

Course Syllabus
Spanish IV
William Hoffman

- General Overview: Spanish IV is an elective course that stresses the practical application of advanced language skills. It lays the groundwork for those students choosing to go on to IB Spanish the following year. Class will be conducted in Spanish.
- Course Objective: Students will develop the skills necessary for communications; i.e. listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural understanding as defined by checkpoint C of the *Modern Languages for Communication – New York State Syllabus*. Emphasis will be placed on practical speaking skills, clarity of written expression and vocabulary acquisition.
- Major Topics: Many of the topics for this course deal with cultural issues; i.e. ethnic identity, cultures of the Hispanic world (Pre-Colombian & Present), values, traditions and daily life in other cultures. In addition, students will be introduced to well known Hispanic authors and artist. Grammatical structures will include subjunctive tense, irregular verb conjugations, present and past perfect tenses, as well as reflexive verbs and the passive voice in Spanish.
- Texts/Materials: Students are responsible for bringing text book and necessary supplies to each class.
- De Viaje. 1995. Glencoe/McGraw-Hill
 - 3 tab folder or binder
- Written Work: There will be at least one major paper due each marking period. These will be started in class allowing for students question to be answer, but will need to be finished outside of class. All compositions must be typed, size 14 font and double spaced. Length of papers will be determined when assignment is given. Five points will be taken off grade each day paper is late.
- Assessment: During the year students are graded on class work, homework, chapter tests, quizzes and participation. Class work includes listening and speaking tasks, written assignments and group activities. Students will receive 10 grades each marking period with some tasks being given more weight towards final marking period grade than others. i.e. chapter test, presentations

- Homework Policy:** Homework will be given 3-4 times a week. It is due during the following class unless otherwise specified. The class will review homework assignments together the day it is due. The homework grade for each marking period is based on the percentage of work that was completed. Homework turned in late for reasons other than being absent will lose 25% of weight of the assignment each week assignment is overdue. Students that miss a day of school must turn in their homework the next time they are in class.
- Test:** One major chapter test will be given each marking period. Students will have a full class period (40 minutes) to complete the test. The material being tested is substantial, so it is imperative that the students are preparing throughout the marking period, not just the day before the test. These tests are weighted more heavily on the students' marking period grade than other assignments. It is the responsibility of the student to set up a day and time to make up any missed test. It must be done before the end of the marking to avoid receiving a grade of 0.
- Participation:** The participation grade is based on the student speaking Spanish in class. *Si* or *No* will not receive credit. It must be significant and real use of the language. A participation grade will be given each marking period.
- Extra Help:** I will be available most days after school. If you have a concern about your grade, classroom performance or up coming test, you should come see me as soon as you feel that you are not meeting your potential. I will be happy to help you meet your goals.
- Contact information:** Students can make an appointment to see me any day during or after class. Parents with concerns can reach me by calling the school and leaving a message or you may e-mail me at whoffman@buffaloschools.org