

**Spanish I**  
Mrs. Outlaw  
Pathfinder Middle School

**Contact Information:**

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<http://noutlaw.weebly.com>

[www.studyspanish.com](http://www.studyspanish.com)

[www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com)

**Textbook:** Buen Viaje - Level 1

**Course Description:**

The goal of Spanish 1 is for students to have a basic level of proficiency that would be necessary for survival in the target language. The students will develop their skills in the four basic language acquisition areas: speaking, listening, reading, writing. We will use a variety of methods to ensure success for all types of learners. Students will be expected to participate in small conversations, oral presentations, study of grammar and vocabulary, cultural study, group work, and many other activities to help their target language skills.

**Class Expectations:**

Come prepared for class (bring your materials and be on time, please)

Participate in class

Keep your notebook organized

Speak Spanish as often as possible

If you feel confused, ASK FOR HELP

Have a POSITIVE attitude

Come in during lunch for extra help

Respect the classroom, teacher, other classmates and yourself

**Course Requirements:**

These necessary components will provide for a well-rounded and fulfilling experience with the language. Students will be responsible for the following...

In-class activities (actividades de clase)

Individual work - students will be required to do individual work during class.

Paired-partner activities - students will correspond in Spanish with other classmates.

Skits and storytelling experiences - students will create and deliver oral presentations.

Group work - students will work collaboratively toward a common goal

Cultural experiences - reading, videos, songs, food preparation and tasting etc.

Cultural activities - students will work on a variety of activities that focus on the culture of different Spanish speaking countries.

### **Homework (tarea)**

Most regular homework will be assigned a couple times a week. Each regular assignment should take no longer than 15 minutes. If nightly homework is not assigned, it is an expectation that students will review vocabulary lists/flashcards and grammar notes. This will help immensely when it comes time for assessments.

### **Quizzes and tests (pruebas y exámenes)**

This type of assignment allows me to check the progress of each student's understanding of topics studied. Quizzes will be administered weekly or bi-weekly depending on the content being studied. After returning quizzes to students so they can see their grades and errors, I will house all quizzes and tests in the classroom. This policy hopes to deter the temptation for cheating. Students will be able to view their old quizzes as needed.

### **Long-term projects (Proyectos)**

The use of projects in learning Spanish allows the students to demonstrate creativity and his/her knowledge of the Spanish language. Throughout the year, students will be involved in both group and individual projects. These will include but are not limited to: small compositions, research projects, videos, audio samples, mini-dramas, multimedia presentations etc.

### **Participation (participación)**

One of the many ways in which participation will be assessed in class is through pesos (paper slips for volunteering and speaking Spanish in class, administered at teacher's discretion). For the first and second quarter, students will be responsible for saving 15 pesos (for 100%) and 20 for the third and fourth quarter. Lesser amounts saved are graded on a sliding scale. Students to "save" more than the pre-determined amount, will receive extra credit up to 5 pesos over.

**Assessment:**

Spanish I will follow the building grading policy below:

*All classes, with the exception of certain electives, will participate in the summative and formative grading practice of 80%/20%. 80% of a student's grade will be comprised of summative grades which evaluate a student against a standard or benchmark and indicates the summary of learning. 20% of a student's grade will be comprised of formative work or work that occurs during the learning process to form student's mastery of standards*

Summative assessment: quizzes, tests, presentations, projects, and participation.

Formative assessment: nightly homework and in-class activities (including keeping a class binder organized).

**Mid-Term Exams:**

Spanish I is considered a High School course and will be taught in accordance to the benchmarks, standards and curriculum set by the World Language Department. At the end of the year, students will be receive High School credit for Spanish I and be able to move to Spanish 2 as high school freshman. With that said, mid-term exams will be part of this course. Students will take a mid-term exam at the end of both first semester and second semester. These exams are will be semester cumulative and are the same exams taken at the PCHS.

**Make Up Work:**

Students have the same number of days to make up work as the number of days absent (see student handbook for details). Test and quizzes can be made up with me during lunch or after school by appointment. If students are unable to make these times, we will work out other arrangements.

**Late Work:**

Spanish I will follow the building level policy for late work:

*It is the intention of Pathfinder School to be as consistent as possible with how late work/assignments/assessments are scored. However, we also understand that one uniform policy may not be appropriate due to the nature of the subject matter and the assignment/assessment. Teachers shall adhere to the following general expectations in regards to late work.*

- 1. Formative late work will be accepted for full or partial credit until the corresponding summative assessment is taken.*
- 2. Assignment of partial credit for late formative/summative work, when applicable, will be consistent per course.*

**Absences and Tardies:**

Students are expected to be on time and to attend class each day; this increases their use and understanding of Spanish. If a student is unable to attend class, please have your student check the agenda for the day and make sure to see me for any documents, notes or instruction. All attendance-related matters will be handled in accordance with the Pathfinder student handbook.

**Cheating Policy:**

In the technology age, it can be hard to resist the urge to use online translators. We strongly encourage students to stay away from translating full thoughts. It is appropriate to use an online translator to look up a word here and there, but it is considered cheating when they are using it to write entire thoughts. It is important that the students use the content and vocabulary learned in class, as that is what will be required and assessed for each assignment. Students who are caught cheating will receive a zero for that particular assignment. Please remember, depending on the assignment, a zero could be detrimental to a student's progress in class.

**Extra Help:**

Students who wish to have extra help can make an appointment with me. I will do my best to arrange this at my earliest convenience.

**Materials Needed:****REQUIRED:**

\*lined paper

\*writing utensils

\*2 or 3 inch 3-ring binder with properly labeled dividers for each of the following sections

- Section 1: calendario (course outline, grade sheets, project rubrics etc.)
- Section 2: diario (daily intro and timed writes)
- Section 3: apuntes (notes)
- Section 4: actividades de clases (in-class activities)
- Section 5: tarea (all returned work including homework, projects, essays etc.)

**NOTE:** If purchase of these materials is not possible, please contact me so that we can make arrangements.

I have read the course outline and understand what is expected of me. Should I have questions or concerns, I will address them with Mrs. Outlaw. I have shared this course outline with my parent(s)/guardian(s). This outline is located in the front of my binder, and I will consult it throughout the year.

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(student signature) (date)

My student has shared with me the attached course outline. We have discussed it and any concerns I have are listed below.

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(parent/guardian signature) (date)

Comments/concerns: