

## EIGHT GRADE SPANISH OVERVIEW FOR PARENTS

Teacher: Renee Manheimer (Señora Manheimer)

### CONTENT AND GOALS

#### Overview

The Spanish program at Crossroads Academy is a sequential modern language in the middle school model that is tailor-made for our school division by our own teacher. With this course, students will develop more advanced skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. They will explore various cultures of Hispanic people around the world. Daily activities will include: listening to native speakers on audio and video, singing songs, playing games, practicing vocabulary through partner and group activities, and studying different cultures.

#### Goals

- To enhance the development of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in Spanish
- To reproduce sentences and phrases needed for classroom and daily real life expressions.
- To produce learned vocabulary, phrases and sentences when speaking and writing.
- To develop and recognize language techniques to help communicate well in the target language
- To support academic content area instruction
- To promote global awareness and cross-cultural understanding
- To meet school, state, and national modern language standards

The 8th-grade Spanish program was designed by carefully analyzing the ACTFL National Standards and creating quality content to match these standards. The digital textbook *Voces Novice Spanish I*™ illustrates how often the content meets the ACTFL National Standards. Each chapter includes multiple videos (vocabulary, grammar, and culture), games, presentations, speaking activities, workbook activities, listening mastery exercises, and mini-quizzes. The culture in each chapter revolves around the Spanish-speaking country in the chapter title. Each chapter has information about the title country, including a map of the county. Statistics on each country explain the area, capital, terrain, climate, population, ethnic groups, languages, primary industries, and agriculture. *Voces Novice*™ is divided into two parts to fit the curriculum of 7th and 8th-grade level. [See curriculum in great detail here.](#)

**Comprehensive Input-Based Curriculum** is language input that listeners can understand (despite not understanding all the words and structures in it); giving learners this input helps them acquire language naturally rather than consciously learn it.

***Nuestra Historia 1*** is an online comprehensible input-based/Storytelling curriculum that provides truly compelling target language input in various ways. The book explores the sub-themes: Education, Beauty, Pastimes, Technology, World Populations, and National Identity. These units are written explicitly for true beginners - taking students from novice low to novice mid and beyond ([see explanation in more details here](#)). The focus of each unit is a series of four short and four longer stories carefully written using the top high-frequency words in the Spanish language. [See scope and sequence here](#).

### MATERIALS

It is required that students bring on a daily basis:

1. Looseleaf paper and a notebook for note taking
2. One (1) 3-ring binder with a Spanish divider tab
3. At least two (2) sharpened pencils or two (2) black/ blue pens
4. One (1) red pen or pencil

It is highly recommended that students bring:

A package of markers, colored pencils or crayons for projects / assignments

TEXT(S): teacher generated

### CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

1. Students will come to class on time.
2. Students will be prepared for class with the required materials and supplies.
3. Students will actively participate in all class activities and homework assignments.
4. Students will treat each other and the instructor with respect at all times.
5. Students will be respectful when others speak.
6. Students will remain in their seat unless they have permission to move around.
7. Students will practice academic honesty.

### \*HOMEWORK:

1. Homework for the week will be provided on Google Classroom.
2. Students are strongly encouraged to study vocabulary and grammar concepts daily.
3. Students should not spend more than an 10 to 15 minutes per night on Spanish.
4. Parents should inform me if it takes students longer to accomplish the homework.

TEACHER CONTACT INFORMATION: Please feel free to contact me with any concerns, comments and/or questions at my e-mail address: [renee.manheimer@crossroadsacademy.org](mailto:renee.manheimer@crossroadsacademy.org) or by phone: (603) 795-3111. I am also available by appointment for meetings. I could also be contacted during the hours of 7:00-7:30 a.m. or after school.