**Spanish IV Honors Syllabus**

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**I. Course Description**

Spanish IV Honors will encourage that students will engage with meaningful topics through reading, speaking, writing, and listening in Spanish. They will have to discuss and defend arguments relating to current events, history, and their own experiences through essays and conversation. Additionally, the class will read a variety of texts including articles, short stories, poetry, novels, and plays. Like any higher level course, students should be highly motivated and take initiative for their language learning goals.

**II. Objectives**

1. Communicate clearly and effectively in Spanish in a wide range of situations.
2. Understand and accurately use oral and written forms of the language that are essential for effective communication.
3. Understand and use a wide variety of vocabulary.
4. Express ideas with clarity and fluency.
5. Structure arguments in a clear and convincing way.
6. Show an awareness of, and sensitivity to, the cultures related to the Spanish language.
7. Make connections between Hispanic culture and other cultures.
8. Understand important historical events and forms of art which have helped to shape the philosophies and cultures of the Spanish speaking world.

**III. Themes**

• Literature, history and art

• Global issues

• Social relationships

• Media and communication

• Science and technology

• Cultural diversity

• Leisure

• Health

• Customs and traditions

**IV. Activities**

Students will engage in various activities to develop their language skills through authentic communication. These may include:

* Delivering oral presentations based on research from published articles, newspapers, and literary texts;
* Watching and analyzing the use of language in audiovisual material without captions;
* Participating in classroom games such as role play, memory games, and more;
* Writing reasoned, reflective arguments in response to text stimulus to develop some coherent discussion of the topic area;
* Creative writing related to literary works studied in class (such as an alternate ending to a novel, a diary entry by the character, an interview, and more);
* Text-handling exercises to practice reading comprehension and vocabulary, as well as to understand themes, structural features of the text, and the use of supporting details.

The types of text students will be reading include: blogs, diary entries, articles, brochures, advertisements, interviews, debates, speeches, news reports, proposals, instructions, written correspondence, essays, poems, stories, and novels.

**V. Assessment**

*Evaluations*

* 20% Tests and Quizzes
* 20% Projects
* 10% Homework

*Classwork*

* 10% Class Participation in Spanish
* 20% Audiovisual Activities (producing and watching/listening to movies, songs, documentaries, news bulletins, commercials, etc.)
* 20% Communication Activities (Debates, Presentations, Interviews, Performances)

**VI. Classroom Rules**

* Be respectful
* Come to class physically and mentally prepared (materials and a good disposition)
* Arrive on time
* Speak Spanish during class time
* Complete all class work
* Contribute to an environment that is collaborative, kind, and intellectually challenging

**VII. Make Up Work**

It is the student’s responsibility to get assignments they missed on their first day back to school after an absence.

**VIII. Materials**

* Notebook or electronic device to use as a notebook
* Pen or pencil and highlighter
* Index cards
* Black markers
* Lined paper
* Spanish-English Dictionary or electronic device with dictionary