

iBienvenidos a la clase de **El QUINTO!** with Profe Guerra
Contact info: 262-376-5622 or kguerra@graffton.k12.wi.us

You have made a very good decision to continue learning to speak Spanish. Working together, we can make that happen. El Quinto is a continuation of the development of basic second language skills begun in Spanish 1 and Spanish 2. Students are engaged actively with each other as they work to improve the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. As more complex structures of language are introduced, students expand their ability to express themselves orally and in writing. This class is conducted mostly in Spanish. Topics discussed will expand knowledge of Spanish-speaking peoples and their cultures.

Supplies:

You need to have the following in class each day...

- * workbook (can use Span. 2 workbook if you still have it)
- * folder or binder
- * a writing utensil
- * 1 box of kleenex or 1 tub of disinfecting wipes (due 1st week of class) to be left in the classroom
- * the completed assignment
- * either loose leaf paper for taking notes or a notebook.

Grades: for El Quinto are determined in a variety of ways. There will be homework, written quizzes and tests, group mini-dramas/conversations, daily oral participation points, projects and mini-presentations. It is the students' responsibility to correct mistakes & ask questions when we go over these assignments.

Every student will earn a grade for his/her achievement. Grades are based on the following:

The Quarter Grades are Based On:

- 60% = Summative Assessments
- 25% = Benchmark Assessments
- 15% = Oral Benchmark Assessments
- 0% = Formative Assessments

Semester Grades:

- 80% = Grade from Quarters 1 & 2
- 20% = Semester Exam

The grading scale is as follows:

A = 93 - 100	A- = 90 - 92.99
B+ = 87 - 89.99	B- = 80 - 82.99
C+ = 77 - 79.99	C- = 70 - 72.99
D+ = 67 - 69.99	D- = 60 - 62.99
B = 83 - 86.99	
C = 73 - 76.99	
D = 63 - 66.99	

Your grade is what you earn throughout the semester by working your hardest. You need to follow directions, ask questions, participate in class, and put forth your best effort. Grades will only be rounded at the end of the semester, if you have completed all assignments on time and have 100% oral participation in the class. Your grade will only be rounded by 0.1% (for example, an 89.9% could round to a 90%).

Formative Assessments:

Formative work is in-class practice of newly learned material and is not graded.

Benchmark Assessments:

Benchmark assessments include homework, small presentations/assignments, quizzes, and oral participation.

Homework will be assigned daily or as needed. As with other skills, learning a second language requires discipline, continual practice and exposure. Students should spend approximately 10-15 minutes a night practicing or reviewing materials. Homework will be checked or collected the following day. Checked homework is worth two points based on effort and completion. We will go over the assignment, and the students can earn oral participation points for sharing answers. It is the students' responsibility to correct mistakes and ask questions when we go over these assignments.

If I collect an assignment, it will be graded. The students will be told ahead of time if I am going to collect an assignment.

Oral participation, assessed daily, is of utmost importance in a language class, whether right or wrong. At progress report time and at report card time, I will put the grade in the online grading program. Students - Please check your oral points as often as you like on your class' chart.

Summative Assessments:

Summative assessments are used as a final measure of skills and concepts students have learned in a unit. Summative assessments may include tests, writing assignments, and projects. Summative assessments need to be the students' best effort the first time. Student should:

- see me for help before a summative assessment.
- show me rough draft for writing assignments and projects.
- ask questions.
- be ready for class.
- complete all benchmark assignments on time.

Corrective Assessments:

Students can only take a corrective assessment if:

- all assignments for that unit are completed on time.
- all the additional practice activities assigned by the teacher are completed during the time given.
- the corrective assessment is taken at the time and date set up with the teacher.

The grade the student receives on the corrective assessment will be the grade entered into the grade book for that summative assessment, regardless of whether the score is higher or lower than the original score.

Late Work Policy

Benchmark or summative assessments that are turned in late will be accepted but for less credit. 10% will be deducted from an assessment that is one day late. 20% will be deducted thereafter.

