

**Instructor: Mr. García**  
**Course: AP SPANISH**  
**Disclosure Statement**

The study of another language enables the students to understand a different culture on its own terms. The fundamental connections between the culture that is lived and the language that is spoken can only be realized by those who possess knowledge of both. Since language is the primary agent of culture for expressing cultural perspectives and participating in social practices, the study of a foreign language provides opportunities for students to develop insights in a culture that are available in no other way.

The true content of learning a foreign language is not only the acquisition of the grammar and the vocabulary of the language, but also the understanding of "the culture" which is expressed through that language. As you continue your journey of learning the Spanish language and "its cultures," there are some rules and instructions that must be followed in order to make the best out of this class.

**Behavior:** The student should conduct him/her-self in a manner that is not disruptive to the rest of the class. Talking, yelling, sleeping, etc, is absolutely not allowed in the classroom. The student should focus on being respectful and considerate to the rest of the class so that our learning experience will be more enjoyable and productive.

**Attendance and Class Participation:** It is extremely important that the student does not miss class and that he or she participates consistently in oral drills, group assignments, and classroom exercises. In the case that the student is absent, he or she is responsible for finding out about the work he/she missed. The student should talk to the teacher about any make up work or ask his/her fellow classmates about any assignments that were given while he/ she was absent. **Again, the student is responsible for making up any test, quiz, or assignment that was missed.**

**Notebook:** The student is expected to have a three ring notebook (1 inch) in which he or she will take notes from the class lectures, oral drills and book exercises. These should be divided into the following: class notes & vocabulary, class work & homework, AP Test practice sections and academic progress. Notebooks will be graded for content, accuracy, and organization. The notebook is an important learning tool for the student since he or she will need excellent note taking skills in order to maximize his/her academic performance both in High School and in College.

**Homework:** There will be homework assigned every day! For the most part, it will consist of studying (for 30 minutes or more) the vocabulary, verbs, and grammatical rules discussed in the class lectures and practice exercises. I will assign written homework no more than three times per week. The student is expected to study every day and come prepared to class in order to participate and contribute in a meaningful way to the overall class experience. Late homework will not be accepted. **NO EXCUSES!!!**

**Special Projects:** These include research assignments and oral presentations. There will be "limited class time" provided to work on these projects. Consequently, the student is expected to perform these tasks outside of class time.

**Tests:** There will be one test at the end of every chapter unit. The day before the test we will perform review exercises in class. These tests are the final assessment of the student's progress at the end of each chapter unit. Therefore, there will be no retakes or

curves given to the student. It is essential that if a student is absent the day of the test he or she make it up as soon as possible after school. (Note: see "Make up work" below.)

**Speaking Spanish in Class:** All students have to speak Spanish during the daily class discussions and exercises. It is 20% of their class grade. Students are expected to keep an open mind and to try to do their best to speak Spanish in class as much as they can. Students will be graded on the accuracy and frequency of their attempts based on the vocabulary words and pronunciation skills learned in class.

**Tutoring:** I will be in my room on Thursdays after school from 1:40 pm to 2:20 pm to help those students who are having difficulty or need additional help with any of the course material, especially with formal and informal oral presentations and essays.

**Make Up Work:** A student who is absent has one day per each day that he or she was absent, plus one to make up his or her work, test or essay. After that period of time, the student will receive a grade of 0%.

**Grading:** My method of grading is the following:

Oral Exercises = 20%

Homework, Class-work, and Notebook = 25%

Essays = 20%

Tests & Special Projects = 35%

Please sign below to confirm that you read and understood the information presented in this document.

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_ Student signature \_\_\_\_\_