



FREEDOM PROJECT ACADEMY

Course Syllabus

Spanish I

Course 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.

Major Topics of Study:

Text/Required Materials:

Avancemos Student Edition Level 1

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

Grading:

Homework - 50%

Speaking, Listening, and Live Class Participation – 15%

Quizzes & Written Assignments – 20%

Tests & Projects - 15%

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.

Attendance/Participation:

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.

Expectations/Guidelines:

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!