# Spanish I- 2021-22

## *Señora Samantha Sommer*

# Carmel Middle School

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This Spanish 1 course is a **HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL CLASS** and will provide students with the necessary foundation for future success with Spanish language: pronunciation, functional vocabulary related to everyday life, cultural information and basic grammatical structures. Students will develop beginning level proficiency in the language by engaging in a variety of communicative activities that focus on developing reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.  In addition, the student will develop cultural awareness and be prepared to encounter real life situations outside of the classroom through discussions of cultural customs and behavior and by reading authentic materials written in Spanish.

By the end of the course students will:

* Possess the basic vocabulary and grammatical structures necessary to comprehend others and communicate at a beginning level, in the following situational contexts: greet others, express likes and dislikes, describe self and others, express obligations and needs, discuss school and activities, describe daily routine, give and understand directions, and obtain and provide basic information.
* Develop an understanding of the present and present progressive tenses.
* Read selected passages within an appropriate context of vocabulary and grammar.
* Write sentences and simple paragraphs in Spanish.
* Know basic aspects of Hispanic culture, including holidays, customs, common foods, and leisure time activities.

## EVALUATION

Grades reflect student mastery of content as demonstrated in their understanding and application of the concepts, skills and content learned in class and cultural activities. Grades will be determined as follows:

### ORAL/AURAL PROFICIENCY 20%

**HOMEWORK/CLASSROK/PARTICIPATION 15%**

**TESTS/QUIZZES/PROJECTS 55%**

**FINAL EXAM 10%**

**Oral/Aural Proficiency**: Communication is the goal of language learning, students are therefore expected to speak in Spanish as much as possible during class. There will be times during class when speaking English will result in a loss of points for this category. Students will be practice aural (listening) skills every day, and tests will include a listening comprehension section.

**Homework/Classwork/Participation:** Homework will be assigned 3-4 times to week except for Fridays, and should take about 15-30 minutes per assignment. Late homework will be accepted up to two days past the day it was assigned, for half credit. Participation in class means that students positively participate in the various daily classroom activities. Positive participation means that students’ behavior and effort is a positive influence on their classmates and does not inhibit their learning.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will cover the vocabulary and/or grammar we are currently studying. These assessments are designed to give feedback about students’ learning, so that we know which concepts are understood, and which ones need more practice, before the unit tests.

**Tests:** There will be a test at the end of each unit. Unit tests are a combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, listening, reading comprehension, and writing.

**Projects:** There will be some projects throughout the school year. These will vary and may be in the form of a Google slideshow, a group skit, a poster, a movie, or other teacher-approved creative ideas.

**Final Exam:** Since this is a high-school equivalent course, there will be two final exams this year. The first final exam will take place prior to Winter Break and the second final exam will take place at the end of Trimester 3.

**Makeup Policy:** It is student’s responsibility to find out about missed work. Check the MySchool homework calendar for any missing assignments. All classwork, homework, and tests may be made up for full credit when you have an excused absence. Unexcused missing work may be made up for half-credit only, and must be made up within three days from the day it was originally assigned or given.

**Citizenship grades will be based on the following criteria:**

*Outstanding=Consistently goes above and beyond classroom expectations; helps others improve*

*Satisfactory=Follows all of the class rules all of the time*

*Needs Improvement=Needs correction several time in a 6-week course cycle*

*U=Needs correction every week*

### REQUIRED MATERIALS AND TEXTBOOK

* **You must bring a binder\* to class everyday** as we will be using lots of supplementary materials in addition to the textbook. Maintaining an organized binder is crucial to your success in this class. Please organize your binder into the following sections, in the following order:

***(Práctica/Tarea/Vocabulario/Gramática/Miscelánea)***

**\*Unannounced checks will occur throughout the year…be organized and prepared!**

* In addition, please come prepared with your Chromebook, paper, and writing instruments.
* We will be using **En Español** as our textbook—you do not need to bring a book to class as I will have textbooks in the classroom.

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **BE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION** to our classroom community!
2. **BE PROMPT and PREPARED**. Please be in your seat when the bell rings, and have all your materials and homework ready!
3. **WORK COOPERATIVELY**. Be prepared to work in groups and in pairs. You will need to be flexible, patient and a good partner when doing paired speaking exercises. This is your time to practice Speaking Spanish ☺
4. **FOLLOW THE THREE R’s: RESPECT YOURSELF, RESPECT OTHERS, and BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ACTIONS.** You and everyone else have the right to learn Spanish in a positive and nurturing environment. It is your responsibility to behave in a manner that does not interfere with your classmates’ learning.

## ACTIONS TO AVOID

1. Talking while I am talking or another student is giving an answer/asking a question.
2. Closing up books and not working up until the bell rings.
3. Put downs or negative language.
4. Giving up or not trying your best; not believing in yourself ☺

**POLICIES**

* ***All policies regarding tardies, electronic devices, behavior, etc. are followed as outlined in the CMS handbook.***
* ***Consequences for behavioral problems are the same as outlined in the CMS student handbook.***

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We offer a unique opportunity at Carmel Middle School in our World Language classes with our 1:1 program. Our foreign language curriculum and assessments are the same as those at Carmel High School and CMS students can earn high school credit for the WL language classes taken at CMS. Many middle school students are ready for the rigor, discipline and maturity required to succeed in these advanced classes. **Students MUST take, and pass with a C grade or better, the next consecutive WL course as a freshman at CMS in order to earn the high school credit. Therefore,** it is especially important that you monitor your student’s progress on ARIES and you should be concerned if their grade goes below a B-. I look forward to an exciting and productive school year with your Spanish 1 student, and there are many ways you can support your student during their journey through “Españolandia”, and I encourage you to come to Back-to-School night where we can discuss these ideas further.

**Student Name:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understood the syllabus for Sra. Sommer’s Spanish 1 course at Carmel Middle School. I understand the 1:1 World Language program at CMS and the expectations for moving on to Spanish 2 next year. I also understand the homework and absence policy, as well as the behavioral and academic expectations. I know that any inappropriate behavior will lead to immediate action by the teacher.

Student Signature/Date

Parent/Guardian Signature/Date