

Sra. Kennally
240 Honors Spanish I – Fall Semester 2011

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Class Site: <http://kennallyspanish.wikispaces.com>

Telephone: 282-3361 ext: 8225

Text: Buen Viaje!

Course Description: 240 Honors Spanish I---1 credit

The student will develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and begin building vocabulary as well as knowledge of the cultural background associated with the language. Students will spend time working with recordings of native Spanish speakers and writing compositions. Supplementary materials will be used as well as the text. There will be oral and written quizzes and tests. **Quarterly independent projects are required.** After completing this course, you will be able to discuss personal topics such as daily activities, personal preferences, family, etc. You will also know enough Spanish to continue to improve on your own.

The curricular goals for this course include *the five C's* identified by the National Standards. 1)

Communications: the ability to engage in meaningful interpersonal, presentational and interpretative

communication; 2) *Cultures*: the development of cultural awareness; 3) *Comparisons*: the development of higher order skills that will allow you to compare and contrast the foreign language and culture and your own; 3)

Connections: you will be able to connect what you learn in this class with other disciplines; 5) *Communities*: You will be able to extend what you learn beyond the classroom into broader contexts.

Class Site: Please visit our class site as I have built it for you! Here you will find our text site, useful resources, projects for this class and lots of valuable and informative links that will help you improve your Spanish and your understanding of the Hispanic culture. The link to the site is <http://kennallyspanish.wikispaces.com> You can also access it though <http://moodle.thorntonacademy.org/> Please let me know if you have any suggestions on how we could use our site!

Materials:

Textbook	Notebook paper
Bound Daily Journal	Dividers (12)
3 ring binder 1.5in+	Pen and pencils

Grading Policy: **Extra Credit is NOT offered!*

20 %	Quizzes, notebook checks, and journal writings
20 %	Centers, homework, daily work
20 %	Participation
40%	Test and projects

Notebook Format: Students will need a three-ring binder with dividers. Each divider will be labeled with the chapter number. All notes, review sheets, assignments, centers, and old test are to be kept in the corresponding section. A notebook grade will be given periodically based on organization and completeness.

How do I find out my grade? *PoweerSchool allows parents and students to access students' grades. Once you have a user name and password, you may immediately access available grading and scheduling.*

Homework Policy: Homework is usually given everyday. You should spend approximately 20-30 minutes each night doing written assignments as well as reviewing, studying and practicing pronunciation. If you have questions look it over BEFORE the next class. I will be able to help you after school most days, but I NEED to know in advance so I can make sure I am in my room. **No more than three late assignments per quarter.** You may make it up for a passing grade (**70%**) within one week of the due date.

Cheating/Plagiarism Policy: Any and all work that is completed as a result of cheating and/or plagiarism will be returned unmarked. A score of zero will be entered in its place and students are subject to an academic dishonesty referral. The student may not resubmit the work. Anyone allowing others to cheat/plagiarize will also receive grades of zero, and will not be able to resubmit work.

Tardy/Attendance Policy: You are considered tardy if you are **not in your seat when the bell stops ringing**. As soon as you are in your seat, complete the journal entry or warm up work on the board. Consequences for attendance infractions may result in points off the quarter grade. Any combination of unexcused absences totalling three for a semester course and six for a year course may result in the loss of academic credit. Please adhere to the Thornton Academy attendance policy.

Restroom policy: Maximum of 5 passes per quarter. Please use them wisely. Sign the pass form by my desk.

Electronic Devices: Cell phones and any other electronic device will be turned off and put away during class. If you are using any electronic device in class, you will need to give it to me and I will deliver it to the office. You may pick it up at the end of the day. If your phone is delivered to the office more than once, your parents will need to pick it up for you.

Make-up work:

- You are responsible for prompt make-up of any work that you have missed. You must make up work within one week after you return from an absence..
- If a previously assigned test or quiz is given during your absence, you will be expected to be ready to take it immediately upon your return to class. If a previously announced quiz/test is being given upon your return, you must take it. Speak to me about extenuating circumstances
- If you fail a quiz, you may re-take it for a passing grade (70%) within one week of being apprised of the failure. You **may not** re-take any tests.

Behavioral and Academic Expectations:

- 1) Be Respectful: As your Thornton Academy student handbook reads, “respect each other, respect the adults in the school, and respect the environment.” Please be polite, honor what others have to offer, *contribute to a community of learners*. You can learn a lot from other students' answers, questions and comments. Support the dignity of yourself and others.
- 2) Be Responsible: Bring all needed materials to class.
- 3) Be honest: Do your own work. If I suspect plagiarism you will be given a zero.
- 4) Follow Directions: Pay attention to classroom procedures.
- 5) Absolutely NO food or drinks allowed in the classroom.
- 6) Follow all the rules and procedures in the Thornton Academy Student Handbook.

Consequences:

- 1st Offense – Warning
- 2nd Offense – 30 min Detention/Reflection form/Call to parent.
- Severe Inappropriate Behavior – Referral to an administrator.

Use of Spanish in class:

- 1) Use Spanish as frequently as possible. Even if you don't know all the vocabulary, you can say part of a sentence in Spanish. Take risks! Right from the start. **You will learn by using the language. Assume that you can.**
- 2) Do not apologize for making an effort.
- 3) Everyone is learning. If you already knew Spanish, you wouldn't be in this class.

* This is a tentative syllabus that will be revised during the course according to emerging needs. Any information is subject to change, and students are responsible for those changes. This syllabus must be kept in the front of the student's notebook at all times.

Dear parents and guardians:

I am looking forward to this year with your students. This will be my first year with Thornton Academy. However, I have fourteen years of experience teaching Spanish. My hope is to instill your son/daughter an appreciation for the Spanish language, people and culture. In this ever shrinking world, being bilingual is considered a 21st century skill that you daughter/son will benefit from mastering.

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills agrees that understanding and appreciating diverse cultures are additional core competencies that all high school graduates need to master and thus has included "Global Awareness" in its "21 Century Skills Framework"...According to the Partnership, Global Awareness refers to the ability of students to ...[understand] other nations and cultures, including the use of non-English languages (Wagner, 2008).

I hope that we can work together to make it a productive year. Should your child experience difficulties and/or frustrations with the material, please have him/her come see me ASAP. Spending just five-ten minutes one-on-one on an assignment or grammar concept can often take care of the problem. Our class site <http://kennallyspanish.wikispaces.com> is also very helpful. Here they will find links with tutorials, lessons, etc.

I provide progress reports to all students half-way through each quarter. You will receive a report card at the end of every quarter. You can also keep informed of your son/daughter's progress by logging in to PowerSchool. Once you have a user name and password, you may immediately access available attendance, grading and scheduling.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me through e-mail at sol.kennally@thorntonacademy.org or by phone at 282-3361 ext: 8225

Thank you,

Please sign and return: I have read the expectations and make-up policy for my son-daughter

Student full name: _____

The best way to contact me should the need arise is by:

____ e- mail @: _____

____ phone @: _____ best time to contact me is: _____

____ either.

Parent/guardian's name (please print)

Parent/guardian's signature