

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Spanish 1B

School Year: 2024-2025

Semester(s): 2

Grade Level(s): 9-12

Course Day(s) and Times: Tuesdays & Thursdays; 2pm-3pm PST

Teacher Information:

- **Name:** Molly Jo Fuentealba
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- **Office Hours:** By appointment only / **Text:** Talking Points TBA
- **Branches Learning Main Office Number:** (323) 955-0114

Course Description:

Welcome to Spanish 1, a dynamic, project-based course designed for students embarking on their language acquisition journey. This course emphasizes the development of essential language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and interaction, all while fostering a deep appreciation for Spanish-speaking cultures, traditions, art, literature, and history.

Throughout the course, students will engage in thematic units that introduce new vocabulary and grammar concepts. Each unit will incorporate comprehension activities that challenge students to apply their knowledge in real-world contexts. Projects will explore historical, cultural, and literary themes, allowing students to connect language learning with the rich tapestry of Spanish-speaking societies.

Lessons are structured around eight metacognitive patterns (Thinking Maps), encouraging students to reflect on their learning processes and strategies. By comparing their own experiences and perspectives with those of individuals from diverse Spanish-speaking backgrounds, students will cultivate a broader understanding of the world and enhance their empathy.

Key components of the course include:

****Lowering the Affective Filter:**** Creating a supportive and inclusive environment where students feel comfortable taking linguistic risks.

****Translanguaging:**** Celebrating and honoring a multilingual person's full linguistic repertoire instead of trying to keep narrowly focused on a single language.

****Community Building:**** Encouraging collaboration and communication among peers to foster a sense of belonging and shared learning.

****Cultural Exploration:**** Engaging with the history, traditions, and literature of Spanish-speaking countries to deepen cultural awareness and appreciation.

****Metacognitive Visual Patterns:**** Implementing eight visual patterns that correlate to specific cognitive processes. The patterns will build the critical thinking, problem-solving, comprehension, and communication skills necessary for academic success in any language, content, or grade level from elementary to post-doctoral levels.

Join us in this exciting journey as we explore the Spanish language and its cultures, develop our communication skills, and build a community of learners eager to embrace linguistic and cultural diversity.

Course Structure

Class Format:

- Classes meet online twice a week via Google Meet.
- Each session includes interactive lessons, breakout room activities, and live discussions.
- Students are expected to attend all sessions, participate actively, be supportive of their peers, and complete asynchronous assignments in **Google Classroom**.

Communication:

- Announcements, assignments, and resources will be posted in **Google Classroom**.
- Weekly office hours will be available for one-on-one or small-group help

Participation Requirements:

- A webcam and microphone are required for participation.
- Be prepared to speak, write, and interact in Spanish during each session.

Course Expectations:

Be prepared, attend from a quiet place, have your materials ready, have your camera on, be on time, stay for the entire class, participate, submit work in a timely fashion, treat others with respect and dignity, ask for help when needed, be *willing to take risks, have fun*.

Course Resources

Class Materials:

- Composition notebook
- Glue stick, scotch tape or double-sided tape, stapler
- Colored pencils, highlighters (pink, blue, green, yellow, orange, lavender, etc), skinny markers
- Sticky notes - multiple sizes (1x1, 3x3, 3x5)

Class Texts and Videos:

- Destinos: An Introduction to Spanish
<https://www.learner.org/series/destinos-an-introduction-to-spanish/>
- Unite for Literacy (Spanish) <https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

Class Handouts (All available in the Google Classroom):

- Thinking Map Guides: English & Spanish
- Thinking Map Signal Words
- Adjective Word Banks

Important Branches Learning Policy Information

Camera Policy

Branches Learning requires students to keep their cameras on during live classes unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. Exceptions can be made in rare circumstances if the course teacher, supervising teacher (HST), and the parent all approve a camera waiver.

Attendance Policy

Attendance and participation are part of the final grade. Students who miss more than 40% of live classes may fail the course. Exceptions may be made if a pre-approved plan is in place.

Headset Policy

Students attending live classes from a shared space must have a headset with a microphone to ensure the class is not disrupted by background noise.

Late Work

Assignments turned in after the due date will result in a lower grade unless pre-approved by the instructor.

Grading Scale	Weight
<p>High School, Grades 9-12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A = 90% -100% ● B = 80%-89% ● C = 70%-79% ● D = 60%-69% ● F = 0%-59% 	<p>40% - Course Content/Formative Assessments - skills from each unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attendance & participation ● Thinking Maps ● Destinos & reflections ● Children’s books, readings, conversations, writing ● Celebrations of learning (quizzes) <p>40% - Unit Assignments/Summative Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Completion of all unit assignments ● Notebook check ● Presentations <p>20% - Portfolio & Showcase Completion of all unit assignments</p>
<p>* Students are expected to complete all assignments to pass this course. Without submitting all assignments, the grade on the report card will be no higher than a D.</p> <p>* IEPs will be observed with appropriate modifications and accommodations for language objectives, lesson delivery, and grading</p>	

Spanish 1 Second Semester Syllabus (Online Synchronous)

Unit 9: Visiting the Doctor

Live Class Activities:

- Role-play scenarios in breakout rooms: doctor-patient conversations.
- Group vocabulary-building games using online tools (e.g., Quizlet Live).
- Guided practice of reflexive pronouns and distinguishing between *ser* and *estar*.

