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## Course Syllabus

### Course Information

Spanish 4 consists of two terms: A & B. The student will earn .5 graduation credit for the successful completion of each of the terms (A & B) . This credit may be used towards the 2.0 World Language credits required by the State of Michigan for graduation.

Following successful completion of this course, students should select Spanish 4 or Spanish 5AP, with teacher recommendation.

### Course Overview

Spanish 4 is an elective in 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. The foundations, understanding, speaking, reading, and writing of Spanish are emphasized. Students are introduced to various aspects of the Hispanic culture through the reading selections, pictures, and other visual aids.

### Learning Goals

Text "Aventura" – Chapters 1-7  
Supplemental texts as assigned in class.

### Required Course Materials

- Text "Aventura en Español 4"
- A Spanish/English PAPER dictionary – No Online Translators!!!! No Cell Phones!!!
- Pencil or pen (black or blue ink)
- Red ink pen or red marking pencil
- 1 ½ inch 3-ring binder
- Index cards

\*Please see Sra Marsh if you will have a problem obtaining any of these items. We will discuss and come up with an alternative resource.

### Teaching & Learning Philosophy

Your education is a collaborative experience. In order for you to get the most out of it, you should be prepared to work with one another and with your teacher. This is true of all classes, but it especially holds true in a World Language classroom. At the heart of the language learning process is participation and communication among students and teacher. To facilitate communication and collaboration, students must treat everyone in the classroom with respect. You can expect to be heard, but you must also be prepared to listen. Anyone can learn a second language, but it takes teamwork to do so.

### Course Expectations & Policies

Students are expected to show respect for themselves and others, abide by the Skyline Student Academic Integrity Policy, participate in class activities, work within both self selected and assigned groups, complete their homework assignments to the best of their ability, and on time, take notes in class, memorize, and / or create their own dialogues, complete other written and oral exercises and assignments, complete readings, and create and present projects.

## **NOTE ON PLAGIARISUM AND INTERNET TRANSLATION**

Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Please refer to the Ann Arbor Public Schools Student Handbook. **Direct Internet translation is a form of cheating and will result in a grade of zero.**

## **DISCIPLINE POLICY**

Expectations: Students are expected to know and follow both the classroom rules and school rules. If these rules are broken, the following procedure will be implemented:

Step 1: The student will be asked to call home and explain the problem.

Step 2: The student will go with a referral to the office.

*\*Behavior identified in the disciplinary rubric or severe misconduct will result in immediate referral to the office.*

**Absences:** It is extremely important to finish assignments daily. If students happen to be absent it is their job to obtain the homework assignments they have missed. I advise you to have the phone number of a few classmates at your home. All missed assignments must be completed and given directly to the teacher for grading. Quizzes and tests given in the student's absence should be made up upon the student's return to school. The student is responsible for conferring with the teacher to arrange a make-up schedule for tests and quizzes. All assignments are posted in the classroom or on PowerSchool. Predetermined due dates are enforced regardless of absences.

**Late work:** Skyline students are expected to complete and submit all assigned work, even if it is submitted late. Confer with your teacher to determine a deadline for completion.

- It is the student's responsibility to report any outside factors that may prevent him/her from completing an assignment on time and make arrangements with the teacher to turn in the work later.
- Reasonable requests from students who communicate their unusual circumstances will be considered.
- The teacher has the right to waive the late penalty for circumstances immediately brought to his/her attention.

**Incomplete Grades:** A student receiving an incomplete for a grading period may be given additional time to convert the incomplete mark to an earned mark.

- \* The student and teacher will agree upon a timeline for completion of the work,
- \* If the student fails to complete the work necessary to receive a grade, which must be strictly adhered to, incomplete mark will be changed to a failing grade.

## **Homework/Class-work/Assignments/Studying Requirements:**

1. All work is required to be organized and legible.
2. All work must be done clearly and be labeled with name, date, hour and the name of the assignment.
3. Homework must be fully completed and ready before class and must be checked the day it is due. It is your responsibility to check your homework in case of an absence and to show it to your teacher for credit upon your return.
4. All homework will be checked and discussed during class. Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions.

## **Student Evaluation:**

Students will be graded on a weighted scale. Process work generally includes in-class work, participation, language production, homework, quizzes etc; mastery work generally includes tests and major projects. The category of each assignment, however, is to be ultimately determined by the teacher. The student's final grade will be calculated as follows:

45% Informal quizzes, summative quizzes, chapter exams, projects.

20% Daily assignments in grammar, culture, reading, and writing.

20% In-class participation.

15% Final exam

## **Grading Policy for all World Language Courses at Ann Arbor Skyline High School**

1. Letter grades will be assigned in accordance with the Skyline High School Common Grading Scale (see below).
2. All Skyline World Language teachers will observe the following protocol when calculating student grades:
  - Homework will be counted as part of the final grade, with a corresponding decrease in points based upon its completeness, quality, and whether or not it was turned in on time.
  - Grades may include, but are not limited to projects, tests, quizzes, class work, language production, and other activities.
  - Extra Credit will not be available unless all assignments have been turned in.
3. Teachers of the same course will use a common final assessment.
4. All chapter and unit tests must be mastered with a score of 80% or better.
  - If the student scores below 80% on a chapter or unit test, he / she will immediately be given materials, to help the student achieve mastery.
  - In the event a retest is given and the student demonstrates mastery, the previous score will be raised to 80%. (Note: A retest may be an alternate version of the first test).
  - All mastery make-up materials must be SUBMITTED and APPROVED PRIOR to the next chapter exam for students to raise their grade on that assignment.
5. World Languages credit may be earned for a course at Skyline in one of two ways:
  - a) The student demonstrates mastery on all chapter tests.
  - b) The student scores 80% or better on the final exam.

## **Mastery Learning**

Mastery learning is a method of teaching and learning that assures that a student reaches a level of predetermined mastery on a unit of instruction before progressing to the next level or unit. In a mastery learning setting, students are given specific feedback about their learning progress, as well as learning support as needed, at regular intervals throughout the instructional period. Mastery learning is a process designed to assure that all students achieve content mastery.

### **Skyline High School's Grading Scale**

Letter Grade	Range	4.0 GPA Scale	Honor Class 4.0 Scale
A+	100	4.0	4
A	93 - 99	4.0	4

A-	90 - 92	3.67	4
B+	87 - 89	3.33	3.67
B	83 - 86	3.00	3.33
B-	80 - 82	2.67	3
C+	77 - 79	2.33	2.67
C	73 - 76	2.00	2.33
C-	70 - 72	1.67	2
D+	67 - 69	1.33	1.67
D	63 - 66	1.00	1.33
D-	60 - 62	0.67	1
E	59 - 0	0.0	0

**Classroom Bibliography**

- ¡Aventura! EMC 2009, Spanish level 4 Textbook
- ¡Aventura! (workbook)

SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL



ESPAÑOL 4  
Term A

Phone: (734) 994-6515

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**Attention:** Please return this **entire page** signed, by \_\_\_\_\_.

**I have read and discussed the course requirements with my son/daughter and understand the policies for this class.**

**We agree to comply with these rules for the class and with their consequences.**

Parent's Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Phone Number(s) and Best Times to Call \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_