



The David A. Stein Riverdale/Kingsbridge Academy MS/HS 141

Department of
Education
City of New York

Principal
Lori O'Mara

Assistant Principals
Sheilagh Lustig
Stacy Miller
Subhas Mohan
Thomas Sullivan

Hello students and welcome to Spanish class!

I am counting on everyone to encourage and support each other, working with each other collaboratively is a big deal with me, its something we will spend a lot of time doing and I expect everyone to get pretty good at it. You don't need to be friends with everybody, but I do expect you to be friendly with everyone. I expect all of you to pass my course. If you put in the effort, I can promise you will pass. All of you can be successful learners in this class. I know you have what it takes to do well. I expect all of us to treat each other with respect and consideration. I expect everyone to try to do your best and be your best. We all make mistakes and we can learn from them and right them. I know that there will be times when you may feel challenged and struggle a bit. We'll get through it. Sometimes you might make poor choices, and I'm confident that you can recover and get back on track.

Mission statement: All students will meet or exceed high standards in an environment that respect diversity, and values, academic achievement and personal development.

Goals: To introduce students to a high school level of Spanish. Students will be able to comprehend the written language, interact in conversations conducted in the target language as well as produce their own writings. They will also obtain knowledge of various Latin American cultures. I will be using Jupiter grades, an online grading system where you can check your child's grade on a regular basis.

Textbook: Avancemos level 1

Grading Policy: Riverdale-Kingsbridge Academy High School Spanish.

- All grades will be updated on a weekly basis via our online grading system www.jupitergrades.net.

Notebook

Participation

Classwork/Homework

Assessment

Classroom Rules

1. You must have a Spanish section clearly defined in your loose-leaf binder.
2. All lessons must be dated, properly ordered and the aim clearly defined.
3. As a Spanish student at Riverdale/Kingsbridge Academy, you are responsible for having your binder, two pens, and two pencils in class daily.
4. Failure to be properly prepared for class as described above will adversely affect your grade.
5. Open your binder to the Spanish section copy the **Aim, Homework**, and begin the **Do Now** quickly.



The David A. Stein Riverdale/Kingsbridge Academy MS/HS 141

Department of
Education
City of New York

Principal
Lori O'Mara

Assistant Principals
Sheilagh Lustig
Stacy Miller
Subhas Mohan
Thomas Sullivan

Please keep in mind that:

- **Lateness:** You are expected to be in class and in your seat when the bell rings. If you are not in your seat when the bell rings, you will be marked as late. You need to sign the late log in the office and again in the class. If you have are late twice during the week, your name will be forwarded to the Dean and you will be assigned late detention.
- **Absences:** Verify missed work with a classmate or see me before or after class. If you were absent be prepared to turn in your work. See me during lunch time if you are still not sure what you missed the day you were absent.
- **Turning in work:** homework will be collected at the beginning of class. Late homework will not be accepted after the third day the assignment was due. You will receive a grade of 0 if homework is not turn in. If you do not bring your homework you need to submit a reflection sheet explaining why the homework was not done. Failure to submit the reflection sheet, a meeting with principal will be required.
- **In class behavior:** the type of behavior allowed in class during the different activities will be as followed:
 - * **Whole class:** one person speaks at a time after being called on.
 - * **Group work:** all members of the group must use indoor voices.

Bathroom passes: You are allowed to use the bathroom between 10 minutes after the bell rings and 10 minutes before the end of the period.

* Before leaving the room you must take a bathroom pass then sign the bathroom log.

* You will not be allowed to go to the bathroom when the teacher is giving instructions or discussing a topic.

Make-ups If you missed a quiz or a test you must make it up after your absence or it's a zero! No excuses!

Tutoring: If you need extra help, you can come in during lunch time or afterschool by appointment only. Feel free to email me any questions or concerns

lvasquez11@schools.nyc.gov

Electronics: NYC Dept. of Education prohibits the use of cell phones and other electronic devices in schools at all times.

Quizzes and tests: Tests and quizzes are announced ahead of time. Cheating is not tolerated. **If you cheat you will receive no credit for the assignment/quiz/test.** (Some quizzes may be unannounced)



Principal
Lori O'Mara

Assistant Principals
Sheilagh Lustig
Stacy Miller
Subhas Mohan
Thomas Sullivan

Class Routines

1. Walk into the classroom politely (**respectfully**).
2. Have all **necessary materials** at your table and **be in your assigned seat**.
3. Begin the **“Do now”** right away.
4. Have completed **Homework** ready to be collected.
5. Copy the **Homework in your notebook** (if there is any).
6. Change task quickly and quietly and keep an eye on the **“attention signal.”**
7. Remain in your seat at the end of the period until **the teacher** dismisses the class.

Classroom Expectations

1. **Be here**
 - Come every day
 - Be on time
 - Bring a note and make-up work (if you must be absent)
2. **Be Prepared**
 - Remain seated
 - Bring all necessary materials and your completed homework
3. **Be respectful**
 - Speak, listen, and act respectfully
 - Follow the dress code, school policies, and classroom rules
4. **Be positive**
 - Do your best
 - Help others do their best



The David A. Stein Riverdale/Kingsbridge Academy MS/HS 141

Department of
Education
City of New York

Principal
Lori O'Mara

Assistant Principals
Sheilagh Lustig
Stacy Miller
Subhas Mohan
Thomas Sullivan

“Students are responsible for the behavioral choices they make”
If you choose to break a rule:

Negative consequences

First time: warning

Second time: Teacher and student conference

Third time: call parents

Fourth time: Dean's referral

Fifth time: Removal from the classroom

If you choose to follow the rules:

Rewards

- Earn Tiger Tokens
- Awards
- Free homework pass
- Choose your own seat
- Movie and popcorn party for the class

Silence is necessary in the classroom when...

