



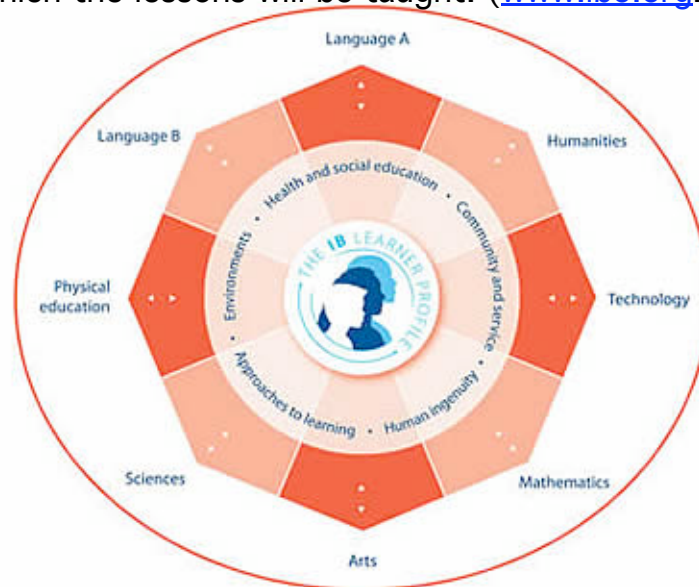
Course Syllabus  
Spanish Grade 7  
MYP Language B  
City Honors School

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](http://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](http://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:** There is no text for this course. Students use teacher made materials selected from a variety of sources. **Essentially the student's 3 ring binder becomes their "book"**. ALL notes, vocabulary lists, homework, handouts and tests are contained in the binder. It is critical that the student come prepared each and every class with their materials in order to be successful. It is strongly recommended to purchase a Spanish/English dictionary for reference use. Translators are not encouraged for use at this level because of limited student knowledge of the language.

**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 is assigned 3-4 times each week. When a written assignment is not provided it is expected the student **study vocabulary and grammar points** pertinent to the chapter. Homework is checked and corrected in class or by the teacher for a grade. Any homework that is **not complete** at the beginning of class receives a **zero**. **Homework assignments done in class do not count.** Late homework is not accepted.

In the event of absence, students may call the school or a friend to obtain the assignment. It is expected that the assignments be completed upon the next day that the student returns. The student may also consult with the teacher during homeroom to find out what needs to be made up. Assignments that were due the day of the absence are due the next class. Assignments not completed receive a zero.

**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.

**Major Assignments and/or Projects:** Each chapter will include a project based on a cultural aspect pertinent to the unit.

**Extra Help Opportunities:** Student tutors are available. To make arrangements you may contact me and we can set up a time. I am available each morning before period one begins. See me to set up another time if needed.

**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](mailto:mmjohnson@buffaloschools.org).**

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

(please cut)

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Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_(optional)

