

# WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

## DOÑA KAREN

## SPANISH I & 4

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### ¡BIENVENIDOS!

Welcome to an opportunity to expand your world view by learning and/or deepening your knowledge of the most widely spoken language in the Western Hemisphere, over 20 countries.

Prepare to feel **inspired, confused, excited, frustrated, smart, and ridiculous** on a daily basis. The kinder we are to each other in class, the more we will learn. Class is conducted principally in *Spanish*, of course.

In class, as in life, your advantage lies in **PAYING ATTENTION**. Along with participation, organization, and use of technological resources you will learn more than you thought possible. Like a guitar player who doesn't practice between lessons, progress will be slow and depressing without personal vocabulary practice and Spanish television/movie/music listening hours.

### MATERIALS-

- A divider section with a pocket (HW registro and miscellaneous forms) for Spanish class in a binder (mandatory) with 3 sticky tab sections for:

**1-REGISTROS-** Logs for HW, reading, and video.

**2-EN LA CLASE:** *EVERYTHING* we write in class goes in chronological order, color coded by boxes made with colored pencils or highlighters:

yellow/**introducción**    blue/**lectura libre**    red/**tarea**  
orange/**apuntes**    green/**expansión de escritura**

**3-VOCABULARIO/ GRAMÁTICA:** Classroom and Unit vocabulary handouts, grammar reference sheets.

**4- CANCIONES/PROYECTOS:** Song handouts, presentations, essays. .

- Some plastic sheet protectors for classroom communication, reference guides, songs, etc.
- A red, blue or black pen, colored pencils, highlighter.

### MANNERS(Buenos modales)- the 3 R's

**Respectful-** Respect other people's feelings, property, and right to learn. Strive to be supportive and encouraging to each other as we all make embarrassing mistakes. Insults, personal grooming, cell phone use, inappropriate contact/language are not permitted.

**Responsible-** Partipate in class, do your homework, study for tests, and come to class prepared to learn in order to make a useful and fun experience for everyone. Doing nothing in class isn't an option. When absent you must return to class with the work you missed from the website. Refrain from cheating with Google translate or by having a native speaker friend/family do your work.

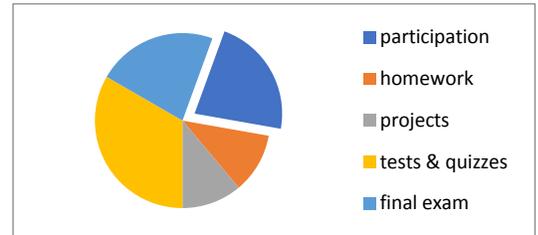
**Real-** Give everything your best effort, ask for help when you don't understand. Be honest about how you feel, but always polite and ready to both give and receive apologies for our mistakes and misunderstandings.

*\*When there are misunderstandings(malentendidos), the process is: 1) verbal warning, 2) fill out a form that helps clarify the problem 3) parents/counselors will be notified. Further issues will result classroom expulsion and serious offences will result*

### TECHNICALITIES

- Spanish I-** students are expected to obtain a NOVICE MID to INTERMEDIATE LOW level of proficiency meaning the ability to communicate *in limited, predictable circumstances* regarding basic *personal information, objects and needs, answering and asking formulaic questions*, and *sporadically achieving sentence level* discourse. This includes learning the present and some past tense verbs, developing a 250-500 word vocabulary. Listening, reading hours, paragraph and short essay writing required.

**Grades(grades=proficiency) are determined by:**  
**participation in/out of class(5pts daily) (20%)** via videos, singing, discussions, cuaderno, lab, TV/ music listening hours, \*tardies lower grade due to missed practice  
**homework (10%)** online "lectura libre", practice exercises, writing prep  
**projects (10%)** videos, presentations, skits  
**tests and quizzes (40%)** oral and written  
**final exam (20%)** oral and written. NO extra credit except for culture experiences



## CLASSROOM PROCEDURES and GUIDELINES

- Use my [teacher website](#) on the **WHS** homepage to: retrieve homework and class work **when absent**, access ¡Avanceamos! and Abriendo paso content (vocabulary, listening/reading exercises, etc.), class notes/handouts, and use important and helpful links. [Email me!](#)
- You **MUST** immediately register with the [AERIES student and parent portal](#). All tests, homework, projects, etc. are posted and it's your job to make sure your grade is what you want it to be. Many students find clerical errors and improve their grade through vigilance.
- Late work is **NOT** accepted for credit, but should be completed in order to learn the material. **PER SEMESTER, ONE** late pass for an assignment(due next class) is available, as well as **ONE** point recovery activity for test disasters to raise a D or F up to 70%. Students have **ONE WEEK** to make up a missed test, and must be completed within the trimester. Special circumstances are a different matter.
- The first 20 minutes of class are sacred and special. We open with a calming/focus meditation, do silent sustained reading, then consider a frase of the day, take care of class business, and converse with one another in the **LANGUAGE WE'RE TRYING TO LEARN**. Does this seem like a good time to go to the bathroom, mess around and distract others, ask to go to another class or your car, or **SKIP BY ARRIVING LATE?** Tardiness adversely affects your participation grade due to missed content.
- We will all be asked to participate in classroom chores(handling out papers, cleaning up, etc.) because living with roomates is a lifelong skill that can make or break friendships and romantic relationships. Please do it without complaint or hesitation.
- Limited bathroom passes**(once a week, revoked if abused) and no food or drink except water and special celebration days. [Cell phones](#) live in your backpack **NOT** on your desk, and are only **visible** when used as learning tools (dictionaries). If **caught outside those parameters, they go to phone jail, you lose participation points**, and will follow the "MALENTENDIDO" process. If it occurs a *second* time in a week(parental notification included), it's in the slammer for the rest of the **TRIMESTER** if the cycle is repeated. You'll have to use a physical dictionary in class without it!
- Meet the **two enemies of fluency**: translating from English(writing in English first) and memorizing scripts. These are common foreign language learning misconceptions that result in disaster. Starting with English dooms you to confusion and frustration because your primary language level is so much higher than Spanish that it is impossible to translate without cheating(Google translate). Memorizing full lines and paragraphs in Spanish makes you a parrot, not a person. Stick to brainstorming lists in Spanish and outlines first in both writing and speaking and you'll actually acquire an ability to communicate.

LET'S HAVE A GOOD TIME! / ¡QUE LO PASEMOS BIEN!

### Donations Requested (Optional but Appreciated)

- Magazines in **Spanish!** (Discovery, Sports Illustrated, People, Car magazines, Buenhogar, National Geographic, etc.)
- Tissues
- Hand Sanitizer
- Colored paper
- Dry Erase Markers and/or highlighters

**Students:** Please sign and date to show that you have read the content and understand class procedures including the cell phone, tardy, late work, and food policy, and **commit to NOT use Google translate, other apps, or native speaker friends to cheat.**

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents/Guardians:** Please sign and date the bottom of this newsletter to confirm that you have reviewed the information with your student and **agree to the viewing of some R rated films-not Sp 1**(profanity, no nudity) for academic purposes. (Indicate here if you would like your student to complete alternative assignments instead)

X \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_