

I have read the course description and understand what is expected in this class.

Nombre: _____

Clase: _____ Hora: _____

Parent/ Guardian Signature: _____

Spanish 8 (HS Spanish 1)

Profesora Christiansen

pippin.christiansen@bellingshamschools.org

676-6499 ext. 4781 portable A

Best way for families to find out about students' progress or information about the course:

- Use Family Access
- Review e-newsletters
- Email: pippin.christiansen@bellingshamschools.org

8th grade Spanish is a high school credit course designed to introduce Spanish language and culture that will support and inspire further learning of the language. Language opens up our worlds to people and culture. Through language we can communicate and understand one another's perspective, resulting in a more compassionate and culturally sensitive world that appreciates diversity. Students will be encouraged to use language in all forms: speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Participation is essential to success in learning a language, students will be expected to speak, listen, read, and write in the target language each day. We will use the *Realidades 1* textbook and cover the regular and irregular present tense, simple future, and preterit past.

General Rules

KMST Kulshan Middle School Thunderbirds

- Keep safe
- Make a difference
- Show respect
- Take responsibility

Daily Classroom Expectations

- **BE PREPARED:** Have your *lápiz o bolígrafo y cuaderno*, in class at all times
- **BE PUNCTUAL:** Be on time to class. You must be in your assigned seat when class starts writing down your *metas (goals)*.
- **BE RESPECTFUL OF OTHERS & LEARNING:** Treat yourself and others with respect, refrain from disrupting the class or distracting others. Be nice.
- **BE PRODUCTIVE:** Stay on task and complete daily work, participate in all classroom activities fully.
- **BE HONEST:** Zero tolerance for cheating.
- **BE YOUR BEST:** try hard, ask for help, have fun, take your time, treat each other well.

We will be using Traditional letter grading for this class.

Because this is a high school course, students will receive letter grades on a standard grading scale; however, mastery of the material is essential as each piece of learning builds on the last. There will be a focus on achieving mastery of at least 80% accuracy on each skill and proficiency scales will be used to assess writing and speaking. Students will be required to use Spanish every day and to speak the language in class as part of their grade. Grades will be calculated using the following categories: 50% for tests, quizzes, and projects; 30% for oral participation; 20% for coursework.

Grading Scale:

A	93-100	B-	80-82	D+	67-69
A-	90-92	C+	77-79	D	63-66
B+	87-88	C	73-76	D-	60-62
B	83-86	C-	70-72	F=	59% and below

Coursework, Exams, Quizzes, and Oral Participation:

- Keeping an organized Spanish notes is important to success in this class will be checked for points regularly.
- Homework will be assigned most days. This must be completed before class to be considered on time and credit will be given for completion. Late homework will not be accepted.
- Quizzes will be given a few times a week. Exams will occur every two to three weeks. Retakes will be offered to students who earn less than 80% on any given assessment with the exception of the midterm and final district common assessments.
- Students will be asked to demonstrate oral participation six times per week. Points will be deducted for off-task talking, leaving the classroom, cell phone violations, sleeping, or doing other coursework during Spanish. A weekly score will be entered into Skyward.

Contact Information:

I am available for one on one or small group help by appointment: before school, during lunch, or after school. Please email me promptly if you have any questions or concerns about the class or your student's progress. The best way to contact me is email as I am teaching throughout the day and cannot have a conversation on the phone. I will be prompt in my response to emails and can call you at the end of the day if you want to have a conversation. Students will be best served by talking to me about their questions or concerns, but should email if they are missing school due to illness.

We're looking forward to a great year together!