

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
MODL 4752, AP Spanish Language and Culture
Course Syllabus

Course Description:

An advanced study of the Spanish language and Hispanic culture in preparation for the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam. This course will be conducted entirely in Spanish and students will be expected to communicate exclusively in Spanish. Students will develop their proficiency in the Spanish language in the intermediate to pre-advanced range across the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal and presentational. Through the integration of authentic sources such as online news articles, videos, literature, movies and music, students will produce summaries, essays and presentations on various themes and topics related to the Hispanic culture. Emphasis will be placed on synthesizing different sources into a cohesive well-organized presentation.

Curricular Mapping:

This course is organized into thematic units based on the themes and contexts established by the College Board. Cultural elements are integrated into the thematic units and activities are directed to answer the essential questions in each unit. It is expected that students have studied advanced grammatical structures, but grammar will be reviewed as needed to help students accomplish the goals within each unit. Students may choose to continue advanced study of Spanish in college.

Course Objectives:

Upon the successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

- 1) Read and summarize an authentic Spanish text
- 2) Listen and summarize an authentic Spanish audio source
- 3) Synthesize information to produce a formal written and oral presentation

Texts:

Your necessary digital texts for this class will be part of a “Required Course Materials Fee” thru the EdTech bookstore. This is a bundle purchase of digital texts for your full schedule of classes and will be available for purchase after 7/18/16. For further instructions please visit the [16-17 School Year](#) icon on the MVCS homepage. Please note: some courses may require additional purchases outside of the course materials fee.

Prerequisites:

Students must have successfully completed 3 years of instruction in the Spanish language or the equivalent.

Course Outline and Requirements:

First Semester

I. School

- a. Dropout rate among Hispanics
- b. Role of education in society
- c. Immigrants experience in American schools

II. Violence

- a. Role of violence in ancient cultures
- b. Wars for independence
- c. Spanish Civil War

III. Heroes and Villains

- a. Christopher Columbus
- b. Che Guevara
- c. Diego Maradona
- d. Pancho Villa and the Mexican Revolution

IV. Traditions

- a. Traditions in Argentina and Uruguay
- b. The role of the curandero in indigenous cultures
- c. La Catrina and the Day of the Dead
- d. Christmas Traditions in Mexico
- e. El Gordo

V. Family

- a. New family structures and their challenges
- b. Divorce in Hispanic countries
- c. Family obligations
- d. Adult children living with parents

VI. Hobbies and Interests

- a. How hobbies become professions
- b. How the environment influences pastimes
- c. Origin of different musical genres in Latin America

Second Semester

VII. Identity

- a. Roles in society and perception
- b. Influence of Arab immigrants in Latin America
- c. Self-perception

VIII. Ideal Beauty

- a. Parents' influence on children's idea of beauty

- b. Tattoos
- c. Fashion as an expression of beauty

IX. Love and relationships

- a. Gifts and their meaning
- b. Honor and love in a relationship
- c. Motherly love

X. Technology and modern life

- a. The effect of technology on individuals and society
- b. Ethics of technological innovation
- c. How innovation has helped humanity

XI. Our planet

- a. Sustainable living in Europe
- b. Climate change and its effects
- c. Overpopulation and its challenges
- d. GMOs

XII. AP Prep

XIII. Post AP Activities- Final Project

Grading:

<u>Gradebook Categories</u>		<u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u>	
Cultural Contact	10%	Quarter	45%
Homework	25%	Quarter	45%
Journals and Classwork	25%	Final Exam	10%
Grammar tests, essays and presentations	40%		

This course will be graded on the following major components:

- Homework - 25%
Homework consists of thematic analyses and vocabulary assignments and are graded based on completion according to requirements. Expect to spend at least an hour a week outside of class to complete thematic analyses, 2-3 hours if you are putting together a presentation.
- Journals and Classwork -25%
Students will be given a daily question or prompt that they must respond to in a journal. Classwork consists of reading comprehension questions as well as various grammar exercises and other assignments. These are graded based on completion.

- Grammar tests, essays and presentations -40%
Tests on grammar will be given at the end of a grammar unit. Essays will be given at the end of a thematic unit and will be written in class and graded based on the AP rubric. Presentations will be assigned periodically at the end of a thematic unit and graded based on a rubric.
- Cultural Contact - 10%
Twice each quarter students will be required to engage in real-life activities outside of class to enrich their understanding of the language and culture. These activities may include attending a cultural festival, attending a Hispanic church or visiting a Hispanic marketplace. A summary will be written about the experience focusing on the differences between the Hispanic culture and their own.
- Summer Work (strongly encouraged)
Read Spanish news articles from online resources such as <http://www.bbc.co.uk/mundo> on a regular basis. Watch Spanish newscasts from Spanish channels such as Univision and Telemundo. Look for opportunities to practice your Spanish in your community.

HS Grading Policy:

Please refer to the policy and procedures posted online in our Parent-Student Handbook.

School Policies and Expected Student Learning Results (ESLRs)

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as found in the Parent-Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student's responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of Monte Vista Christian School. In addition to addressing each ESLR every year, we target a specific ESLR each academic year for particular focus.

Tips for the Students:

1. Notify teacher of any expected absences and get assignments.
2. Listen to as much Spanish programming as possible (radio, tv or on the web).
3. Don't use online translations: they're not accurate and you don't reinforce your skills.
4. Use your Spanish inside and outside the classroom as much as possible.