

8th Grade Spanish

*Showing **PRIDE** the Lion Way!*
Class Procedures and Syllabus

Señorita Epping
Room 208 (HS)

269-4396 x150
sepping@lomira.k12.wi.us

Course Description

Welcome to 8th Grade Spanish. This is an introduction to Spanish. We will be learning how to write, read, speak, and listen in Spanish. We will be covering the alphabet, how to greet someone, numbers, dates, family, classroom objects, as well as basic sentence structure. We will also be studying the culture of different Spanish-speaking countries. Be prepared to do a variety of activities inside and outside the classroom and work with a variety of people to complete them. This class meets every other day for a semester. I am looking forward to working with each and every one of you!

Classroom Rules and Procedures

*Remember – school is your full time job. Always do your best, act professional, and follow the guidelines of the classroom and you will achieve success.

Academics:

I am not afraid to make students work for their grades, nor should students be scared to. The subject matter can be mastered with both work and self-discipline.

Behavior:

Respect for yourself, fellow students, teachers, and the classroom itself. To get the most out of our time together, we must cooperate and respect everyone's ideas and input. Remember for every choice you make, there are consequences, whether positive or negative.

Participation:

Students' attendance and involvement in the classroom are very valuable to learning. Education is an active process, not a passive one. Therefore, participation is an expected part of their grade. Students are expected to ask questions, answer questions and take part in discussions. Students who insist on doing other things will lose the activity points for the day. Further, students who are tardy or have unexcused absences will also lose points from their overall participation grade.

Attendance:

Students are expected to be on time and prepared for class. **This means having the appropriate materials and being seated in their assigned seats when the bell rings to start the class period.** If students are not prepared and/or in their seats when I take attendance they will be marked tardy or absent. The first and second tardy may be excused with a warning. The third tardy will result in detention and contacting the parents and office. If a student is late for a legitimate reason, please walk in quietly, take your seat, and join in appropriately to the activities.

Materials: Notebook and/or loose-leaf paper
 Folder or 3 ring binder with assigned materials
 Writing Utensil (blue/black pen or pencil)
 Good Attitude ☺

Absences:

If a student has an excused absence, he/she will have an equal number of days to make up the assignment. ***If a student is absent from class, it is his/her responsibility to obtain and complete any work and/or materials that were assigned during the absence.*** The student should check the Absence Folder before coming to the teacher. If extenuating circumstances arise, students should discuss them individually with the teacher for modification. In the event of an unexcused absence, the student will not be allowed to make up the work and must serve detention (including office referral after the first offense per school policy).

Communication:

It is my goal to help students develop individual responsibility for their actions. As such, I am going to be insisting that students become primary advocates for themselves. Therefore, if there are questions, an absence, conflicts or disputes, the student is responsible for getting into contact with the teacher and/or group members to resolve the matter at the earliest time possible. If the problem cannot be worked out between the student and teacher, it would then be appropriate to involve parents as advocates.

Cheating/Plagiarizing:

Cheating and plagiarism are unacceptable and are not tolerated. If a student is caught cheating or plagiarizing on a test, quiz, or assignment, they will receive a **zero** for the assignment. Plagiarism of an assignment (i.e. copied from the internet, a book, or another student) will result in a **failing grade for the quarter**.

Late Work:

Assignments given are an important part of the learning process. Thus, it is pertinent they be completed on time. If an assignment is not completed, you are expected to attend 9th hour to finish the assignment. You CAN turn in late assignments; however, you will be downgraded (50%) if it is late. Since there is value in the assignment, **something is ALWAYS better than nothing**. Please note that 50% can only be achieved if the work is done with effort and completeness – I will not waste my time if a student chooses not to put in his/her time. Late work will only be accepted until one week before the end of the grading period (quarter/semester).

Q1 – You may turn in assignments from one grade update to the other, two weeks.

Q2 – You will have until Friday of that week to turn in assignments.