Skills to be Mastered:

- Explain minor illnesses to a doctor.
- Use reflexive pronouns (*me, te, nos*).
- Compare pharmacies in the U.S. and Spanish-speaking countries.

Assignments:

1. **Dialogue Roleplay:** Write and present a doctor-patient conversation live in class.
 2. **Thinking Map:** Map of choice to represent a unit theme (e.g. Multiflow, Bubble, Brace)
 3. **Doctors Without Borders/Veterinarians without Borders/Peace Corp/CSI Investigations:** Choose a cause
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Unit 10: Traveling

Live Class Activities:

- Share past travel experiences in small groups using guided prompts.
- Practice preterite tense with interactive verb conjugation games.
- Explore virtual tours of Spanish-speaking beaches and resorts.

Skills to be Mastered:

- Use the preterite tense of -AR and irregular verbs (*ir, ser*).
- Talk about summer and winter activities.
- Discuss weather and climate in Spanish-speaking countries.

Assignments:

1. **Vacation Letter:** Write and share a letter describing a vacation, presenting it live or via recorded video.
2. **Thinking Map:** Flow Map or Tree Map

3. **MI6 International Spy Ring:** Create diary entries for a year, traveling through Spanish-speaking countries with the intention of breaking up an international spy ring.
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Unit 11: Cultural Events

Live Class Activities:

- Watch and discuss short clips of Spanish-language movies or theater performances.
- Practice indirect object pronouns in collaborative online exercises.
- Explore examples of fine arts in the Spanish-speaking world through group research.

Skills to be Mastered:

- Discuss cultural events and fine arts.
- Use indirect object pronouns (*le, les*).
- Relate past events using the preterite tense of -ER and -IR verbs.

Assignments:

1. **Cultural Event Description:** Present a description of a cultural event live in class.
 2. **Thinking Map:** Bubble Map
 3. **Spanish Artist Presentation:** Create a slideshow or video on a Spanish artist and present live or asynchronously.
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Unit 12: Taking Flight

Live Class Activities:

- Role-play check-in scenarios in pairs or small groups.
- Practice present progressive tense with collaborative sentence-building games.
- Using maps and visuals, discuss the geographical importance of air travel in South America.

Skills to be Mastered:

- Navigate airport scenarios in Spanish.
- Use the present progressive and irregular verbs (*hacer, traer, salir*).
- Compare flight times and geographical features in Spanish-speaking countries.

Assignments:

1. **Travel Brochure:** Write and share a travel brochure in class or through a video recording.
 2. **Thinking Maps:** Flow Map, Bubble Map, Multi-Flow Map
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Unit 13: Grooming

Live Class Activities:

- Share daily routines with a partner and identify similarities/differences.
- Practice reflexive verbs through interactive quizzes and sentence-building.
- Discuss cultural differences in daily habits using teacher-provided visuals.

Skills to be Mastered:

- Use reflexive verbs, including stem-changing reflexive verbs.
- Describe daily routines and personal grooming habits.

Assignments:

1. **Dog/Cat/Bird Sitting Protocol:** Create and present a daily routine schedule for an animal sitter you have hired while you are on vacation
 2. **Thinking Map:** Flow Map, Brace Map, Multiflow Map
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Unit 14: Train Travel

Live Class Activities:

- Practice train travel vocabulary through live dialogues and ticket-purchasing roleplays.
- Use irregular preterite verbs in sentence completion activities.
- Discuss the cultural significance of high-speed trains (e.g., AVE).

Skills to be Mastered:

- Use vocabulary related to train travel and irregular preterite verbs (*hacer, venir, querer*).
- Explore cultural aspects of transportation in Spanish-speaking countries.

Assignments:

1. **Murder Mystery:** In Spanish, present a live or recorded mystery you and your partners solve while on a train, bus, or airplane.

2. **Thinking Map:** In Spanish, include the reason for making your choice.
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Unit 15: Ordering at a Restaurant

Live Class Activities:

- Role-play ordering food in a restaurant in breakout rooms.
- Explore and share recipes from Spanish-speaking countries in small groups.
- Practice stem-changing verbs through interactive activities.

Skills to be Mastered:

- Use stem-changing verbs in the present and preterite tense.
- Order food and beverages in Spanish.
- Discuss regional cuisines and vocabulary variations in Spanish-speaking countries.

Assignments:

1. **Mother's Day Dialogue:** Create and present a dialogue ordering food at a restaurant or planning a menu for what you will make for Mother's Day.
 2. **Recipe Presentation:** Research, prepare, and present a Spanish-speaking country recipe live or via video.
 3. **Thinking Map:** In Spanish, include the reason for making your choice.
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End-of-Course Portfolio:

- Compile a portfolio of key assignments for all units.
 - Include written, audio, and video components as required.
 - Portfolios will be reviewed during the final live classes
 - Parent & Family Presentations.
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