

Spanish II Class Guide, 2014-2015

Mr. Hawkins

Voice Mail: 846-7721 ext. 7825

E-mail: thawkins@ccs.k12.in.us

To Look Up Assignments and Grades

Quia page for assignments: quia.com/profiles/thawkins

My CCS, to check grades: <https://myccs.ccs.k12.in.us/>

What will I learn?

You will become more confident with basic Spanish—how to: ask and answer important questions; converse confidently in a variety of situations; read real-world Spanish in many common contexts; tell someone about things that you did in the past; tell someone about what you will do in the future. You will become pretty confident at comprehending spoken and written Spanish, including practice with real-world audio and video.

How will you teach me?

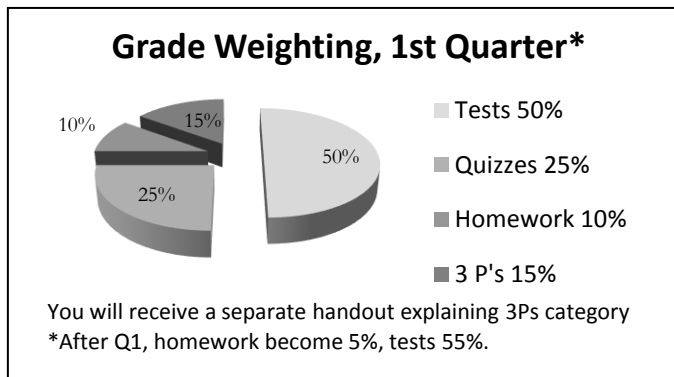
I will attempt to teach you in a way similar to the way you learned your first language, or to the way you would learn Spanish if you were to spend time in a Spanish-speaking country. I will expose you to lots of Spanish through stories that I tell, and through readings that I assign and video you watch.

How will you measure what I've learned?

I will give **homework** as practice for **quizzes** and **tests** that measure your abilities in Spanish. I will continually observe your **participation** in class to assess your weaknesses and try to deal with them. There will be writing assignments to test your **proficiency**, and **projects** that will allow you to explore topics of your choosing. Grades will be weighted by categories seen below, and nine-week grades will be given according to the scale below.

Nine-Week Grade Category Values for Quarter 1.

Grading Scale (grades round up from .5)



A=93
A-=90
B+=87
B=83
B-=80
C+=77
C=73
C-=70
D+=67
D=63
D-=60

Semester Grades

The only grade that counts on your permanent transcript is the Semester Grade. In all of your classes, your semester grade is determined by combining the two **grading periods** with the semester exam. Your **final exam** grade will be 20% of your semester grade, in accordance with CHS policy.

What if I'm absent?

When you are absent, it is your job to check the Quia page to see what you missed. You will find a list of everything we did in class, the homework assignment, and a place to download any materials I passed out. If you have time during your absence, you can return to class without getting behind!

Tests and quizzes should be made up promptly. You decide what “promptly” means. I will not bug you about make-up tests and quizzes—you are responsible to know when you have missed a quiz or test and to request an SRT pass before you forget everything. If you are absent when **homework** is due, and you can complete the online work before I enter a zero into the gradebook, you will receive credit without having to discuss it with me or turn anything in. If a zero is entered before you complete the work, please print your score sheet, circle your grade, and turn it in to me.

Quia, Internet-Based Homework

The homework assignment given in class will usually be “check Quia.” This means to browse to the “class page” that I have listed at the top the class guide. You should bookmark/favorite this URL for quick access. There, you will find a reminder of what we did in class, instructions regarding materials to look at when you do the assignment, and what the assignment is. This class page, *Quia* exercises, along with exercises at *conjuguemos.com*, will be very important. If you don't have a computer, or lack internet access, you will still be responsible for the work, and for information at the site. Possibilities include using a school computer during SRT or before or after school, going to a neighbor's house, going to a parent's office, or using a computer at the library.

