

**Department:** World Languages  
**Course Name:** Honors Spanish IV

**Course Description:**

The Honors Spanish IV course is an advanced treatment of Spanish available to selected students who intend to continue their Spanish study through the AP Spanish Language and Culture course the following year. It serves as both an introduction to college-level Spanish and a prerequisite for the Advanced Placement Spanish Language course. Students in Honors Spanish begin to use their language skills in more sophisticated areas as they explore literary and cultural topics, but they also devote time to basic vocabulary building and to the study of structural topics. This course is conducted entirely in Spanish. Prerequisites: 87% or better in Spanish III and/or departmental approval with a demonstrated motivation for language learning

**Content:**

Grammar:

All indicative verb tenses  
Reflexive verbs  
Ser vs. estar  
Uses of the article and noun  
Pronouns  
Passive voice  
Commands  
Present/present perfect subjunctive and uses  
Imperfect/pluperfect subjunctive  
Adjectives/adverbs  
Comparatives / superlatives  
Por vs. para

Negative and positive terms

Thematic Vocabulary:

Personal relationships  
Pastimes and diversions  
Daily life/routine  
Health/ medicine/ body  
Travel and tourism  
Selected idioms  
Vocabulary from readings and culture  
Vocabulary from class discussions

Culture/Literature:

Spanish and culture of speaking countries with a focus on Mexico, Spain, Colombia, Central America, Panama, and the Caribbean  
Current events & online news  
Poetry selections (Neruda)  
Selected literature passages with historical background as it pertains to that period in the excerpt  
Selected paintings (Picasso)  
Selected popular music

**Skills:**

Speak with fluency in a conversational setting about a familiar topic of personal, literary, or cultural value or in an extended address to others

Listen more effectively and with greater comprehension

Make accurate use of grammatical principles when writing or speaking in Spanish and to develop themes or ideas logically through well-constructed essays

Read literary or cultural selections with a mature understanding of implied as well as literal meaning

Make use of more sophisticated language (idiomatic expressions) and to rely less on English cognates

**Text and Materials:**

Selected lists of idioms

Readings and exercises from various sources including:

- Blanco, José, Senderos Level 4. Spanish for a Connected World. Boston: Vista Higher Learning, 2018.
- Selected readings
- Couch, McCann, Rodriguez-Walter, Rubio-Maroto, Una Vez Más. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Longman Publishing, 1993.
- Renjilian-Burgy, Valette, Album. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2005.
- Blanco, Colbert, Ventanas. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boston: Vista Higher Learning, 2009.
- Elpais.com

**Methods of Instruction and Proficiency Assessment:**

Conversational exchange: teacher-student or student-student

Direct explanation: lecture

Review, revision of homework activities

Discussion

Class projects

Cooperative activities: partner dialogues, partner assignments

Games

Various online applications for drills and practice

Flipgrid for oral presentations.

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Tests

Quizzes

Written expression in a variety of formats

Listening and reading comprehension

Oral participation

Oral presentations

Projects