Q3 – You will have one day to turn in late work

Q4 – You will have until the end of 9th hour to complete your assignments

Quiz/Test:

Periodically we will have quizzes. Most of them will be announced, but I reserve the right to give a pop quiz. It is advised that students stay informed and current on the material.

Tests will be administered at the end of every unit. They will contain multiple forms of assessment both objective (m/c, t/f, matching) and subjective (short answer, essay).

Food/Drink:

All food and drink (except water) should be put away when the bell rings for class.

Electronics:

Cell Phones and other digital devices are not permitted in the classroom, if it is seen; it will be taken and given to the office to be picked up at the end of the day (in accordance with the student handbook).

Grading:

Grading will be based on a total points system. Completed work will be given a point value which will be divided by the total number of points that could be earned throughout the quarter/semester. Thus a number grade and a letter grade will be given. (ex. 415 points earned / 500 possible points = 83% or a C+.)

Grading Scale

The grading scale is in accordance with Lomira Middle School 8th Grade Policy.

A+	100-97	C+	79.9-77
A	96.9-94	C	76.9-74
A-	93.9-90	C-	73.9-70
B+	89.9-87	D+	69.9-67
B	86.9-84	D	66.9-64
B-	83.9-80	D-	63.9-60
		F	59-

Extra Credit

There is the possibility to do extra-credit throughout the semester. However, extra credit is often misunderstood. Let me be clear about what it means to me. It means going above and beyond regular assignments and work (i.e. doing something *extra*). It does not mean that you do it *instead* of your regular assignments. If you sit and do nothing for most of the semester, figure out that you are failing a week or two before the end of the semester, and then come and ask if you can do extra credit, you will get a firm "No." Therefore, if you are missing many assignments because you chose not to do them and then ask for extra credit to make them up at the end of the semester, you will get a firm, "no," since you should have been doing those other assignments and then going above and beyond. If noticed early enough (midway through), of course there is the opportunity to bring your grade up.

Help is always available

Anytime you have a problem that I could be of any assistance please let me know. All you have to do is ask. You'll receive as much help as you need – even if it means outside of school time. All problems will be kept strictly confidential. Please let me know if you need help in any way.

Classroom Rules: Dos and Don'ts

There are certain standards of behavior which I expect all of my students to meet. The most important is the Golden Rule: treat others as you would like them to treat you, and respect. The specific dos and don'ts are on the backside of this paper. Our goal is to be able to create a classroom where everyone feels comfortable.

*Further, as not all procedures can be explained in detail on one syllabus, please refer to the Student Handbook for a full, comprehensive list of rules and expectations of student behavior in the classroom.

UNIT SYLLABUS

Unit 1: Basic Communication and Description

- Alphabet
- Numbers (0-20) then later (20-100)
- Greetings
- Courtesy
- Asking/telling name
- Asking/telling how you are feeling
- Asking/telling where you are from

Unit 2: Grammar

- Masculine/Feminine and Singular/Plural
- Pronouns
- Basic Verb Formation: -ar verbs

Unit 3: Culture

- Identify colors
- Spanish Speaking Countries
- Dates, days, and months
- Family

Unit 4: Forming complete ideas

- Clothing
- Food
- Identify people and classroom objects
- Asking/ telling the time

Classroom Expectations

Students will do the following:

1. Be respectful of others and their belongings (no teasing, keep hands, feet, objects to self)
2. Always give your best effort
3. Bring necessary materials to class, participate, and follow directions
4. Stay in your seat unless you have permission to do otherwise
5. Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak

Consequences if you do not follow the expectations:

1. Student will be reminded of the rules
2. Student will be separated to a better "learning environment"
3. Student will have a conference with the teacher
4. Student's parents will be notified
5. Student will be sent to the office and parents will be notified immediately

Teacher responsibilities to students:

1. Treat students with respect and care as individuals
2. Provide an environment for learning
3. Motivate students to learn and achieve
3. Teach required content

Student responsibilities to teacher:

1. Treat teacher with respect and care as an individual
2. Attend classes and be prepared
3. Cooperate and not disrupt class
4. Study and put effort into work (Success = Effort)
5. To learn and apply the required content