You won't need to make any excuses (“my internet was down”, etc.) for missing homework. First, you have the option to work on it with me in SRT. But, worst-case-scenario, because I realize that strange things can happen with

technology, I automatically drop the zero for your *first* missing assignment each nine-weeks—no excuse needed. Once you've used up your free zero, you'll want to make sure that you don't wait until the last minute to do your homework, so there's still time to use another computer if you have unexpected problems with the one you normally use. Instructions at the bottom of the *Conjuguemos* instruction page tell you how to get around most technical problems.

Late Homework

If you find a homework assignment too difficult, no problem! If any assignment takes you longer than 40 minutes, just stop working. Get an SRT pass from me, I'll help you with the assignment, and you'll receive full credit upon completion. If you cannot come for help the first SRT after the missing assignment, you must discuss this with me after class on the day the homework is due. I will call your parents if you habitually ignore assignments, and will refer you to the Dean in accordance with school policy if the pattern continues.

Snow Days

If snow's predicted, make sure you take class materials home, or download what you need, because **Homework, Quizzes, or Tests** may be assigned via Quia on snow days, and you are responsible for any work posted.

To get an A in Participation (you already have one!)

Participation is crucial to the success of our class as a whole. I define participation as: "doing what you're supposed to be doing, when you're supposed to be doing it." It is assumed that you will participate fully, therefore you've already been given 100% for participation! Any of the following will distract you or your classmates from doing what the class is supposed to be doing, and may result in a 1% reduction in your grade for the quarter:

remaining out of your seat when the bell rings, writing on your desk, opening food or gum, leaving trash on my floor, talking while I'm talking, talking while another student is talking, talking during the announcements, packing up early, being unorganized, talking three seconds after I've asked for the class's attention, talking after I have said "Hola..." to the class, not doing what I tell you to do, wasting time, consistently borrowing supplies or materials, concealing an item I ask to see, texting/phone use.

During the stories, your participation is crucial. Breaking the following "story time" rules may result in a 1% reduction to your nine-week grade:

1. Your eyes must show me that you're paying attention.
2. Answer the question if you know the answer.
3. No English (except names, place names, and brand names).
4. Everything off your desk (except AVID students doing Cornell notes).
5. Keep your hands where I can see them.

The above grade reductions will occur for each participation issue *after one warning in a semester*. When you fail to participate appropriately, I will write your name on a Post-It note and stick it on my file cabinet to be recorded later. The first Post-It is the warning. The second is 1% off your quarter grade. Your third Post-It (second lost participation point) will be accompanied by a call to your parent(s). The third lost point will result in a detention, and the fourth will prompt a report to the dean.

General Procedures and Policies

I generally do not have serious discipline problems, and do not anticipate any this semester. But I must enforce the following rules so that I can focus on teaching (rather than babysitting):

1. Students not *in their seats* when the bell rings will lose a participation point (or a freebie) but will not be swept. (If you're not through the door when the third bell's done ringing, you're swept!)

2. **Please do not come to me with questions just before the bell.** Class will begin promptly *at the bell*. Students returning from an absence should already know what they missed, after consulting Quia. Feel free to come in early to talk things over or to ask for handouts you missed. If you can't come early, wait until I've started class and I don't look busy. If you need to wait until after class, I'll write you a pass to your next class after we talk.

3. Stop talking at the opening bell.

4. This semester (not quarter) you have four free opportunities to use the restroom, go to your locker, or get a drink. You don't have to ask, just fill out the semester hall pass, and bring it to me to sign. You may still go to the restroom after the fourth, if it's worth a mandatory half-hour "study session" after school. If you lose the pass, each trip out of the room will require a "study session."

5. It should never take more than three seconds for me to get the silent attention of the class, and I should never have to raise my voice. Don't lose one percent of your quarter's grade because you can't get your mouth closed in three seconds!

6. If you lose your stuff, it's *your* responsibility to replace it. All materials are available on Quia. When I replace people's lost stuff, we run out of stuff for people who return from absences.