

**Syllabus 2016-2017
Spanish 4 Honors
Northview High School**



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Office Hours: Before or after school, by appointment.

Course Description

This course is designed for students continuing from Level 3 of Spanish who have met the criteria for Honors Placement. Students should be quite comfortable with conducting and responding to the instructional activities in Spanish. At the end of level four, students will be more independent speakers on a variety of topics. Greater emphasis is placed on speaking, reading and writing skills. The culture of the various Spanish-speaking countries is integrated into the instructional activities and reading materials.

Honor Students:

Students in Honors programs are advanced through higher expectations in open-ended learning activities that have accelerated pacing and less repetition. Students are expected to demonstrate a higher level of proficiency in vocabulary, comprehension, pronunciation, level of discourse, grammatical accuracy and written expression. Teachers stress autonomous learning and risk taking in the student's language development.

Goals: The goal of the Fulton County Schools World Languages department is to guide students in their mastery of the ACTFL national performance standards, adopted by the State of Georgia.

For Modern Languages, these standards consist of "The 5 Cs":

Communication – students will engage in conversations, understand and interpret spoken and written language, and present information on a variety of topics.

Culture – students will learn about target culture products, practices and perspectives.

Connections – students will connect aspects of their target language learning with information acquired in other subject areas such as math, science, social studies, English and the arts.

Comparisons – students will demonstrate an understanding of the nature of language and culture, making comparisons between those of the target language and their own.

Communities – students will find and engage in the target language outside of the school environment and show evidence of building a life-long skill for their own personal enjoyment and enrichment.

Georgia Performance Standards

This course is designed to comply with the Georgia Performance Standards for World Language, which you may view in detail at:

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/standards/pages/BrowseStandards/MLLStandards9-12.aspx>

MATERIALS

Abriendo Paso (textbook) will be provided to each student. Students will be charged for books and/or workbooks which are lost. Damages will be assessed for textbooks which are damaged beyond normal wear and tear. Upon issuance of textbooks, the student will make and turn in a list of existing damage to his/her textbook. At the end of the year this list will be referred to when determining damages so that the student will not be charged for damages she/he did not cause.

Textbook and price:

Conexiones – Comunicación y Cultura \$ 60.00
Abriendo Paso Gramática: \$45.97

Students are required to bring the following items to class **daily**:

A 1 ½" or 2" ring binder to be used for Spanish only. Binders smaller than this will not be large enough to accommodate the required materials. **No pocket folders or spiral notebooks!**

A package of notebook paper to be placed on the rings inside the binder
6 dividers which should be labeled:

- (1) Calentamientos / Canciones**
- (2) Vocabulario**
- (3) Quizzes**
- (4) Apuntes/Práctica/Tarea**
- (5) Actividades de laboratorio**
- (6) Lecturas / Actividades de Escritura**

*One black or blue pen

*One red pen

*Pencil(s) with eraser

*A Spanish/ English dictionary to use for certain writing assignments. I recommend Harper Collins Spanish dictionary (Concise Edition), but any Spanish/English dictionary will be an excellent resource.

ACHIEVEMENT

Your grade in this class will be determined by the following Northview World Languages Department grading policy:

30% Performance Based Assessments (minimum of 3 speakings and 1 writing per semester)

25% Major Assessments (Includes, but is not limited to, projects, presentations and tests)

20% Minor Assessments (Includes but is not limited, to quizzes, projects, lab activities and participation)

15% Final Exam (Cumulative)

10% Homework/Classwork

***Tests:** There will be one test for each chapter and they will always be announced.

Quizzes:** They will be short and normally focus on one and/or two topics.. ***Some will be announced and others will not. Therefore, it is important to always be prepared.

***Homework:** All homework is to be done neatly. Exercises from the book will need to be done and completed on a separate sheet of paper. Assignments that consist of more than one paper must be stapled. Furthermore, it is the student's responsibility to hand in assignments on time. All assignments will be graded on completeness and effort and will be collected or checked for completion at the beginning of the class; so, any paper turned in after the collection or checking time will be considered late. **You will not receive any credit for incomplete, poorly done or late homework.**

***Participation:** Optimal participation includes – but it is not limited to- bringing all materials to class; using Spanish during all classroom activities; being attentive in class by listening, raising hand, not talking out of turn; cooperating during group work activities and being respectful towards the class and your peers. Being present in class is not enough.

