

# Español con la Señora Kennedy

¡Bienvenidos a mi clase de español! I am Señora Kennedy. Hopefully this will be some information to get the year started off right. Students and families, please read over the following and sign at the end to let me know that you have reviewed this information. Thank you!

## How to be Successful in Spanish class:

### 1. Be on-time and prepared

Learning a language can be fun, but it takes time! Use your class time wisely, and come prepared.

### 2. Be on-task and responsible

I will give you a variety of tools to help you learn Spanish. It is up to you to take advantage of them. Keep track of assignments in your planner and ask for help when you need it!

### 3. Be respectful

In our class we will be learning Spanish, but we will also learn about Spanish-speaking cultures. My goal is to help my students learn a respectful attitude toward all people, even those different from themselves.

### 4. Be kind to one another

Respect for new cultures begins in the classroom.



## Grades in Spanish

Each of my students has a different background with Spanish, and every student learns at a different pace. My curriculum is proficiency based: I want to teach students concrete, communicative skills in Spanish. I also strive to develop independent language learners, who know how to set personal goals and work towards those goals in the ways that are most effective for them personally. With this in mind, my grades are based on students' growth across the school year, regardless of the level they begin at. Students' grades will include (but are not limited to) the following:

- **Participation:** Students should participate in class activity, follow procedures and instructions, and use the Spanish they know in class. Participation will include completion of "Discovery Time" practice activities at the beginning of each class.
- **Classwork:** We will have a variety of class activities that will help us practice and master specific objectives.
- **Homework:** In general, homework will be practice of the vocabulary and structures introduced in class. Students will have specific vocabulary to study each week, along with plenty of ideas and resources to help them study in the way that is most effective for them. Some homework assignments will be posted on Edmodo. (See instructions at the end.) Any online assignments will be given in advance so that students who do not have internet access at home can use school computers. Please contact me if internet access is a problem, so that I can make alternate arrangements.
- **Projects:** Students will work on specific language projects that fit with their individualized learning goals. Look for more information as we progress in the semester!
- **Vocabulary Quizzes:** While I believe project-based learning is the most effective way to master and assess authentic language skills, vocabulary quizzes are a way to quickly assess student's mastery of specific vocabulary, and identify areas for growth.

## Suggested Supplies:

- 📌 **Your school agenda/planner**  
You should have this at every class!
- 📌 **A Spanish folder or tab**  
I will be giving out a variety of papers for you to keep for reference throughout the class. It will be helpful to have a place to put them – either a Spanish tab in your binder, or a separate folder.
- 📌 **Lined paper**  
Either loose paper or a notebook, for notes.
- 📌 **Sharpened pencil(s)**

## Behavior and Expectations:

During Spanish, students are expected to follow all school rules and procedures. Policies on late work, truancy, and behavior are consistent with other middle school classes. I do not accept late class work or homework. I have absent folders to help students catch up after missing a class, and after an excused absence students can turn in the work within a period of time equal to the absence. (For example, if the student was gone for two school days, they should turn in the work within two school days.) I do not give credit or accept late work for unexcused absences. Parents and guardians, please make sure you call or email the school office if your student will not be in school.

Along with the rest of the Middle School team, I am taking part in the weekly “Dollars and Sense” salary system for student behavior. When students are not following our established expectations, there are “fees” for each infraction. These infractions will also affect each student’s citizenship grades, and their participation grade in Spanish. Please see the “Dollars and Sense” letter from the Middle School team for more details, or contact me with questions.

## Edmodo:

I will be using Edmodo with my middle school classes this year. If you are not familiar with this program, check out the letter and detailed instructions on my website. I am giving out specific Edmodo group codes in class. Let me know if you need any help!

**Group Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

*If you did not write down the code in class, please contact me to get it.*

## Contact me:

Please contact me at any time if you have questions or concerns. Email is the best way to get in touch with me, since I am travelling around to various classrooms throughout the school day! I also have a class website with many class handouts, useful information, and lots of online resources. There are learning resources, activities and games for all ages – parents included.

- **Email:** skennedy@urbandiscoveryacademy.com
- **Class website:** <http://kennedyspanish.weebly.com>
- **Class twitter:** @kennedyspanish

I do have office hours on Wednesday mornings right before school for students who need help. Since this time is set aside for students, please get in touch with me so we can arrange a parent meeting separately.

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Parents or guardians, please go over the following with your child, and have them return this paper to me. (You can also just email me to let me know you got the information, or take the optional [Family Survey](#) on my website!)

I have read over this information and understand it.

I have signed up for Edmodo and joined my class group.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_