

Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture



Methods of communication with students:

- Schoology
- www.vhlcentral.com (Descubre Supersite)
- E-mail

Prerequisite: Spanish 3 Honors, Spanish 4 Honors (based on teacher recommendations)

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to develop oral and written fluency in Spanish. Students will follow a rigorous curriculum in order to pass the AP Exam at the end of the year. Students are expected to take a final AP exam. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication in real life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught in Spanish.

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

Primary Textbook & Supplements:

- Temas AP Spanish Language and Culture
- AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam Preparation (workbook)
- Vhlcentral.com
- College Board AP Central Classroom

Supplies: Students must bring to class:

- 1 ½" three-ring binder with durable dividers;
- Writing materials (pen, pencil, markers, highlighters)
- College-ruled loose leaf white paper
- Post-it notes
- Index cards (3x5)
- Spanish - English dictionary (encouraged)

Attendance: PVHS attendance and tardy policy is clear in the student handbook and must be followed. It is strongly recommended that all students be always present.

*Students that are absent during a quiz or a test must make arrangements to make up their work. Students that miss assessments are solely responsible to make arrangements to complete them. Students should not expect the teacher to remind them. **Arrangements to make up all missed assessments must be made immediately upon returning to school.** *

Classroom rules and expectations:

1. Students are expected to be on time and with all materials
2. Students are expected to show respect and be courteous with the instructor and the peers. Offensive language is not tolerated. Bullying is prohibited. No chatting unless instructed by teacher. Students chatting during class will be sent to the Dean's office immediately.
3. Students must use Spanish as the primary language of communication.
4. Parents are strongly encouraged to visit the eSchoolPlus often and may request a progress report at any time –please provide a 24-hour notice.
5. Any form of cheating will result in a zero, referral to parents, and other serious consequences. Students must abstain from engaging in any behavior that could be construed as cheating while taking quizzes or tests. If caught cheating, students will surrender the work in question and parents will be notified immediately. Students that cheat will receive a zero on any test, quiz, and/or assignment. This includes plagiarism and the unauthorized use of translating software and translation websites for class projects and homework.

Acceptable Use Procedures (AUP): This form must be signed and returned to school as soon as possible. Students will be using computers frequently and will not be allowed to use them unless this document has been filed with PVHS.

Parents/Guardians and students: Please feel free to contact me at any time during the school year with questions or concerns. Given that I do not have a phone in my classroom and the one provided is in a different location, I prefer email correspondence.

Organization

The course is divided into **thematic units** which are further based on recommended contexts and guided by **essential questions**. Corresponding cultural elements are integrated into the study of the units, and activities are directed with those cultural connections in mind. It is assumed that students have previously been exposed to language structures in the courses leading up to the AP Spanish Language and Culture course; however, review of the mechanics is done within the contextual framework of each unit as needed.

Themes, Recommended Contexts, and Essential Questions

Theme: Personal and Public Identities / Las identidades personales y públicas

Recommended Contexts:

- Alienation and Assimilation / La enajenación y la asimilación
- Heroes and Historical Figures / Los héroes y los personajes históricos
- National and Ethnic Identities / La identidad nacional y la identidad étnica
- Personal Beliefs / Las creencias personales
- Personal Interests / Los intereses personales
- Self-Image / La autoestima

Essential Questions:

- How are aspects of identity expressed in various situations? / ¿Cómo se expresan los distintos aspectos de la identidad en diversas situaciones?
- How do language and culture influence identity? / ¿Cómo influyen la lengua y la cultura en la identidad de una persona?
- How does one's identity develop over time? / ¿Cómo se desarrolla la identidad de una persona a lo largo del tiempo?

Theme: Beauty and Aesthetics / La belleza y la estética

Recommended Contexts:

- Architecture / La arquitectura
- Defining Beauty / Definiciones de la belleza
- Defining Creativity / Definiciones de la creatividad
- Fashion and Design / La moda y el diseño
- Language and Literature / El lenguaje y la literatura
- Visual and Performing Arts / Las artes visuales y escénicas

Essential Questions:

- How are perceptions of beauty and creativity established? / ¿Cómo se establecen las percepciones de la belleza y la creatividad?
- How do ideals of beauty and aesthetics influence daily life? / ¿Cómo influyen los ideales de la belleza y la estética en la vida cotidiana?
- How do the arts both challenge and reflect cultural perspectives? / ¿Cómo las artes desafían y reflejan las perspectivas culturales?

Theme: Families and Communities / Las familias y las comunidades

Recommended Contexts:

- Customs and Values / Las tradiciones y los valores
- Education Communities / Las comunidades educativas
- Family Structure / La estructura de la familia
- Global Citizenship / La ciudadanía global
- Human Geography / La geografía humana
- Social Networking / Las redes sociales

Essential Questions:

- What constitutes a family in different societies? / ¿Cómo se define la familia en distintas sociedades?
- How do individuals contribute to the well-being of communities? / ¿Cómo contribuyen los individuos al bienestar de las comunidades?
- How do the roles that families and communities assume differ in societies around the world? / ¿Cuáles son las diferencias en los papeles que asumen las comunidades y las familias en las diferentes sociedades del mundo?

Theme: Science and Technology / La ciencia y la tecnología

Recommended Contexts:

- Access to Technology / El acceso a la tecnología
- Effects of Technology on Self and Society / Los efectos de la tecnología en el individuo y en la sociedad
- Health Care and Medicine / El cuidado de la salud y la medicina
- Innovations / Las innovaciones tecnológicas
- Natural Phenomena / Los fenómenos naturales
- Science and Ethics / La ciencia y la ética

Essential Questions:

- How do developments in science and technology affect our lives? / ¿Qué impacto tiene el desarrollo científico y tecnológico en nuestras vidas?
- What factors have driven innovation and discovery in the fields of science and technology? / ¿Qué factores han impulsado el desarrollo y la innovación en la ciencia y la tecnología?
- What role does ethics play in scientific advancement? / ¿Qué papel cumple la ética en los avances científicos?

Theme: Contemporary Life / La vida contemporánea

Recommended Contexts:

- Education and Careers / La educación y las carreras profesionales
- Entertainment / El entretenimiento y la diversión
- Travel and Leisure / Los viajes y el ocio
- Lifestyles / Los estilos de vida
- Relationships / Las relaciones personales
- Social Customs and Values / Las tradiciones y los valores sociales • Volunteerism / El trabajo Voluntario

Essential Questions:

- How do societies and individuals define quality of life? / ¿Cómo definen los individuos y las sociedades su propia calidad de vida?
- How is contemporary life influenced by cultural products, practices, and perspectives? / ¿Cómo influyen los productos culturales, las prácticas y las perspectivas de la gente en la vida contemporánea?
- What are the challenges of contemporary life? / ¿Cuáles son los desafíos de la vida contemporánea?

Theme: Global Challenges / Los desafíos mundiales

Recommended Contexts:

- Economic Issues / Los temas económicos • Environmental Issues / Los temas del medio ambiente
- Philosophical Thought and Religion / El pensamiento filosófico y la religión
- Population and Demographics / La población y la demografía
- Social Welfare / El bienestar social
- Social Conscience / La conciencia social

Essential Questions:

- What environmental, political, and social issues pose challenges to societies throughout the world? / ¿Cuáles son los desafíos sociales, políticos y del medio ambiente que enfrentan las sociedades del mundo?
- What are the origins of those issues? / ¿Cuáles son los orígenes de esos desafíos?
- What are possible solutions to those challenges? / ¿Cuáles son algunas posibles soluciones para esos desafíos?