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Description automatically generated**Spanish 4 Syllabus 2022-2023**

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Usually available during 2nd and 6th periods

***¡Sí se puede!*** I am so excited to work with you in Spanish 4 this year! I am dedicated to helping you grow as individuals and in Spanish. My goal is to continue to unlock your curiosity and passion for learning about ad communicating with Spanish-speaking people, cultures, and places. I am so proud of your commitment thus far and can’t wait to see how far you go!

**Department Goals:**

It is the goal of the Helena High School Spanish department that students continue their study of language throughout their time at HHS, acquiring a high level of language proficiency and a broad understanding of culture and what it means to be a global citizen. Students will have the opportunity to earn college credit through AP Spanish and add a Seal of Biliteracy to their diploma, making them more attractive to future employers and colleges.

**Classroom expectations:**

Be Responsible! – *¡Sé responsable!*

* **Be prepared.** Bring your Spanish binder and a pen or pencil. Come with an open mind, ready to learn.
* **Be your best self.** How much you commit yourself to learning will yield results. Problem solve, put in effort, help others, and ask for help. Practice integrity. If you practice being your best self, that is what you will become.

Be Respectful! – ¡*Sé respetuoso/a!*

* **Be kind.** You might never know what another person is going through. Include others and make new friends!
* **Have a positive attitude.** Your attitude is powerful! Be flexible and open to new activities and ideas. It is my #1 priority that you understand all the Spanish in class. Believe in your abilities!

Be Involved! – *¡Participa!*

* **Have fun and Join the Party!** Spanish Class is not a spectator sport, and there will be no watching from the sidelines! So, join the party and enjoy being here! We will sing, make up stories, create gestures, play games, and talk to every other person in class a bunch! Please don’t crash the party by speaking English, having side conversations, or distracting the class.
* **Take charge of your learning**. Help me help you and signal when I am unclear, or if you or your classmates don’t understand. You can always redo tests or quizzes if they don’t reflect your best efforts.

Be a Graduate! *– ¡Gradúate!*

* **Follow School Rules.** As a member of the Helena High family, follow all the rules regarding attendance, makeup work (you get 2 days), cell phones, earbuds & smart watches (I give cell phone referrals for all of these), academic integrity (using translation websites), etc.
* **Believe in yourself**. *¡SÍ SE PUEDE!* You can do this! You can master another language! Taking a foreign language develops critical thinking skills & demands your brain to rewire. It opens doors to new experiences and people! It is impressive to universities, future employers, and makes the world bigger and safer for you. Plus, it’s fun!

**Cell phones, electronic devices, earbuds, smart watches**: I enforce the school’s electronic device policy. If you use your electronic device during class without my permission, you will receive a cell phone referral. Wearing 1 or both earbuds during class without permission is also a cell phone referral. There will be times we use electronic devices in

class with my permission. **I understand you may sometimes need to use or monitor your phone for medical or family reasons. Please let me know if that is the case.**

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| **Materials needed for class each day:**   * Your *cuaderno* (a composition book) * Pens or pencils * Your Chromebook * A positive attitude! | **Units of study:**   * Vidas impactantes e inspiradoras (Impactful and Inspiring Lives) * Agua es Vida o La Copa Mundial (Water is Life or World Cup) * Tradiciones Navideñas (Holiday Traditions) * Arte como un Espejo o una Ventana / Guerra Civil Española (Art as a Mirror or Window / Spanish Civil War) * Libro: Querida América / Inmigración en los Estados Unidos (Book: Querida America / Immigration in the United States) |

**Retakes:** You may retake or redo anything to improve a grade and your learning.

**Academic Honesty:** This class is about developing your Spanish skills and confidence in the language. Giving information about a test or homework to someone else, copying another person’s work, or using an online translator to write papers or presentations (etc.) is a violation of school policy. If you choose to be academically dishonest, you will have to redo the assignment and, more importantly, your administrator and parents will be notified. Please note that this can affect your status with National Honor Society and will go on your academic record.