Updating the Online Gradebook:

I will try to update grades once a week. However, when I am correcting large assessments, it may take longer. I will always share the assessments with your child as soon as I can. Parents: ask your child how he or she did. Students: if you turn something in late, I will enter it as soon as I am able.

Cheating and Plagiarizing:

Cheating is not allowed. If you cheat on any assessment, you will receive both academic and behavioral consequences. Plagiarizing (copying the work of another and turning it in as your own) is cheating. This includes copying from the Internet. Don't use online translators or computerized ones. I will be able to tell you've done so from the inaccuracies in the translation and the expressions/phrases used. Do not ask a friend, family member or even a tutor who knows Spanish to do your work. If grammar is used that you haven't learned, **you will not earn credit**. I only expect work at the level you should be capable of.

Absences:

You should inform me of an anticipated class absence. It is then your responsibility to be prepared for the next class. The day you return from any absence, it is YOUR responsibility to:

- a.) show me the work we corrected in your absence,
- b.) see what you missed
- c.) to schedule quiz/ test makeup.

Failure to do so will result in less credit for the benchmark assessments.

Pass Privileges:

I will issue you your own hall pass or "**pasaporte**". You have 3 hall passes per semester to use the following ways:

- to use the bathroom or get a drink of water
- to go to your locker within the first 5 minutes of class to get an assignment you have forgotten. You must have your own "pasaporte" to go to your locker. You may not use someone else's "pasaporte."

I will use a hole punch on your "pasaporte" each time it is used. I will only issue ONE "pasaporte" per semester. If you lose it or use all 3 of your passes, you may use your normal passbook issued by the school to use the bathroom. You will then need to see me after school for 10 minutes to go over what you missed.

Tardiness:

You should be in your seat when the bell rings. I will give you one freebie tardy. After that you will owe me a 15 minute detention for all other tardies. If tardiness becomes a problem, I will write a referral to the office, and you will meet with a principal to discuss the problem.

Electronic devices:

Electronic devices should be turned off and put away during class, unless I invite you to use them for an activity.

Rules:

By now, the students have a pretty good idea of what is appropriate classroom conduct. Therefore, the rules for my classroom are minimal. The key word is **respect**. Always show respect for other students, the teacher, yourself, and property. Any behavior that interrupts the learning process is unacceptable.

La Experiencia Cultural (The Cultural Experience)

In El Quinto, the students will do a cultural experience of their choosing each quarter. For the experience the students will choose a "project" they'd like to do relating to the Spanish-speaking world. I have over 30 ideas or the students have the option of submitting their own idea for approval. Each project has its own rubric. The projects are designed to enhance and reinforce students' knowledge of events and opportunities related to the Spanish language and the Spanish speaking world in the context of every day life. They should also increase students' understanding and appreciation of the cultures of Spanish speaking people so that students feel more comfortable interacting with native speakers.

The students will have about 6-7 weeks to work on these projects. Please ask them soon if they've chosen their project, if they've started it, if they need help, etc. Two very popular choices for one of the projects are often dining out at an authentic restaurant and preparing a meal for the family. They are not required to do either, but seem to enjoy these very much. If your child chooses either of these, please help them experience something authentic and new for them. At the restaurant, let them use their Spanish and order for the family. And ENJOY!

Parents/guardians...please ask your son/daughter about Spanish class. If they have already finished their homework, ask them to teach you a phrase or two. Reteaching is the best form of retention. If you notice they are struggling, please encourage them to work with me. I am available before and after school and during 4th hour and some of 5th hour. Additionally, feel free to call me at 376-5622 or e-mail me at kguerra@graffton.k12.wi.us with questions, concerns, or comments.

Please sign the "I Understand" sheet indicating that you have read this syllabus, and have your son/daughter return it to me. I look forward to working with you and your child this year!

Sinceramente,

Kari Guerra