

**BOW VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT
SPANISH 9 COURSE OUTLINE 2018-19**

Instructor: Lauren Price
Classroom: 1024

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Google Classroom Code:

Course Description

This world language class is likely different from the typical language class. The way you learn in this class is exactly the same way everyone learns their first language as children. We listen to lots of language, and with enough experience, we begin to produce language ourselves. In fact, without studying or even trying much, *nearly every human being* becomes proficient by the time they are six or seven years old. It leaves one wondering why so many people report not being able to learn a second language.

This class will teach Spanish much the same way everyone learned their first language, through a teaching method called **Comprehensible Input**. This method prioritizes the students' gaining as much experience in the language (**input**) as possible. Class will be ideally 90% in Spanish from the first class. This method also requires the teacher to make all that Spanish completely **comprehensible** to the student through context, body language, acting, pointing, drawing, even just translating the word to English from time to time.

Your experience in class will largely consist of listening to and reading messages in Spanish. By the end of the semester, you will be able to write in French, without much hesitation. With time, your speaking skills will also continue emerge and develop.

Class Expectations:

In addition to the school rules, students are expected to follow these language-specific classroom rules to help facilitate language development:

1. **Listen with the intent to understand**-students are expected to do more than just let conversation wash over them. They have to bite into every sentence and process it
2. **One person speaks, others look and listen**-Students are expected to focus their eyes on the one speaker and respect when others are talking by not having side conversations.
3. **Support the flow of language**-In order for class to be interesting enough to listen and read for hours and hours, students must provide interesting topics of conversation for the teacher to discuss in Spanish. The teacher will create opportunities, and students are expected to suggest fun, interesting, personal conversation ideas.

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4. **Avoid English**-Students are expected to speak Spanish as much as possible. When suggesting conversation topics they are allowed one or two English words at the most. With this main idea clue, the teacher will take over and literally give voice to the students' ideas in Spanish.

Grading

Class Work (quizzes, tests, assignments, interpersonal communication): 80% **

Final: 20%

***Much of your Class Work grade will come via a rubric that assesses how well you engaged in the conversation. You must demonstrate your focus with your body language, clarify meaning when confused, and contribute to conversation as much as possible.