

The four expectations for this class are simple:

- Arrive on time and prepared**
- Be respectful of others and their property**
- Put forth your best effort at all times**
- Support one another while learning Spanish**

**Goals-** The objective of this course is to advance your proficiency in the reading, writing, listening and speaking of Spanish through the study of vocabulary and grammar. Taking risks and making mistakes with language are a must; if you do everything perfectly you are not challenging yourself enough and you will not get better. The proficiency goal for the end of the school year is “novice-high” and we will spend quite a bit of time talking about what that means. Summary statements can be found on my website [www.sracolling.weebly.com](http://www.sracolling.weebly.com) under the “What is Proficiency?” tab.

Research shows that one of the most important factors in students getting better at a new language is for the teacher to use that language in class 90% of the time. I will aim to do this, but will always make sure what I am saying is understandable due to use of cognates, repetition, gestures and conscious vocabulary choice. If you're not used to your Spanish class being taught in Spanish, this can be intimidating at first. Your job as a student is to not freak out and shut down, but instead to try to understand as many words/ideas as you can, and to trust that with time and practice it will get easier. Remember, I do not expect you to understand 100% of what I say.

**Supplies-** I suggest using a 3-ring binder with tabs for vocabulary, verb tenses, grammar, and practice. However, you are welcome to organize your papers as you see fit. I highly recommend keeping all information on colored paper through the end of the school year, and all practice activities through the end of the quarter.

**Late work-** homework and other assignments are expected to be complete at the beginning of the hour on their due date. Late/incomplete work will be accepted through the end of the chapter, at the teacher's discretion, for credit. However, students are still expected to make corrections for credit. Late work associated with an excused absence will follow school policy. No credit will be awarded for work missed due to unexcused absences.

**Minimum scores-** at the teacher's discretion, achievement of a minimum of 75% on a test or quiz may be required. Students not meeting this score will be given (an) alternate version(s) to retake until a 75% or higher is reached. Students will be notified before each assessment if there will be a minimum score required.

**Test corrections/retakes-** at the teacher's discretion, students who have completed all practices may retake a different version of test or a quiz. Before this is allowed to happen, the student must conference with the teacher and put an Action Plan into place, which will be reviewed again before the student is allowed the retake. This policy does not apply to end of the semester/year final exams.

**Smart phones and other technology-** I will follow district and Olathe South protocol regarding the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiative. There will be opportunities for you to use personal technology in Spanish class, as long as you do so in a responsible and respectful manner. Students who use technology in a way that is disruptive will lose their technology privileges during class. Cell phones and other technology should only be out/visible in class at the teacher's request.

## **Grading Policy**

**Interpersonal Communication- 30%:** Interpersonal communication refers to speaking and writing activities that take place between 2 or more people. This type of communication allows the participants to ask questions for clarification when needed.

**Interpretive Communication- 30%:** Interpretive communication refers to listening (including video) and reading activities in which the audience does not have the opportunity to ask the writer/speaker questions for clarification.

**Presentational Communication- 30%:** Presentational communication refers to speaking and writing situations in which your audience does not have the opportunity to ask questions for clarification. Presentational communication refers to both revised and on-demand work.

**Other- 10%:** Homework; grammar and vocabulary practices; grammar and vocabulary quizzes

**Plagiarism/Cheating-** will be handled according to the document sent home for parent and student signature, and included on the following page. Using any sort of online translator is considered cheating as it is not your own work.

**Internet/Social Media-** internet use will be an integral part of this course. Students not having access to a computer and internet at home will be provided with alternate assignments and means of communication. All students will create an account on [conjuguemos.com](http://conjuguemos.com) (to practice vocabulary and verb conjugations) and [edmodo.com](http://edmodo.com) (to access class documents and complete homework). Additional *enrichment* resources and information will sometimes be shared via Twitter (@SraCollingOE) and Remind101. Any student who misuses the

internet during class time or via one of our class communication platforms will be asked to complete assignments via alternate means.

Links, information and many class documents can be found on my website, [sracolling.weebly.com](http://sracolling.weebly.com)

**Extra Help-** I work at Olathe South 5-7<sup>th</sup> hours. I will be available for help after school and some seminars. Please make sure you confirm that I will be on campus for seminar before planning to see me. You may visit with any of the other Spanish teachers if you need help before school or during seminar when I am not available. Please also feel free to send me a message via Edmodo and/or Twitter outside of class hours, but keep in mind that I have a family and may not be able to respond immediately in the evenings/on the weekend.

## **Policies regarding online/electronic translators, plagiarism and academic dishonesty.**

### **Online/electronic translators**

- Often provide inaccurate answers and leave clues a translator was used.
- **Do the work for the student instead of the student learning.**
- Impede a teacher's ability to assess what the student is able to do.

### **The following scenarios are considered cheating or acts of plagiarism:**

- Use of an online/electronic translator (*Students should ask their individual classroom teachers what online dictionary is acceptable for use outside of the classroom, as this varies by language and level.*)
- Relying fully on a native speaker, upper level language student or any other person who speaks the language, to complete an assignment.
- Direct copying of part or all of another student's work, in or out of class.

*If cheating or plagiarism is suspected, the student may be asked to replicate similar grammar or provide vocabulary definitions of the part(s) in question.*

If cheating/plagiarism is determined to be the case, possible consequences include:

- Loss of full or partial credit for the assignment and parent notification.
- Re-doing the assignment under teacher supervision for full or partial credit.
- Office referral with additional consequences to be determined by a principal.

If you have any questions, please contact your/your child's language teacher. I have read the above document and understand possible consequences for cheating or plagiarizing work in an International Language class.