

Indian River Charter High School

Classroom Expectations / Syllabus

Spanish 4 – Señor Ahern 2008

Course Objectives: The purpose of this course is to help students to continue acquiring proficiency in Spanish. Emphasis will be placed on the development of students' listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Students will gain confidence in their ability to function and communicate in real-life situations.

Textbooks: Aventuras 2nd Edition 2007 Vista Higher Learning (provided by school)
Aventuras Workbook / Video Manual (purchased by student - \$32 lab fee)

Required Materials: A three-ring notebook with dividers for taking notes and collecting handouts and graded papers. You must bring your workbook or textbook to class every day and have a pen or pencil. Failure to have these necessary items will result in you leaving the class for the day and receiving an unexcused absence.

Homework: Students should expect homework that will be assigned after every class. Be sure to put your name, date and class section on all assignments that are turned in for credit. Assignments will often be graded and given a quiz grade in the range of 5-25 points. Daily study is one of the most important components in achieving success learning Spanish. If your homework was simply to study, you should expect a quiz to see if you have learned the material.

Grading: Your semester grade will be calculated using total points. Quizzes will be given frequently – often two or three per week. Quizzes are typically worth 10-50 points. Tests and/or projects will be administered after completing a major unit of study, such as a chapter in the textbook and are typically worth 100-150 points. Everyone is expected to participate in class on a daily basis. Expect your class to operate entirely in Spanish for the first 45 minutes. At the teacher's discretion the last 5-10 minutes may be a time for asking questions or seeking clarification in English. A major test grade will be given to every student that will reflect his / her willingness and effort to keep the class operating in Spanish.

Classroom Rules:

- 1) All school rules regarding RESPECT of people and property will be in effect at all times. Remember, all conversations in the classroom will be in Spanish! Do not talk while I am talking and raise your hand when you want to volunteer.
- 2) Eating is not allowed in the classroom! Any exceptions to this rule must be approved.
- 3) Headphones and sunglasses are not to be worn in class.
- 4) Lateness to class is not acceptable. If you are 3-9 minutes late, come in to class quietly and receive demerits. Do not come in to class after 10 minutes late. You will receive an unexcused absence.

Specific Material / Topics Covered:

The second half of the year will be devoted to learning material in Lessons 6-11 in the textbook Aventuras. Major grammar topics will include:

- mastery of past tenses and their usage (preterite / imperfect)
- introduction to future, conditional, perfect tenses and subjunctive mood
- direct, indirect and reflexive pronouns
- demonstrative adjectives and pronouns
- higher numbers
- verbs like gustar
- comparative / superlative
- por / para
- “se” constructions and passive voice

In addition to material in the main textbook, students will read the short novel “La niña de oro”. This intermediate reader will be used to increase the students’ ability to higher level vocabulary and broaden their reading comprehension skills.

For the Integrated Curriculum Theme of *Romanticism* students will study the late stage art of Francisco de Goya and the Romantic period poetry of Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer.

THIS IS GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR FOR YOU!! COME TO CLASS READY TO LEARN A LOT AND HAVE FUN AS YOU IMPROVE YOUR ABILITY TO SPEAK AND THINK IN SPANISH!!

