**West Ridge Middle School**

**Course Overview/Syllabus**

**Spanish I**

**Course Description/\*Awarding of Credit:**

 Spanish I is a highly structured academic elective. This high school course emphasizes the continuing development and reinforcement of the language in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. It also includes the study of cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. Class participation is essential toward the development of oral proficiency. Spanish I will also include oral presentations. Preparation time outside of class for this course is approximately 20-25 minutes daily.

**\***A middle school student must complete successfully (a grade of 70 or above) each of the two consecutive semesters of Spanish at middle school in order to receive high school credit. No partial credit is awarded. The grades of two semesters are not averaged to determine course credit. After receiving Spanish I credit, a student would then take Spanish II in the ninth grade.

**Objectives:**

 To help each student attain an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

 To present the language within the context of the Spanish-speaking world and its culture and to have the students realize that the Hispanic culture in the United States, and particularly in Texas, is a reality which affects their lives in many ways. The students will also gain an appreciation of the similarities and differences between their culture and those of Hispanic countries.

**Textbook:**

 **Español Santillana** Texas Edition, Spanish 1. Santillana USA Publishing Company. Replacement cost: TBA

**Grading Policy:**

Student grades are based on:

60% major

20% quizzes

10% skills development

10% participation/ daily

**Participation:**

Attendance and participation in all activities are necessary for satisfactory progress in this course. In order to develop language skills, it is essential for the student to speak Spanish.

**Homework/ Skills Development:**

All homework is to be finished before entering the classroom. It is due at the beginning of the class period and is not accepted late. To receive credit, homework must be completed with appropriate answers, quality, and effort. Homework may either be graded or taken for completion. Two zeros per nine weeks may be replaced by completing the extra credit packets, and one homework grade will be dropped each nine weeks. Students will be responsible for copying the homework assignments at the beginning of each class period. Homework assignments will also be listed daily on my website on the 8th Compacted calendar. Most assignments will be posted online and available to download.

**Make-up Policy & Retesting:**

It is the responsibility of the student to pick up make up work from teacher. If a student is absent from class due to a school activity, he or she must notify the teacher at least one day before the event to get assignments and to schedule make-up quizzes or tests. Students will have one day to make up work for each day missed for being out sick or due to family reasons. Retesting will follow the high school policy. Students must have scored below a 70, there is only one retest per nine weeks, the maximum score is a 70 on retest, and students have 3 days after test is passed back to retake.

**Eligibility:**

In all cases, eligibility follows U.I.L. guidelines as stated in the student handbook.

**Classroom Management and Rules**Discipline will follow procedures as outlined in the student handbook.

**Class Rules**

1. Be prepared. Bring all materials to class.

2. Participate--speak Spanish.

3. **Do not** work on other subjects in class.

4. Be considerate and respectful of people and property.

5. iPads must be stowed under your desk, unless otherwise specified. Cell phones should stay in

your locker during school hours.

6. Honor code will be followed.

7. IF AN ONLINE TRANSLATOR IS USED ON ANY GRADED ASSIGNMENT IN SPANISH 1,

A GRADE OF ZERO WILL BE ASSIGNED AND THIS IS CONSIDERED AN **HONOR CODE VIOLATION.**