**Grading and Assessments:** The HHS Spanish department believes in the abilities of all its students to learn Spanish.  We are a proficiency-based program, which means we believe you really “can Spanish” (imagine “to Spanish” as a verb)! In this class we assess your speaking, reading, writing, and listening in Spanish. It’s all about what you CAN DO (your proficiency) with the Spanish you’ve been taught. You will not receive points for completion, but rather the quality of your communication and **your growth**. You may retake any test for full credit within the grading period. I recommend you meet with me for a tune-up before a retake. I’m here to help you learn Spanish and succeed. **I update grades in PowerSchool every weekend (usually Sunday pm).**

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| **Grading criteria** | **Letter grade** |
| Exceeds Proficiency Expectations - "Wow!" | A (90-100%) |
| Meets Proficiency Expectations - "Good, but… / Good, and..." | B (80-89%) |
| Approaching Proficiency Expectations - "Not Yet / Almost" | C (70-79%) |
| Below Proficiency Expectations - "Oops" skills tune-up and retest recommended | D (60-69%) |
| No proficiency observed or demonstrated, nothing turned in. | F (50-59%) |

**Homework & In-Class Work:** Homework will be given weekly in the form of journal entries, cultural podcasts work, or grammar / vocabulary practice. The work we do in class is very important and . It is expected that everyone stays engaged in Spanish and participates fully the entire class. Remember, your proficiency will be measured frequently, and I must see examples of your in-class-work each day (including speaking!) to evaluate your proficiency. **Please be aware that a 50% (instead of a zero) in PowerSchool indicates that an assignment is missing or not completed.**

**Absences**: I**f you miss class, you have homework aka Make up work!** It is *YOUR* responsibility to get, complete, and / or hand in for any missed classwork, bell ringers, notes, exit tickets, and quizzes / tests on your own time.  When you miss class, you are missing Spanish input, which is hard to make up.  For each day you are gone you must spend 35-45 minutes on your Spanish to make up for the lost class time. If you are gone for more than one day, you can mix and match options as you wish, or just stick to one that you continue to work on each day. We will discuss all the options as a class, so you are familiar with how to navigate each of them. **This expectation applies to all students who miss school for sports, illness, appointments, quarantine, or any other circumstance**.

**Here is what to do:**

1. Talk to me if you know you are going to be gone ahead of time. I may have an alternate assignment for you.
2. If you miss a day of class unexpectedly, send me an email or Teams message.
3. If I tell you to follow the standard make-up work procedure, use the protocol below!
4. If you are ill, you have two days to complete make-up work as stated in the student handbook.

**Absence Make-Up Work Protocol:** Go to our TEAM and click on the channel on the left titled Make Up Work for Absences.  For each day missed, spend 35-45 minutes completing one of the following options. Email, chat me, or hand in the information below when you finish with the date of your absence clearly indicated.

1. Do a second Tarea Semanal (weekly homework) / Duolingo podcast or journal entry.
2. Dreaming in Spanish: This is a YouTube channel that has fantastic 5-15 minute videos about a variety of topics. Watch 2 or more of these videos **(there will be options posted to Teams)** and complete a Listening Quiz (sections C, B, and A!) for each.
3. Read 35-45 minutes in a free choice reading book, then complete a Reading Quiz (sections C, B, and A!) for each chapter. I can check out a free choice reading book to you, and someone can pick it up at the office if you are quarantined.
4. Read two informative articles from the options posted to Teams and complete a reading quiz (sections C, B, and A!) for each article.
5. Pick a grammar topic that you feel you need more practice with on Spanishdict.com. Watch the videos and complete the activities for 35-45 minutes and send a photo of each quiz you complete.

**Whenever help is needed,** please don’t hesitate to seek help from me via email, phone call, text, or send me a chat message via TEAMS. I care about you and want you to succeed in every way! If there is an issue that concerns just you and me, like grades or another private matter, set up an appointment with me, rather than doing so in front of other students. I make mistakes, it is OK to ask about something that does not seem right.

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Thank you for trusting me with your student's education. I am excited to get to know them! I would like to partner with you this year to draw on strategies that have worked in the past in school and at home. I will use this information to make school more engaging for your student. Please help by answering the questions below.  If you prefer to talk in person or by phone, I’d be glad to set up an appointment or give you a call. My email is [ttucker@helenaschools.org](mailto:ttucker@helenaschools.org) and my class phone is 406-324-2256. Throughout the course of this school year, I encourage you to check PowerSchool and email or call me if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for helping me learn more about your student.

Warm regards,

Therese Tucker

Spanish teacher

Helena High School

1. Your student's first and last name and / or preferred name at home:
2. Names of parents / guardians:
3. I do my best to call each of my student's parent or guardian at the start of the year to introduce myself.  What are your preferred phone numbers and the best time to reach you?
4. Parent/Guardian email address(es):
5. My student learns best when…
6. What is one (or more) important thing you want me to know about your student?
7. What worries/concerns does your student have, or do you have for your student, about this school year?
8. Is there anything else you can tell me about your student that you think would help me support them or their learning?

Thank you again for your time.  I look forward to connecting more with you!  Here's hoping for a great year!