

AP® Spanish Language

What are our goals?

- To comprehend and interpret a variety of authentic audio and print sources from the Spanish-speaking world.
- To express ourselves effectively through speaking both interpersonally and in presentational situations.
- To express ourselves effectively through writing in a variety of formats, including letters, essays and literary analyses.
- To integrate comfortably the skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking when working with authentic materials.



How will we do it?

The time leading up to the exam will be spent intensely practicing our reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in a variety of ways. The class will be conducted entirely in Spanish. Students are expected to participate actively and complete all assignments, both in and out of class, in order to truly grow as a speaker of another language.

What can I do to get started?

This summer, students should try to see and hear as much Spanish as possible. The best method for improving with a language is to be exposed to it. A great way to hear Spanish is to watch a Spanish television channel or movie, listen to music, or even converse with another speaker. All of these things, as well as a world of things to read, are available online. Here are some sites you can start to explore:

www.univision.com

www.yahoo.es

www.yahoo.mx

www.elpais.com

Another cool internet resource is a site created especially for Spanish teachers and students. It has a ton of interesting videos, songs, articles, interviews, and other cultural artifacts. Feel free to explore:

zachary-jones.com (click START LEARNING to enter the real site)

Finding a topic that you're passionate about and looking at it in Spanish is a wonderful way to motivate yourself to learn. This could be a sport/activity, a type art, a profession, food, travel, or really anything that actually interests you. Often, you'll discover that experiencing something in Spanish can present you with a new perspective on the topic through a different culture. Much of what we do in class will not be simple grammar practice exercises, but instead a study of the diverse cultures that make up the Spanish-speaking world.

Please feel free to contact me this summer if you have any questions about additional ways to prepare for the test or if you happen to find some fascinating video that you'd like to talk about in Spanish. My email is rjacobsen@bcps.org.

Thanks, and have a great summer!

-JACOBSEN

