



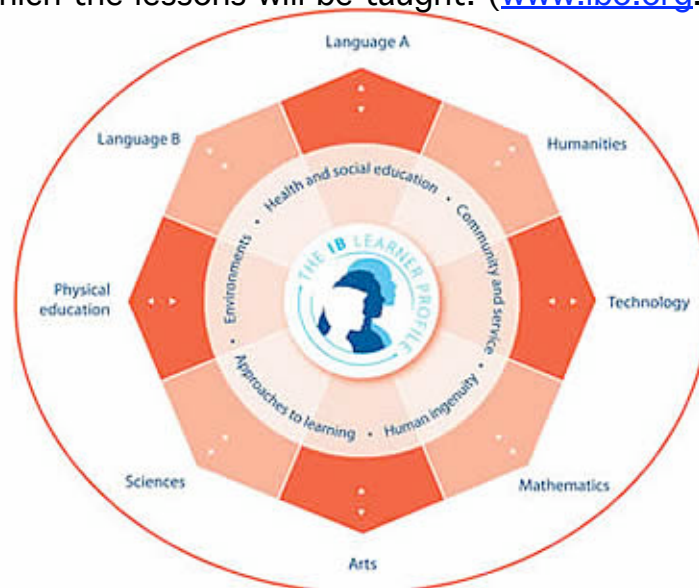
Course Syllabus
Spanish Grade 5
MYP Language B
City Honors School

Sra. Melissa Johnson
2009 - 2010
Room 201



OVERVIEW: This course will focus on the development of the four skills: (speaking, reading, writing and listening). Opportunities will be provided to practice these skills daily while learning the language in context. The format of the course will follow a thematic presentation of the units. Meaningful cultural content and experiences will be provided in the form of projects, games, music, and cooking to name a few.

OBJECTIVE: The course objective is to become proficient in the four skills of learning the language through the presentation of thematic units. Emphasis will be placed on communication, intercultural awareness and holistic learning. The IB/MYP Areas of Interaction will provide the lenses through which the lessons will be taught. (www.ibo.org.)



INTERCULTURALISM: The study of another language naturally lends itself to an intercultural awareness, which is at the core of IB/MYP.

Intercultural Learning

•The process of becoming more aware of and better understanding one's own culture and other cultures around the world. The aim of intercultural learning is to increase international and cross-cultural tolerance and understanding. (British Council)

Intercultural Communicative Competence

•ICC is an attempt to raise students' awareness of their own culture, and in so doing, help them to interpret and understand other cultures. It is **not just a body of knowledge**, but a set of practices requiring knowledge, skills and attitudes. (British Council)

STANDARDS:

- 1.) Students will be able to communicate in a language other than English.
- 2.) Students will learn about other cultures in the areas of the world where Spanish is spoken and develop an up-to-date awareness of the Hispanic culture in the U.S. (www.emsc.nysed.gov.)

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- 1.) How will learning Spanish help me understand my own language and culture?
- 2.) How will learning Spanish help me understand other languages and other cultures?

MAJOR THEMES: (see outline of units)

TEXT: Wald, Haywood, Spanish Is Fun, Amsco, 1985. Teacher made materials selected from a variety of sources will be provided as necessary.

MATERIALS USED: Loose leaf paper, blue or black ink pens, highlighters, colored pencils and white out. All materials should be kept in a 2 inch, 3 ring binder. A Spanish/English dictionary is important to have at home. It does not have to be brought to class. Please label everything with your name and homeroom number!

EXPECTATIONS: It is expected that the student comes to class prepared and ready to work with the necessary supplies including their notebook and assignments. Notebooks should be set up in sequential order. Notes, handouts, homework and tests should be kept in the related chapter. Tests should be completed on the day given and homework and projects should be turned in on the due date.

In the event of absence it is the student's responsibility to make up work as soon as possible. It is expected that the student come to me to

collect any work and handouts in the morning before homeroom on the day the student returns, even if it is not a “Spanish” day. Arrangements can be made to take make-up tests. If a student will be out for a planned period of time I will be happy to provide the assignments so the student does not fall behind.

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT: I strive to provide a supportive environment for students to express their views and opinions in a positive way that contributes to an atmosphere of involved cooperation. Students in the IB/MYP program aim to achieve the **characteristics of the learner profile** while in a calm and structured climate.

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework will be given on a daily basis and any assignment not done on time will receive a zero. This is an opportunity to practice new material presented in class and review the old. It is also a way of preparing for upcoming tests. Homework is an essential part of the course. Completing assignments is a guaranteed way to earn a good grade!

GRADING POLICY

The breakdown of the marking period grade will be:

- 30% unit tests/final exam
- 20% classwork/homework/quizzes
- 20% projects
- 20% participation
- 10% notebook.

METHODS OF COMMUNICATION: Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns or to schedule an appointment. I may be reached daily, by telephone, written note or e-mail between the hours of 7:45 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Room 201 Tel. 816.3550 ext. 1201 E-Mail: mmjohnson@buffaloschools.org.

Please sign below acknowledging you have read and understood what is expected in Spanish this year.

(please cut)

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent E-mail: _____(optional)