

Señor Mason's Spanish Class

Welcome to Spanish! I hope you are looking forward to it. I want to go over a few rules / expectations to help things run smoothly in class.

First, each student will need to bring a notebook to class **every day**. This notebook may **NOT** be spiral bound. I can't stand the mess those things make! Students will be taking notes and doing warm-up exercises and must keep them all organized. These will be turned-in at the end of the semester (when all other teachers are doing the same) so students must have a notebook specifically for this class.

Students will lose participation points each day notebook or school supplies (textbook, pens, pencils, paper, etc) are not brought to class.

Students must be seated in their desks, ready to begin **when the bell starts to ring** or they will be marked tardy. The school has implemented a new tardy policy. If you are tardy (yes, even 1 second!) you will have to go directly to the office and obtain a tardy slip. Your 1st tardy is a warning and your 2nd and each one after will result in after school detention.

Each student will be given 3 bathroom / locker passes per semester. Use them wisely. You will NOT be allowed to leave the class without one!

My web page is updated daily with daily assignments/homework information. <http://www.senormason.com>.

This year we will be continuing the 'mastery learning' process. This is how it works. Instead of getting a grade based on points earned from homework, quizzes and tests, this year you will be graded based on your proficiency of the various topics we will cover in class. Each chapter will be broken up in to smaller sub categories. For each sub category there will be a proficiency quiz. If you score 85% or higher, you will receive 3 points. For scores between 75%-84%, you will receive 2 points. For scores between 65%-74% you will receive 1 point. You will receive no points for any scores below 65%. At the end of the semester your grade will be based on the points you receive from these proficiency quizzes, your participation and final exams.

Homework will be assigned and we will go over the answers in class. Each time you participate in correcting the homework or at other times in class, you receive points towards the participation portion of your grade. However the homework assignments themselves will not be graded. You will need to complete the homework and participate if you wish to get these points. Also, the homework will prepare you for the quizzes.

So what happens if you don't pass the proficiency quizzes the first time? Every week or two on Friday we will have proficiency quiz day. Students will take quizzes for the new material as well as make up any quizzes on which they did poorly. I have 4 versions of each quiz so the questions will not be the same. **You may take the quizzes a total of 3 times and you have 1 month to make them up.**

My website has a collection of online tutorials, pronunciation guides, vocabulary lists and will have videos of classroom instruction. Use this resource to help you prepare for the quizzes. For help with a particular topic go to <http://www.senormason.com>, look under your class and the current semester.

Cheating is not tolerated! Students caught cheating will receive a zero for the quiz/test/assignment and will be referred to the vice-principals.

The school's dress code will be enforced!

All discussions regarding grades will be by appointment only. I am available before and after school and during some lunches. **Grades will not be discussed during class time.** Students have been given a handout on which they can keep track of their own grades.

The teacher, not the bell, dismisses class. Please do not start packing-up before then. Standing next to the door will not make class end any sooner!

Food and drinks are not allowed in class. **Do not bring them in and do not ask permission to eat or drink in class.** Water is permitted however be sure not to leave your water bottles behind. If your child is diabetic or hypoglycemic, please check with me to make sure I know and arrangements will be made.

I use a cumulative total of points for determining grades. A standard grade scale is used, i.e. 80-83% = B-, 84-86% = B, 87-89%=B+.

Any ethnic, racist or sexist remark will result in immediate suspension from class!

If you have any further questions feel free to contact me at the school, 268-3700 x4630 or smason@njuhsd.com. Please sign and date on the dotted line below and have your student return the signature to me ASAP.

Thank you.
Señor Mason

My signature below indicates that I have read, understood and agree to follow the rules and expectations contained in this syllabus.

Student's signature

Parent's signature and date