

DOWNEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Middle School Course Outline

Course Title: Spanish Language Conversation & Culture (One Semester)

Grade Level: 7,8

Prerequisites: Students should not be native speakers of Spanish

Course Description:

This elective course is designed for students wishing to develop the ability to communicate in Spanish and to engage in cultural awareness activities. Using the communicative approach, emphasis is placed upon helping students comprehend and react appropriately to oral messages in Spanish. This course also provides information that is designed to enrich student understanding and appreciation of the entire Spanish-speaking world. Class time is devoted to students and teacher engaging in, practicing, and evaluating communication skills and developing cultural awareness.

Student Performance

Objectives for this

Course:

Students will

1. demonstrate an awareness of the richness and variety of the Spanish culture through activities such as reading, participating in dialogues, observing videos, etc.
2. upon listening to oral communications in Spanish, demonstrate an understanding of the Spanish-spoken word.
3. communicate orally learned material at a beginning level.
4. recognize the Spanish alphabet and demonstrate an understanding of basic written material.
5. copy, transcribe, and write basic Spanish vocabulary words.
6. utilize vocabulary associated with everyday activities (as outlined in the Instructional Units section of this course outline.)

Spanish Language Conversation & Culture - continued Instructional Strategies

Approaches:

- Collaborative Learning
- Language Experience Approach (LEA)
- The natural Approach
- Sheltered Approach
- Theme Cycle
- Total Physical Response (TPR)
- Rassias Language Methods

Comprehension Strategies:

- Brainstorming
- Clustering
- Directed Reading
- Idea Map
- Mapping: Characterization and Plot Matrix
- Reader-Based Response Questions
- Semantic Map
- Story Frame
- Twenty Questions
- Venn Diagram
- Micrologues

Creative Dramatics:

- Choral Speaking
- Creative Drama
- Formal Drama
- Improvisation
- Story Theater
- Pantomime
- Reader's Theater
- Role Playing

Writing Activities:

- Quickwrite
- Sentence Combining
- Peer Editing
- Writers' Workshop
- Computer Assisted Instruction
- Dialogue Journal
- Double Entry Journal
- Reading Log
- T-Graph

Spanish Language Conversation & Culture - continued

Instructional Units

<u>Week Number(s)*</u>	<u>Unit</u>
1	Introduction a) Getting Acquainted b) Why Study Spanish c) Introduction to Spanish-Speaking World
2 -3	Getting to Know Others
4	Pastimes and Places
5	Feelings
6-7	Family Relationships: Having and Sharing
8-9	School Life
10	Favorite Foods
11	Entertainment
12-13	Vacation and Travel - Geography
14	Recreation and Hobbies
15	Looking Good a) Parts of the Body b) Clothing c) Talking About Yourself and Others
16	Occupations and Careers
17-18	Exploration and Adventure

*Weeks are in chronological order; based on an 18-week semester.

Spanish Language Conversation & Culture - continued

Evaluation

The following methods will be used to evaluate teacher progress:

- Completion and quality of assignments
- Attendance
- Class participation
- Tests/quizzes
- Mid-term exam
- Final Exam
- Homework
- Teacher observation
- Teacher evaluation
- Standardized tests

Materials and Resource

Student Textbook: ¿ Y Tú? Parte Primera and Parte Segunda; Jarvis, Bonin, Birckbichler, Shih; Holt, Rinehart, Winston

Accompanying Student Workbook: Writing Activities; Holt, Rinehart, Winston

Supplementary Textbooks: Spanish for Gringos; William C. Harvey, M.S.; Barron's Educational Series, Inc.

Everyday Spanish

Famous Mexican Americans; Janet Morey and Wendy Dunn; Dutton Children's Books - a division of Penguin Books.

Portraits of Mexican Americans: Pathfinders in the Mexican American Communities; Theresa Perez; Good Apple Books - a division of Simon & Schuster Educational Group.

Hispanic Stories Collection - A 16-book set with teacher guide; Steck-Vaughn Education Publishers.

Spanish Language Conversation & Culture - continued

Materials and Resource

Videotapes: "Ballad of Gregorio Cortez"
"El Norte"
"Wrath of Grapes"
"El Gringo Viejo"