Students will frequently be asked to work in pairs or small groups, either in class or outside classroom. Class cooperative group activities will last 10-15 minutes. The teacher will assign different roles to students (e.g., reader, checker, recorder, and material manager) to ensure that each student makes a contribution to the group's activity. It is important for the group members to help each other understand what they are learning, and for each person to contribute. Each student is responsible for learning the material; even though, they are working in group. Groups may be asked to turn in a list of each student's contribution to the final product.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

1. The student should be **seated** and have his/her notebook open and writing utensils ready to begin the warm-up activity when the tardy bell **has rung**. A student who is not in the classroom when the tardy bell **has rung** is considered tardy. Tardiness will be dealt with as outlined in the Northview Student Handbook.

Students should remain seated and wait for the bell to ring at the end of class. There will be no lining up at the door.

2. The student will bring all necessary materials to class daily. Passes will **not** be issued for locker visits.
3. Students must turn in all homework assignments when they are due. No credit will be issued for late homework assignments. Major projects or presentations which are turned in late will not receive full credit.
4. The classroom thermostat is off-limits. The classroom can be very chilly at times, so please remember to bring a jacket or sweater if you are sensitive to cool temperatures.
5. The student will demonstrate acceptable classroom behavior, showing respect for others, following instructions and being attentive in the classroom. Students are expected to participate in all classroom activities and to speak Spanish as much as possible.
6. The student **will not chew gum** in this class. Students violating this rule will be assigned to private detention.
7. Consumption of food and/or drink is **not** permitted in this class. Drinking water in class is acceptable as long as the student uses a clear plastic bottle and disposes of it properly. **Water bottles must be put away in the student's bookbag whenever we are using the language laboratory or any of the computer labs.**
8. The student will take care of personal grooming and restroom visits during the passing period. No restroom passes may be issued during the first or last 10 minutes of class.

Recovery: Fulton County Policy – Provision for Improving Grades

1. Recovery is for students who, despite a conscientious effort and communication with their teachers, have failed to demonstrate satisfactory understanding of course standards. It is not for the student who has been failing for many weeks and then wishes to recover during the final days of the course. Opportunities for students to recover from a 74 or below *cumulative* average will be provided when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements. *Students who have not attempted to complete all course requirements are not eligible for recovery.*
2. Students may initiate recovery on major assessments starting with the second major assessment of the semester as long as they have made a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Unexcused absences may prevent this opportunity.

3. So that students stay focused on the content at hand and don't become overwhelmed and fall too far behind, they must initiate recovery on a major assessment within five school days of being informed of the grade on that assessment. Recovery work must be completed within ten school days prior to the end of the semester. The nature and type of recovery assignment is given at the discretion of the teacher.

Grading guidelines for recovery assignments will vary by department. It is the responsibility of the student to fully understand the grading guidelines/highest possible score for completed recovery work.

Make-up Work: Should you be absent on a **test/assessment day**, an "ABS=0" will be placed in the grading system until all missed work is made-up. You have an equal number of days to make up the test as days you were absent. Students are not allowed to make up missed tests and quizzes during their regular class time since they would miss out on the day's lesson and fall further behind.

If you are absent for an extended period of time, you need to set up a time with me to go over what you have missed. Do not just show up and expect to have a long meeting without prearranging it.

It is your responsibility to turn in any **homework** assignments that have been checked on your first day back. You must also retrieve your make-up work from the folder. All assignments will receive a grade of "0" until work is made up. This must all be done in a timely manner.

The Northview High School Honor Code:

Honor Code: As explained in the student handbook, cheating is defined as "the giving or receiving, in any form, information relating to a gradable experience." Violations of the honor code will result in a zero for the assignment, plus an honor code violation form placed in the student's disciplinary file. Read the handbook carefully to fully understand what constitutes a violation.

- ***In addition to offenses outlined in the Student Handbook, the use of Internet Online Translators, other translation programs, and/or the use of the services of a native speaker will be considered cheating in this class.***

World Languages Late Work Policy

Assignments other than daily homework exercises

Grade will be reduced by 10% per day late until 50%. This will also apply to oral assignments due to be presented in class. After that, students may turn in completed assignments or a maximum of 50% credit until the end of the current six-week grading period, students are encouraged to complete the work and turn

it in or no credit for learning and recovery purposes. All late work must be turned in at the latest of 10 days before the end o the semester.

The Honor Code will be STRICTLY enforced. Students who discuss test or quiz content, talk during assessments, share their work (homework, etc), or submit work that is not their own are in violation of the Northview High School Honor Code. This INCLUDES the use of on-line translators and the help of native speakers to complete assignments will be considered cheating in this class.