

TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Larkspur, California

Course of Study

SPANISH 7-8

I. INTRODUCTION

The primary goal of the Spanish program is to enable students to communicate effectively Spanish in natural, unstructured settings and to read and interpret Spanish language materials fluently. Another fundamental goal of the Spanish program is to enable students to understand and appreciate Spanish cultures around the world.

Spanish 7-8 is the fourth year course in the Spanish sequence. It continues the study and development of basic Spanish grammatical structures and expands student oral and written proficiency in the language which continued in Spanish 5-6. This course also emphasizes cultural awareness, the arts and literature. The course is open to students who have successfully completed the outcomes of Spanish 5-6.

Students completing Spanish 7-8 should be operating at the Advanced Low level of spoken proficiency as measured by the ACTFL proficiency guidelines.

This course addresses the following Tam2000 goals:

#1: To prepare our students to think conceptually, solve complex problems, acquire knowledge, communicate ideas and work individually and collaboratively.

This course addresses the following Student Learning Outcomes:

#1: Communicate effectively when speaking and writing.

#2: Read and analyze materials in a variety of disciplines.

#8: Communicate in a second language.

II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will demonstrate proficiency with the following grammatical concepts and vocabulary:

Tenses: Present, Present Progressive, Immediate Future, Preterit, Imperfect, Future, Conditional, Present Perfect, Past Perfect, Imperative (formal and informal), Present Subjunctive, Past Subjunctive

Verbs: Regular and irregular forms in all tenses and moods
Adjectives: Adjective agreement including descriptive, possessive and demonstrative adjectives

Pronouns: Direct object, indirect object, double object

Vocabulary: Building upon the vocabulary developed in the previous 3 years, Spanish 7-8 expands vocabulary related to the following topics: daily routines, life at home and in the city, free-time activities and vacationing, health, fashion, travel and hotels, dining and work.

Students will demonstrate proficiency in the following skill areas:

1. Listening:

1-1: Students will be able to understand native Spanish speakers in conversations/dialogues, in class skits/situations and videotapes.

1-2: When listening, students will be able to demonstrate comprehension of all tenses including Present, Present Progressive, Immediate Future, Preterit, Imperfect, Future, Conditional, Present Perfect, Past Perfect, Imperative (formal and informal), Present Subjunctive, Past Subjunctive. They will also comprehend subject and object pronouns and noun/adjective agreement.

- Chapter tests and quizzes and class assignments will ask students to respond in short answers (oral/written), true/false statements, cloze exercises and multiple choice formats to what they hear.

2. Speaking:

2-1: Students will be able to carry on more complex and lengthy conversations related to the topics listed under II above, using the related vocabulary and correct grammatical structures.

2-2: Students will be able to ask and answer questions in both a controlled and spontaneous environment.

2-3: Students will show creativity in speaking, naturally incorporating the verb tenses listed above in 1-2.

3. Reading:

3-1: When presented with a selection of reading materials, students will demonstrate comprehension of basic vocabulary and grammatical concepts. Chapter test and quizzes and class assignments will ask students to respond to what they read in short answers (oral/written), true/false statements, and multiple choice formats. Translation and paraphrasing may also be used to assess students' comprehension. Reading selections include those in the Situaciones

textbook and appropriate supplementary materials to be used at the teacher's discretion. Supplementary materials may include authentic readings from pamphlets, brochures and invitations, newspapers, comic strips, magazines and short stories.

4. Writing:

4-1: Students will be able to write paragraphs in Spanish when given course-related topics using appropriate grammar and vocabulary.

4-2: Students will be able to write more complex and creative essays related to specific course content. The length of the essay and the use of a dictionary will depend on the teachers' purpose for creating the writing assignment. In-class writes may be shorter and the teacher may ask the students to write without the use of a dictionary on a topic that has been covered at length in class. Writing assignments at home may be lengthier and incorporate the use of a dictionary. Writing must be original student work and must not be a product of a translation program.

5. Culture:

5-1: Understand that cultures vary greatly within the Spanish-speaking world.

5-2: Students will investigate through research projects various aspects of Spanish-speaking culture including, but not limited to the visual arts, literature and musical and performance-based expression in the Spanish-speaking world based on teacher's discretion.

III. ASSESSMENT

A. Student Assessment

Students will be assessed using a combination of published tests as well as teacher-made assessments.

Speaking will be assessed through group and individual presentations, interviews, dialogues, and taped responses.

Written skills will be assessed through direct writing, workbook exercises, and other short answer and essay responses as well as cultural projects.

Listening and reading comprehension assessments are included in the textbook test and quiz materials. These assessments include short answers, matching, multiple choice and open-ended questions.

Students will be given the grading criteria and course expectations, preferably in writing, at the beginning of the course.

B. Course Assessment

Teachers will complete a Spanish 7-8 survey (See Appendix) at the end of the school year that addresses the following:

1. Were the activities listed in II Student Learning Outcomes utilized in the instructional program?
2. Did these activities meet the course goals?

Students will evaluate the activities in meeting the course objectives. (See Appendix)

Spanish 7-8 teachers will meet in the fall of the following year to discuss the survey results and make revisions to instructional practices.

IV. METHODS AND MATERIALS

A. Methods

This course will use a variety of instructional methods including direct instruction, modeling, and a number of student activities including, but not limited to: dialogues, dictations, games, individual and group presentations, interviews, journal writing, map work, question and answer situations, translations, videos, songs, and computer assisted instructional and research materials.

B. Materials

The following instructional materials will be used:

Situaciones Text
Situaciones workbook
Situaciones ancillary materials

The teacher may choose to use one or more of these supplementary materials:

Spanish literary excerpts
Selected short stories
Spanish magazine
Films, slides, audiotapes and videos
Songs
Teacher prepared materials

Internet learning sites
Software or CDs
Magazines, newspapers, and other print media

C. Technology

In addition to the various multimedia used in the classroom (see materials above), students will have the opportunity to access a wealth of new information through the use of advance computer-based technology available through each school's on-site computer laboratory. E-mail and internet resources will be used to gain information on language and cultures. Software programs will provide assistance in grammar, writing, and reading comprehension skills. In this way, the course supports both language acquisition and computer literacy proficiency.

V. GENERAL INFORMATION

Spanish 7-8 is a two-semester, ten unit elective course.

As is true for other courses in the Foreign Language Department, Spanish 7-8 uses an outcome-based approach, requiring students to demonstrate specific levels of proficiency in the basic skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking in order to continue in the course sequence.

A. Prerequisites

This course is open to students who have completed Spanish 5-6 with a C or better or who have demonstrated equivalent mastery of intermediate Spanish language.

B. Requirements Met

This course may be used as elective credit towards graduation but does not meet any specific graduation requirement.

This course is accepted towards the "e" or "f" requirement for UC admissions. It is also accepted for the CSU Foreign Language requirement.