re-read Section 6 of the “2021-2022 FPA Parent/Student Handbook” (FPA handbook) found at fpeusa.org/student-info/student-expectations. Each assignment will have a due date and time. Late work will receive zero points unless *your parent* has made prior arrangements *with the Student Development Director* for scheduled travel (limited to once per semester with notice given at least two weeks in advance) or *your parent* has alerted me to a technical problem, act of nature, illness, or family emergency that has occurred or *your parent* has told me that you want to use one of your two homework extensions per semester (see stipulations on this also in Section 6 of the FPA handbook).

**“Diligence is the mother of good fortune,
and idleness – its opposite –
never brought a person to the goal of any of his/her best wishes.”**

-Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quijote de la Mancha*, I 46 and II 43

Grading

Your grade is calculated based on four areas, each earning the following percentage of the grade:

- **50% Tarea (Homework)**

Homework includes class notes, and exercises completed either in **cursive** handwriting or as a multiple-attempt Canvas quiz, exercises on Spanishdict!, and vocabulary practice using the WordPlay website. Always follow the assignment sheet and Canvas assignment instructions and due dates carefully. If you choose to ignore any assignment, your lack of preparation will become evident on your tests.

Homework will be graded primarily on completion. At this stage, making some mistakes is normal. The crucial step you should then take is learning from any mistakes and, where appropriate, marking them on your original page.

Each notes page or activity within a written homework assignment will be scored as follows:

5 points – on time, all directions followed, written in legible cursive, few errors (*very few for class notes*)

3 points – on time, effort demonstrated but with some errors or incomplete parts or not all directions followed

0 points – late, no submission, evident lack of effort, not in legible cursive, not right-side-up or merged into one PDF

- **15% Expresión oral, comprensión auditiva y participación en la clase en vivo (Speaking, Listening, and Live Class Participation)**

Since Spanish is a modern language, speaking is essential. I will keep track of your class participation and assign a grade for each *etapa* (every 5 or 6 classes). **Incorrect answers do not negatively affect your participation grade, so do not let the fear of being wrong stop you from participating.** If you do your best to speak Spanish in class and participate in in-class polls and written work as well as oral and written work in breakout rooms, you will earn a high grade in this category.

You may make up missed oral work by first watching the class recording and then attending the next Teacher Talk. If you are unable to attend Teacher Talk, please contact me about an alternative time or assignment.

From page 9 of the FPA handbook: Students are expected to be engaged in live classes and actively participate when present. This includes being ready to respond when called upon. If a student does not respond when called on by the teacher or has obviously not been attentive, he/she may be removed from class. Similarly, if a student's behavior in class is disruptive or inappropriate, he/she may be removed from class. Significant or excessive instances of being unresponsive or disruptive may result in notifying FPA administration and the student being locked out of Canvas until a parent-teacher conference has taken place.

I will note the use of the stepped-away indicator during class and address excessive use of it. Frequent problems with your microphone will also be addressed with your parent.

You will have assignments in which you record yourself speaking Spanish. I will grade your content, pronunciation, and fluency. Do listen to your recording before submitting it to confirm that I will be able to hear it clearly. You will also have listening comprehension assignments done as multiple-attempt Canvas quizzes.

NOTE: I highly recommend not waiting until the last minute to complete speaking and listening assignments. While Canvas usually behaves well, on occasion you will need to change browsers or do some troubleshooting. If you wait until close to the assignment closing time, you may not receive credit.

- **20% *Pruebas de las etapas y asignaciones escritas* (Quizzes and Written Assignments)**

Pruebas will cover information studied in each *etapa* (section of a unit—each unit is divided into three *etapas*). You must complete *pruebas* without assistance from any outside sources, including notes, books, friends, and online dictionaries or translators.

- **15% *Exámenes de las unidades y proyectos* (Tests and Projects)**

Exámenes will cover information studied in each unit. You must complete *exámenes* without assistance from any outside sources, including notes, books, friends, or translators. On projects that require several days to complete, you may submit them at least one full day before the due date and ask me for feedback. I will look over your work and give feedback without a grade so that you have time to make improvements and to resubmit your project.

To offer a bit of grace because *sometimes* “life happens,” I will drop (not use to calculate the grade) at the end of each semester your lowest grade in the first three categories; no test or project scores are dropped. See Section 25 of the FPA handbook for the specifics of the grading scale.

Academic Integrity

As stated above, you must complete all quizzes and tests without outside helps in order for you to demonstrate honestly what you have learned. **Online translators are never permitted** as I expect you to use the Spanish you have learned, not what the translator knows, which can easily be incorrect for what you intend to say.

If the Spanish on your quiz or test is not the Spanish we have covered in class, I will assume that you have used some outside resource. You will receive a warning the first time you use words that I have not covered in class. Subsequently, the penalty will be more severe. (See Section 12 of the FPA handbook.) For written assignments and projects, I do permit you to look up a vocabulary word in the back of your textbook or on the WordReference.com website in order to accurately communicate in Spanish.

How to Be Successful in Spanish II:

- Follow the assignment sheet. This is the way to manage your time, prepare for class, and work on your Spanish each day. Success in a skills-based language class depends on consistent, steady effort over time. Avoid trying to do too much at one sitting; daily contact is vital!
- Attend class and participate regularly. Be sure to have all necessary materials handy: your textbook, workbook, printed copies from Canvas, working headset/microphone, and favorite writing utensil.
- Come to class a few minutes early to check your headset and to begin the practice given to help you review previous material.
- Be an active learner in class. Even if another student is answering, you should try to answer aloud to yourself as well. Then continue listening to determine if you were correct.
- Complete all assignments on a regular basis. Due dates are due dates, not start dates!
- Review and repeat on a regular basis. The Review Bookmarks that come with your workbook and the WordPlay website are two tools that make this relatively painless.
- Maximize the value of my oral feedback by listening to it and my written feedback by marking the corrections on your original page.
- Practice speaking Spanish aloud as often as possible, even when you are working on written work alone. Just ten minutes a day of speaking and imitating the recordings available to you is invaluable practice.
- Maintain a positive attitude and sense of humor. We all make mistakes or struggle with an unfamiliar concept at times. You are capable! Asking for help is not a sign of weakness but of strength and determination!

Online Class Etiquette:

- **Be prompt.** Please arrive a few minutes early whenever possible with your materials ready. We need to use wisely every bit of our fifty minutes together.
- **Be prepared.** Please check your technology so that we waste no class time waiting for you to fix it. Communicate with me via the Q&A box or email if you are having a technical issue. Make sure you have reviewed the previous lesson so that you can participate in the review.
- **Be polite.** Please be respectful toward me and be encouraging to your classmates. Please refrain from text language when you communicate with me. Also, be careful to specify the topic or specific assignment about which you are communicating. Communication skills are important life skills. Sending an email with correct punctuation and syntax is good practice for future life endeavors. If necessary, I will ask you to rewrite incomprehensible emails.
- **Be patient.** Please remain in class until I dismiss the class.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____