



# DeSana Middle School

Course: **Spanish I – 8<sup>th</sup> grade (HS Credit 1)**

Teacher: **Lizzette Nixon**

### Course Description:

Spanish 1 is a year-long course that introduces the first level of studies in the Spanish language and culture. In this course students will develop novice-level proficiency skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Analyze and use basic grammar as a tool for effective communication. Develop language-learning strategies and skill-building techniques.

Upon successful completion of this course with a grade of 70 or above, students will receive one unit of high school credit for Level 1 World Language. Also, students will be recommended for Level 2 of the same language upon entering high school. Based on the Standards for Foreign Language, the focus will be on communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities. Students will synthesize and utilize a variety of skills and knowledge to allow them to become self-directed learners with greater access to a variety of social and professional opportunities. To advance towards this goal, students will be challenged by a variety of activities such as pair and group work, games that require the use of the 2<sup>nd</sup> language, and written in-class assignments along with homework. Some of the resources used in class will be books, computers, DVDs, videos, music, magazines and other authentic Spanish materials.

### Units 1 - 4

Unit 1 - Hola ¿Qué tal?  
Unit 2 - En la Clase  
Unit 3 - La Familia  
Unit 4 - Las Vacaciones

### Units 5- 8

Unit 5 - La Comida  
Unit 6 - Los Pasatiempos  
Unit 7 - De Compras  
Unit 8 - Reader/teacher choice

### Curriculum Related Link:

- [Georgia Performance Standards](#)
- [National Standards for Foreign Language Education](#)

### Materials and Supplies Needed:

One binder ( 2 ½ or 3”), a set of eight tab dividers and index cards

### Wish List Items:

**Kleenex, Dry erase markers, Hand Sanitizer, Pencils & Candy**



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*Desana's 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will work to use consistent and effective grading and reporting procedures throughout this year. We ask that you read over this document to familiarize yourself with these procedures. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teachers.*

**Formative** – Assessments such as homework, class work and quizzes, that provide students with practice while learning. These assignments are used to inform both the teacher and student regarding the learning progress.

**Summative** – Assessments/assignments, such as unit tests and projects that determine student mastery of standards after the unit or learning activity has been completed.

## **Missing Formatives**

1. If a student does not turn in a formative assessment by the due date the grade will be marked as “missing” in Parent Portal and on progress reports to help make a student aware of the opportunity to make up the assessment.
2. If/when the assessment is turned in, the grade will be entered in Parent Portal.
3. The highest possible grade on late formatives is a **75%**.
4. There are no retakes of formative assessments.

## **Summative Assessments (In-class Assessments)**

1. If a student earns a 74% or lower on a summative assessment (test/in-class essay), he/she has the opportunity to retake the assessment **IF** the relearn and recovery process is followed.
2. Students who wish to retake or reassess must do the following:
  - a. Students must complete a relearn assignment, designated by the teacher (i.e. Complete and turn in missing formatives, attend a re-teaching session, review notes and write a summary, complete online tutorials).
  - b. Once the relearn assignment is complete, the student may schedule a time with the teacher to retake the summative assessment.
3. The highest grade a student can earn on the retake of a summative assessment/projects will be a **75%**.

## **Late Summative Projects, Writing Assignments, etc. (NOT an in-class Summative Assessment)**

1. If a student does not turn in a summative project, writing assignment, etc. by the due date, the grade will be marked as “missing” in Parent Portal. \*
2. If/when the assignment is turned in, the new grade will be entered.
3. The highest grade a student can earn on a late summative assignment is a **75%**.



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4. If the student earns a 74% or lower on a late summative project, writing assignment, etc., he/she will have the same opportunity to redo the assignment to earn a score of no higher than a **75%**. The teacher will designate the relearn/recovery process needed.

\*If missing (M) is marked for an assignment in Parent Portal, a 0 is automatically calculated into the student's grade point average at that time.

\*\*Missing, late, or retake assignments and tests must be completed in the same semester that the assignment was given. \*\*

## Forsyth County Grading Scale:

A = 90 and Above	C = 70-79
B = 80-89	F = 69 and Below

### Assessment Weight:

<b>20% Formative</b>	<b>Formative grades</b> are assignments such as homework, class work, quizzes, drafts or portions of essays, projects, research papers, and presentations. They provide practice while learning. These assignments, observations, and conversations are used to inform both the teacher and student about the learning process and lead to potential success on summative assessments. They count as 20% of each semester average.
<b>80% Summative</b>	<b>Summative grades</b> are assignments/assessments such as unit tests, projects, essays, research papers, and presentations which may integrate multiple standards. These grades reflect student mastery of standards after the learning activity is completed and count as 80% of each semester average.
	<b>Work Habits</b> are behaviors that have the potential to increase academic achievement, promote lifelong learning, and foster personal accountability.



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## Assignment Expectations and Make-up Work:

The faculty and staff of DMS take great pride in providing quality and engaging work for our students each and every day. We expect students to complete all assignments and assessments --- both formative and summative --- to the best of their ability and in a timely manner. However, it is most important to us that each student learns the concepts being taught and master the standards of the curriculum. Thus, we will work with students in a variety of ways to ensure that they are mastering the standards and not just covering the material. Reteach, relearn and reassess will be part of our instructional strategies when students struggle with the concept(s) the first time.

Also, because a great deal of our course cannot be duplicated outside of the classroom environment, we strongly encourage students to be present and on time at school daily. Of course if they are sick with a fever or are throwing up then they need to stay at home. ***itsLearning*** is a wonderful tool to help students stay "caught up" when they are sick and absent. The student has **five (5) school days to make up work**. Whether an absence is excused or unexcused, the teacher has the discretion to grant a longer period of time to make up work. It is the student's responsibility to discuss this with the teacher and/or to check ***itsLearning*** for missed assignments. Students who are suspended out-of-school are responsible for securing and completing missed assignments.

**Special Projects:** We will have a project for some units. This will count as a test/summative grade. Students will be given ample time to complete projects in class, however, there will be times when work at home will be required.

**Homework Expectations:** Spanish requires the student to study daily. Students should review their vocabulary frequently and finish any work that was not completed in class.

**Help Sessions:** Students must request a foreign language pass from their teacher the day before the session. See ***itsLearning*** for more details.

## Teacher/ Student / Parent Communication:

Room #	2208
Voice Mail #	770 – 667-2591
Extension #	492208
Email Address	<a href="mailto:lnixon@forsyth.k12.ga.us">lnixon@forsyth.k12.ga.us</a>

