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**R**ocklin **H**igh **S**chool, Foreign Language Department

 **Office hours**: before & after school & PLUS period, Room **R24**

**Spanish III Honors** Course Syllabus **2013-2014**

¡*Bienvenidos a Español III Honores*! I am looking forward to a year of big growth opportunities in developing Spanish Language proficiency in all skill areas: listening, speaking, reading and writing. We will emphasize the ability to communicate both orally and in writing in Spanish. Activities will include: singing songs, reading stories, partner & group presentations, writing, role playing, student driven lessons, grammar games, cultural readings/videos, quizzes and exams.

**Essential skills & concepts** The first two chapters will be a review of Spanish II

**First semester**

**Grammar**: Review of Spanish II concepts  (ser vs. estar, preterit vs. imperfect, adjective agreement, adverbs, reflexive verbs, commands) New grammar por vs. para, present perfect tense, lo que, impersonal se, subjunctive to express hopes and wishes, plural commands

**Writing**: Students will be able to write a **100** word response that is understandable to a native speaker about familiar topics with 70% accuracy in less than 30 minutes.

**Listening**: Students will be able to understand main ideas and some details on a variety of topics and from different sources.

**Speaking**: Students will be able to speak about daily activities in the present, past and future tenses. Students will be able to respond to questions with appropriate syntax although some errors will occur. Pronunciation shouldn’t interfere with communication.

**Second semester**

**Grammar**: Gender of nouns, subjunctive after expressions of need, subjunctive for recommendations, nosotros commands, subjunctive for denial/disagreement, Past subjunctive, conditional, Verbs w/ prepositions, more preterit vs. imperfect, subjunctive w/ conjunctions, past subjunctive

**Writing**: Students will be able to write a **150** word response that is understandable to a native speaker about familiar topics with 70% accuracy in less than 30 minutes.

**Listening**: Students will be able to understand main ideas and many details on a variety of topics and from different sources (different dialects, modes [dialogue, interview, speech]).

**Speaking**: Students will be able to speak about a variety of topics after listening and/or reading a source. Students will be able to use the conditional tense and subjunctive mode. Pronunciation should not interfere with communication. Errors will occur.

**Grading Policy** As an **HONORS** class, students receive the same grade weighting as an AP class! In other words, a “B” counts like an “A” and an “A” is “5 points instead of 4” and so on.

Students need to demonstrate mastery of ALL essential skills **and** earn a minimum of 70% of the total points to pass the class. **Grades are weighted** and divided into the following categories:

**Exams**, timed writes 50% (essential skills)

**Quizzes**, oral presentations, projects 20%

**D**aily **L**anguage **A**ctivity (**DLA**) (homework, participation) 15 %

**Notebook** (notes, modismos, textbook activities) 15 %

Grades are posted online; I update grades weekly. If you have a question about your grade please see me before/after school or during plus period. Do NOT ask about your grade during class!

**Class notebook/binder** Students will maintain a class notebook which will be an essential organizational tool, study aid and resource for the course and the exams. It will contain key information for the chapter such as class notes and exercises from the textbook; typically, everything needed for the test will be in the notebook. Notebooks will be checked at the end of each chapter and account for 15% of the overall grade. Regarding absences: It is the student’s responsibility to obtain assignments from either a classmate or the teacher.

**Attendance** The **student** is **responsible** for the **learning** and the **work** that went on in class even though he/she was absent.  If a student is absent on a test day, he/she must schedule an appointment to make it up. **Language learning is an INTERACTIVE skill; regular attendance is crucial to success**. Students who miss class often will not only miss out on the communicative aspect of the learning, but will ultimately struggle to keep up in the class.

**Assignments** Homework assignments must be completed **BEFORE** the bell rings. Late work will NOT be accepted. Missing homework, incomplete or copied work will result in a 0, no exceptions. This includes work translated from the internet. Please see the **Student Handbook** for a detailed explanation. Please note that NOT all homework will be collected/graded. Students should complete all assignments in order to practice the language; It will not be announced which assignments will be graded.

**Rules  Tardy Policy** On time means being in your seat BEFORE the bell rings, **and** WORKING until the bell rings; do NOT stand/line-up at the door the last few minutes of class. This WILL result in reduction of participation points!

* **RESPETO!** Treat **ALL** of your peers, your teacher & your classroom kindly at **ALL** times.

**Communication:** Parents/Guardians As acknowledgement that you have read and understood the course content, expectations, and class procedures, **please send me an email** with the following information in the subject line: **Student’s first & last name** and **PERIOD (1, 3, or 5)** No message necessary and no need to print the syllabus. mdemeyer@rocklin.k12.ca.us **Please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns throughout the year.** Dear student: I can’t know if there is an “issue” unless you tell me (before/after class, plus)! For less outspoken students, often a brief email can alert me to something of which I am unaware. Working together & communicating, I’m confident we can have a great and productive school year!

**Schoology** is an AMAZING new tool that our district has adopted and most teachers will be implementing this year. I will be using schoology; please be patient as I learn how to maneuver this resource. Your student will have to use this website in order to PRINT documents necessary for class, review for tests, and access the class calendar. I will use *Remind 101* to send out reminders for tests, quizzes and big assignments. <http://schoology.rocklinusd.org/home> We are NOT using the grade program from Schoology. Parents and students will still need to log in to Edline to check their grades.

**Grade codes in Edline
mi** = missing Student was present and did not submit or complete assignment. Depending on assignment (ES or not, etc) assignment may be made-up for reduced credit

**ab** = absent Student was absent and may make-up the assignment w/in stipulated time frame\* for full credit

**inc** = incomplete work was incomplete, unacceptable (illegible), didn’t follow directions and may be made up for a REDUCED score

0 = 0 These assignments may NOT be made-up

**ex** = excused These assignments are excused, no score is entered; they neither help nor hinder the grade.

**Blank grading box/window** simply means that the assignment hasn’t been graded; it is NOT a 0.