

**¡Bienvenidos a la Clase de Español 1!**  
**Vestaburg High School**  
**2017-2018**  
**Profesora: Sra Davis**

**Course Description**

In this course, our goal will be to acquire Spanish language. When you learned how to speak your first language, you acquired it naturally by listening to other people speak it around you for a long time. Therefore, almost all of our class time will be spent using Spanish--not using English to talk about Spanish--and the focus will primarily be on listening and reading, but also speaking and writing which will come naturally as you take in more and more Spanish. This Spanish course is a Comprehensible Input Spanish course, and we will use methods and strategies that are based on Dr. Stephen Krashen's Input Hypothesis. In particular, one of the methods we will use is the TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling) method of language instruction. This method was developed by Blaine Ray and is based on the work of Dr. James Asher.

We will focus our class time on the acquisition of high frequency structures, vocabulary, and grammatical concepts. We will use this vocabulary and content in class discussions, stories, musical activities, and cultural explorations. You will be expected to recognize them when you read or hear them and, in time, be able to produce them in speech and writing.

**In Spanish 1 the student will...**

- Learn the basic past, present, and future tenses
- Learn common nouns, verbs, and adjectives used in the Spanish language
- Develop Spanish reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills
- Improve their knowledge of the cultures of Spanish speaking people
- Complete various daily activities as well as projects, presentations, essays, and a comprehensive final exam

**Textbook & Resources**

The textbook for this course is *Exprésate 1*: from Harcourt Education Company. We will also use songs, games, projects, a series of TPRS short stories and/or novels that correspond with and enhance the course textbook.

Numerous online resources will be used for this class. I will share links to many resources including class notes, summaries, practice opportunities, and YouTube videos. We will also be using google classroom,. I will show you how to access this at a later time.

**Materials**

The following materials are required for this year-long class in order to ensure everyone is prepared and ready to be successful. Please bring the following with you every day:

1. Spanish Binder (1-1.5" 3-ring binder with 5 sections labeled in Spanish)
  - a. Section 1: Para Empezar (Warm-ups)
  - b. Section 2: Vocabulario (Vocabulary Lists)
  - c. Section 3: Apuntes (Notes for grammar and culture )
  - d. Section 4: Cuentos y canciones (Stories and songs)
  - e. Section 5: Tarea (Completed homework)
2. Sharpened Pencil(s)
3. Homework (when due)
4. A Spanish/English dictionary is not required, but would be good to have at home.

## **Student Evaluation**

Quizzes, tests, homework, activities, projects, writing samples, and speaking samples are used to assess each student's learning.

Spanish I grades are determined by a weighted scale. All assignments should be saved and organized in your 3-ring binder so that you can check Power School grade postings for accuracy. The following is a breakdown of the grading categories:

<b>Assessments:</b> This includes authentic communication samples in the form of quizzes, prepared dialogues, projects, chapter tests, unit tests	60%
<b>Classwork</b>	20%
<b>Midterm/final</b>	20%

**Missing/Late Daily Work (work done in class)** will not be accepted except in the case of extenuating circumstances.

(Please call 989-268-5343 ext.2157 or wdavis@vcs-k12.net.

**Late Projects** will be accepted up to a week late with a maximum grade of 50%.

**Absences:** Please check the white bins in the classroom and get the handouts and homework of the day you missed. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed. You have as many days as you missed plus 1 to make up assignments from absences. After that time, credit will be reduced by 50%. If you experience extenuating circumstances, please see me and we can work out an individual plan for you.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic Integrity is being honest and responsible with regard to your schoolwork. Most basically, it means that your work is your work, and anything that you have found somewhere else is credited to its source. Students will receive a non-negotiable "0" on any assignment in which academic integrity has been breached.

- You may not copy another student's work or allow someone to copy your work.
- You may not use online translators to write sentences or essays.
- You must cite any website, book, article, etc. from which you gather information.

**Our goal as a class is to work together in order to learn. Everyone is expected to promote a safe, productive community of teaching and learning.**

**Basic expectations are as follows:**

1. **Be POLITE:** In this class, we will show respect toward our classmates, ourselves, and our environment.
2. **Be PROMPT:** In this class, we will be in our seats and ready to learn by the time the bell rings.
3. **Be PRODUCTIVE:** In this class, we will participate, be on task, and work diligently for the whole class period.
4. **Be PREPARED:** In this class, we will come prepared for success with all required course materials and homework.
5. **Be PROUD:** In this class, we will be proud of the fact that we are taking risks to learn something new. We will accomplish a lot and be proud of it.

**NO CELL PHONES:** Please have them off and put away. The school policy will be followed.

**Contact Information**

If you ever have any questions about anything, please don't hesitate to contact me:

Ms. Wilma Davis  
Vestaburg High School  
Spanish Teacher  
**Email:** [wdavis@vcs-k12.net](mailto:wdavis@vcs-k12.net)

**Teléfono:** 989-268-5343 ext.2157

**Summary**

At Vestaburg we are committed to assisting students to become lifelong learners. I am sincerely looking forward to a successful semester with you and am excited to help all students learn to their fullest potential.

**By signing below, I acknowledge I am aware of the content and expectations of this course. Returning this document will count as your first grade for the class**

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Electronics in the Classroom:** Students will learn to use electronics in a professional and ethical manner. Electronics in the classroom. Usage of electronics will be in compliance with the rules established in the VCS Student Handbook.