

American Martyrs

Syllabus Eighth grade Spanish

Academic Year 2012-2013

Teacher: Señora Maria Dolores Usandizaga

Course Description:

The course is designed to teach beginning grammar and basic vocabulary, with an emphasis on meaningful communication. There is a cultural component which exposes students to the geography and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

Spanish will be used in instruction as much as possible.

Course Objectives:

- Students will develop basic skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing in Spanish.
- Students will be able to comprehend simple reading passages.
- Students will be able to write simple sentences using correct grammar.
- Students will be able to participate in simple conversations.
- Students will be able to understand, increase awareness and tolerance of cultural differences.

Materials:

We are going to work with the textbook and workbook *¿Como te va?* Glencoe/Mc Graw Hill. However, in order to make the course more interesting I use many supplemental materials, some teacher generated and some from other sources. I also use music, artwork and games to appeal to students' different learning styles.

Supplies to be provided by student each day:

- 1- Textbook, "¿Como te va?" (your book must be covered)
- 2- Workbook, "¿Como te va?"
- 3- Three ring binder to be used only for Spanish. (with dividers)
- 4- Loose leaf paper.
- 5- Pens or pencils (different colors)
- 6- Lined flashcards.
- 7- One pouch.

Other supplies may be requested later.

I also strongly recommend that every student have access to a good Spanish/English dictionary at home.

Three ring binder contents:

Student will divide the binder into four sections using tab dividers: "Oraciones" , "Rutinas" , "Apuntes", and "Tareas y Fotocopias".

There will be no other classes' materials kept in the binder.

The binder must be neat, organized, and legible. No doodling!

-Oraciones: Three prayers.

-Rutinas: Class Syllabus and a routine worksheet.

-Apuntes: Class notes. Notes shall be in loose leaf paper kept in the 3-ring binder. Each day's notes will be dated and kept in chronological order (by date beginning with the earliest).

Notes will include each week's assignments copied from the board, grammar notes, culture notes and practice activities.

-Tareas y Fotocopias: Homework, all handouts and worksheets in chronological order (by date beginning with the earliest).

Don't forget to write your name, number, date and grade in every assignment.

Strong hint: If I write on the board it should definitely be in your notes. You should keep all handouts and assignments for the entire year.

DO NOT THROW ANYTHING AWAY!!!

Teacher's Expectations:

Please be...

RESPECTFUL (encourage others, listen to others)

RISKY (make mistakes, try new things)

RESPONSIBLE (study, be on time, do your homework)

Class Participation:

The key to learning Spanish is to speak the language.

You must participate to succeed.

ALWAYS participate!

Homework:

Like the Nike commercials states "Just Do It!". Keep in mind that the point of my assigning homework is to prepare you for any tests, quizzes, or other assessments and give you all of the practice you may require before checking if you have mastered a certain skill. This means if you neglect homework your grade may drop because you might not do as well as you would have liked on a test, quiz, or other assessment. Homework will be assigned twice a week but should take no more than 15 minutes a night.

Grading Policy:

We will use the standard school grading policy to determine grades.

Your grade will be determined by everything we do. This includes tests, quizzes, written homework, projects and participation.

Make-up Tests, Quizzes and Assignments:

-You are responsible for asking me or another classmate what assignments you missed during your absence.

-Homework assignments missed because of absences must be made up.

-Since it is important that you participate in class, class time will not be allowed for make ups.

-Make-ups will be taken after school or during recess

Contact:

dusandizaga@americanmartyrs.org

Name: _____

Date: _____

Dear Parents:

I'm pleased to be given the opportunity to teach your child in my class. Your involvement is key to his or her success in this (or any) class. Please review this syllabus with your child, then verify that you have read it by signing and dating this letter in the space provided at the bottom. If you ever have any questions about the class or your child's progress, please feel free to call me at school.

Sincerely,

Señora Maria Dolores Usandizaga
Spanish Teacher

Student's signature: _____

Parent's name: _____

Parent's signature: _____