

AP Spanish Language and Culture

2025-2026

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Course Description:

This course follows the guidelines of the College Board AP Spanish Language and Culture course and provides opportunities for students to demonstrate their proficiency in the modes of communication from the Intermediate High to Advanced Low range as defined in the learning objectives in the Curriculum Framework. The three modes of communication (interpretive, interpersonal and presentational) defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century are foundational to the AP Spanish Language and Culture course. **This course is conducted almost exclusively in Spanish.** Central to the course is the overarching principle as stated in the Curriculum Framework:

When communicating, students in the AP Spanish Language and Culture course demonstrate an understanding of the culture(s), incorporate interdisciplinary topics (connections), make comparisons between the native language and the target language and between cultures (comparisons), and use the target language in real-life settings (communities).

Course Topics:

The course will be organized into the following thematic units:

1. Personal and Public Identities
2. Families and Communities
3. Contemporary Life
4. Global Challenges
5. Science and Technology
6. Beauty and Aesthetics

Texts and Required Supplies:

Required Texts:

1. Draggett, Parthena. *Temas: AP Spanish Language and Culture*. Vista Higher Learning, 2024
2. Draggett, Parthena. *AP Spanish: Language and Culture Exam Preparation*. Vista Higher Learning, 2024

Other supplemental materials could include books, magazines, websites, videos/movies, etc.

Required Supplies:

1. Computer
2. Paper
3. Pens/Pencils
4. Binder/Folder for handouts

Classroom Expectations:

1. BE ENGAGED:
 - a. Come to class prepared to learn!
 - b. Be an active participant in class activities. This includes interacting with others and speaking Spanish!
 - c. Stay focused on the task at hand. Use the class time you're given to complete your work!
2. BE RESPECTFUL:
 - a. Respect the ideas and opinions of the teacher and classmates.
 - b. Be respectful of the property of the teacher, classmates and school.
 - c. Be respectful of the lesson (do not distract the teacher from teaching or the students from learning).
3. BE HONEST:
 - a. Do your own work. Do not copy others' work and turn it in as your own.
 - b. Do not use Google Translate or AI tools when asked to do a writing assignment in Spanish.
 - c. Stay in communication with me regarding how things are going and if/when you are struggling. Help me to help you.

Grading Policy:

Six week grades will be calculated as follows:

- **Homework/Daily Grades: 20%**
This will include assignments to be done at home as well as activities to be completed in class.
- **Quizzes/Tests/Projects: 80%**
This category will include assessments for all 3 modes of communication (interpretive, interpersonal, presentational), both written and spoken. It could also include vocabulary quizzes, grammar quizzes and projects.

Late Work:

Weekly homework assignments (2-3 per week) will be posted on Google Classroom every Monday morning. These assignments will be due on Sunday at 11:59 pm. Therefore, students can do them all at once or spread them out as their schedule allows. Late work will be accepted as follows: assignments turned in within a week after the due date can earn up to 80%, and assignments turned in within two weeks after the due date can earn up to 50%. Assignments more than two weeks late will not be accepted.

Retakes:

Students will be allowed to redo/retake any assessment that receives a grade below 80%. They will have ONE WEEK after receiving the grade to retake the assessment. (However, please note that UIL eligibility rules and deadlines still apply.) These retakes will be done for a maximum of 80%. Students may be given an alternate assessment in place of the original, and in some cases, corrections will be offered in place of retakes. Students may be required to do any or all of the following before being allowed to retake an assessment:

- correct work on the original assignment/quiz/etc.
- make up any missing assignment related to a quiz or test they will be retaking
- attend tutorials for re-teaching

*Students may also be given the opportunity to correct/retake certain assessments that receive above an 80%, for up to 100%. In this case, the opportunity will be announced when students receive their grades on the task. A timeline and other specific information will be given at this time as well.

Absences: This is the standard Leander ISD policy on makeup work due to absences.

Students who are absent for any reason must make up the work they missed. It is the student's responsibility to check with each teacher the day the student returns from any absence to determine the:

1. Make-up assignments,
2. Specific dates for completing the work, and
3. Dates to complete any missed tests.

When a student is absent from class due to illness, upon his/her return, the student will be allowed one day for each day of absence to make up the assigned work and/or take a quiz/exam.

Any student absent from class due to extracurricular activities will be responsible for submitting missed assignments and taking any missed quizzes/exams on the first day of his/her return to class.

Technology:

Texas Senate Bill 10 (SB10), also known as House Bill 1481, restricts the use of personal communication devices, including cell phones, smart watches and tablets, by students during the school day in Texas public schools. These devices must be stored in student backpacks for the entirety of the day. Failure to follow this law will result in disciplinary action as determined by Cedar Park High School policy. For recording purposes during class (such as speaking assessments), students will need to use a school-issued or personal laptop.

Academic Dishonesty:

Students are expected to do their own work. While using a paper dictionary or online tools may be permitted for certain activities (expectations will be given on each individual assignment), it is never permitted to use AI tools or online translators to translate entire sentences, paragraphs or pages of text. Students who turn in work appearing to be done through the unauthorized use of online translators or AI tools, as well as students who engage in cheating, plagiarism or copying, will receive a grade of zero on that assignment. Further consequences will be given according to the CPHS Honor Code. A link to the Honor Code can be found on my website.