* I begin class start whole group instructions.

* I'm giving directions.

* One of us (teacher or student) is presenting new material to the group or demonstrating how to do something.

* One of us is reading or speaking to the whole group.

* We are viewing a film or listening to a classroom guest.

* I am lecturing (it will never be more than 15 minutes!)

* I am responding to students' questions during a whole group activity.

* You are doing a quick-writes before speaking in a small group or to the whole group.

* You are engaged in silent reading or writing activities.

* You are taking paper-and-pencil quizzes, tests, and exams.

Rights and Responsibilities



The David A. Stein Riverdale/Kingsbridge Academy MS/HS 141

Department of
Education
City of New York

Principal
Lori O'Mara

Assistant Principals
Sheilagh Lustig
Stacy Miller
Subhas Mohan
Thomas Sullivan

We all have the right to...

Express our opinions

Feel safe in this class

Get help when we need it

Good teaching that keeps us active and interested

Work that prepares me for college

Learn without distractions

Work and learn in a clean environment

Get help, encouragement,
and support when I'm
experiencing academic
difficulties

Be myself and be accepted
For who I am, what I like,
And what I believe, even if
My identity, likes, and beliefs
Differ from those of most other people

I have the responsibility to...

Listen to others even when I disagree

Not to embarrass or make fun of others

Think it through on my own before I ask for help

Put forth my best effort to learn and participate

Complete every part of the assignment

Work without bothering others

Do my fair share to keep the room clean

Accept corrections and suggestions that
will help me get back on track

Appreciate
the
differences
on others

Curriculum: You will find a detailed curriculum map for this class year on the RKA



Principal
Lori O'Mara

Assistant Principals
Sheilagh Lustig
Stacy Miller
Subhas Mohan
Thomas Sullivan

website. Here is a snapshot of the work we will undertake.

Lección Preliminar: Introductions and Greetings

Essential Question: How do you greet others and introduce yourself and others?

Grammar: personal pronouns, parts of speech, gender, definite and indefinite articles

Unit 1: Un rato con los amigos

Essential Question: What do you like to do during your free time?

Grammar: the verb *ser*, *de* to describe where you are from, *gustar* with an infinitive

Essential Question: How would you describe yourself and others?

Grammar: the verb *ser* to describe what someone is like, definite and indefinite articles, noun-adjective agreement

Unit 2: ¡Vamos a la escuela!

Essential Question: What is your school schedule like?

Grammar: the verb *tener*, present tense of *-ar* verbs

Essential Question: How do we describe our classes?

Grammar: the verb *estar*, the conjugated verb before the subject to ask a question, the verb *ir*

Unit 3: Comer en familia

Essential Question: How do we talk about food in Spanish?

Grammar: interrogative words, *gustar* with nouns, present tense of *-er* and *-ir* verbs, the verb *hacer*

Essential Question: How do we describe our family members in Spanish?

Grammar: using *de* to show possession, possessive adjectives, comparatives

Unit 4: En el centro

Essential Question: How do we shop for clothes in Spanish?

Grammar: *tener* expressions, stem changing verbs: e→ie, direct object pronouns

Essential Question: How do we make plan outings in Spanish?

Grammar: Stem- changing verbs: o→ue, *ir a+* infinitive, stem-changing verbs: e→ie

Unit 5: ¡Bienvenidos a nuestra casa!

Essential Question: How do you describe a house and household items?

Grammar: *ser* o *estar*, ordinal numbers

Essential Question: How do we plan for a party and describe chores and responsibilities?

Grammar: irregular verbs, affirmative *tú* commands, *acabar de* and infinitive

Unit 6: Mantener un cuerpo sano

Essential Questions: how do we talk about sports in Spanish?

Grammar: nouns, adjectives, verb *tener*, definite article.

Essential Questions: How do we talk about parts of the body?

Grammar: verb *doler*, preterite of *-ar* verbs, preterite of *-car*, *-gar*, *-zar* verbs

Unit 7: ¡una semana fenomenal!

Essential Question: How do we talk about technology?

Grammar: preterite of regular *-er* and *-ir* verbs, affirmative and negative words

Essential Question: How do you describe past events, and extend invitations?

Grammar: preterite of *ir*, *ser*, and *hacer*, pronouns after prepositions, *qué* + adjective

Unit 8: Una rutina diferente

Essential Question: How do we talk about a typical day?

Grammar: reflexive verbs, present progressive

Essential Question: How do we talk about vacation activities and buying souvenirs?

Grammar: Indirect object pronouns, demonstrative adjectives

Academic and student engagement contract



The David A. Stein
Riverdale/Kingsbridge Academy MS/HS 141

Department of
Education
City of New York

Principal
Lori O'Mara

Assistant Principals
Sheilagh Lustig
Stacy Miller
Subhas Mohan
Thomas Sullivan

Dear Ms. Vasquez,

I have received and read copies of the course syllabus and understand what is expected of me academically in this course. I also understand that you are available to support me whenever I need assistance with any aspect of the course. I also understand that I must not wait until the last minute to begin an assignment. I am also aware that if I do not do the homework, a reflection sheet is due explaining why the homework was not done. In addition, I understand the rules of positive and respectful engagement for this class and have received and read a copy of the classroom expectations, classroom routines, and the expected behaviors during class.

Student's Name

Date

Parent's Name /guardian's name

Date