**Bienvenidos a la clase de Español I!**

**Profe/ Sr. Shafer** [**cshafer@eastwakeacademy.org**](mailto:cshafer@eastwakeacademy.org)

**Welcome/ Overview**

Bienvenidos a la clase de español! Welcome and I am looking forward to starting the journey through Central America, South America and Spain this year! We will be taking a non-traditional approach to learning a second language – say goodbye to text books, memorized vocab lists and highly structured Grammar rules! We will use storytelling and creation to learn the language as well as project based learning and collaboration to progress in the language. This method, known as TPRS aims to mimic how we learned our first language – through immersion! This results in a higher level of fluency in a much shorter time.

**Course Description:**

This course will present essential vocabulary to students including the 100 most used phrases/ words and basic grammatical structures to help students talk about basic things in the target language, such as greetings, likes and dislikes, free time activities, and holidays/ traditions, among others. We will use an immersion system to help mimic natural language acquisition. After week 1, we will aim to have 90% of our class time spent in the target language. By immersing students in the language, they will get continued exposure just like we learn our first language – not through quizzes, tests, vocabulary lists, and grammar lessons. They will learn the language simply by immersion which helps students to take more risks with the language and not focus on every single possible error they can make. I aim to help show students that errors are okay – I am looking for **communication in the language, not precision**. This course also seeks to provide students with basic cultural competencies and awareness. Students will also be able to gain valuable insights in the culture – not only within the classroom but also outside of class in their own communities.

**A note on Proficiency:**

Nearly everything in this course will be graded on a rubric. I am not trying to see if students are good at multiple choice questions, or taking quizzes. I want to see them communicate ideas. This is why things will heavily rely upon rubrics, self/ group evaluations, and reflections. I want to encourage students to become better at the language, not teach to a test or test their test taking abilities. To assess students, I will be using the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) proficiency guidelines. These are goals that we want students to work towards. The following are the proficiency guidelines for Spanish I and II. You can see more information on these guidelines on our classroom website.

1. Novice Low – I can use words!
2. Novice Mid – I can use phrases!
3. **Novice High – I can use simple sentences! (Spanish I’s Goal! – it takes 135 hours to get here!)**
4. Intermediate Low – I can connect sentences! (Spanish II’s Goal! - it takes 100 more hours to get here!)

**Grading:**

**Grading will be split up into 5 categories:**

* **Interpretive Communication** (Listening and Reading) 40%
* **Presentational Communication** (Writing and Speaking) 20%
* **Interpersonal Communication** (Conversations) 10%
* **Citizenship** (participation\*, practice activities, cultural activities) 15%
* **Tarea Semanal**\*\* (Weekly homework investigations) 15%

**\*Participation:**

Students will be asked to complete a bi-weekly log reflecting on their participation. I will then determine a final grade based on my observations along with their participation logs. These logs will be turned in every other Friday.

**\*\* Tarea Semanal:**

Each week, students will engage in a weekly project designed to allow them to engage with the language outside of school. It is my hope that this will help them realize the presence of the language in their community and just how big of an asset knowing a foreign language can be. These assignments will be chosen by the student and will be due each Wednesday. They will be required to submit a reflection and evidence (photo/ video, etc.) that the activity has been carried out. It is my hope that this will take the place of traditional homework to allow for flexibility in the student’s schedules, but still give them the exposure of the language in a meaningful context. More information can be found on our class website.

**Policies and Procedures:**

**Phones:**

Phones/ devices will be used frequently in this class. If you do not have a device with you, you are welcome to find a friend to partner with during activities that require devices. At the front of the room, there will be a stop light signal indicating whether devices may be out or not.

**Green:** You may use your device.

**Yellow**: You may use your device when the current assignment is complete.

**Red:** No devices should be visible.

If you do not abide by our phone policy, this will result in a warning followed by the device being held until the end of the period. Repeated offenses will result in parent contact.

**Late Work and Missing work:**

Late work will be penalized at a rate 10 points/ day. I do, however, understand that things happen. With this in mind, I am open to granting extensions on some activities, provided that the student is responsible and comes to me before the due date to let me know about their situation. In these cases, the student will not be penalized if the extension is granted.

Students will find recent handouts in the file folders on the class information bulletin board at the back of the room. This will be where you can find any missing handouts/ work. I will also check in with the student upon their return to get missing work to them. Students will have one week to turn in make-up work before it will be considered late.

**Exception Policy:**

Any student who receives higher than a 90% and less than 3 absences will be exempt from the final exam. Students taking the exam must stay for the entire testing period.

**Academic Integrity:**

There will be no tolerance for cheating in this course. This includes things such as copying, and plagiarizing. Google Translate will not be allowed in this course. This is because this hurts the students in that they are not learning the language if they are just letting Google do all the work, and Google often gives incorrect translations since it translates “literally”, not considering the context of your sentence. Approved alternative resources include: [www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com), and [www.spanishdict.com](http://www.spanishdict.com). If students are caught with an issue of academic integrity, parent contact will be made.

**Classroom Expectations:**

1. Be Respectful to everyone
2. Phones should be completely away if we are not using them.
3. Push yourself to speak as much Spanish as possible!
4. Be an active participant.
5. No food – water is okay!
6. No Google Translate!

**Supply List:** Highlighters/ Markers - Internet Access - FlipGrid App (Highly Recommended) - Notebook - Pencils

**Contact:**

I am here to answer any questions or concerns you may have. The following is how to best reach me:

1. Email: [Cshafer@eastwakeacademy.org](mailto:Cshafer@eastwakeacademy.org)
2. School Phone: 919-404-0444 ex 1052
3. Classroom website: <http://profealpaca.weebly.com/>

* I will reply to all emails within 24 hours on School Days. On weekends/ holidays I will respond the next school day at the latest.

**Smart Period:**

This year, EWA will be implementing a new “smart period” allowing students in school time to address needs/ concerns, complete make up work, and receive remediation in their classes. Any student with a 70 or below will use this opportunity to seek remediation for Spanish class during this time. Students can also use the time to complete make up work or homework if needed. **I will also be available for extra support Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays after school until 4:00, or later as needed in addition to the Smart Period.**

**Please detach and complete the following by August 1st, 2017.**

**For Parents:**

**Contact Information:**

Please fill in the following information to allow me to best communicate with you:

1. Email Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Best method of contact and time\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please let me know if there is anything special you would like me to know about your student (such as allergies, preferred seating, etc). If you would rather email this information to me, you may do so at [cshafer@eastwakeacademy.org](mailto:cshafer@eastwakeacademy.org).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Photo Release for Classroom Website:**

Periodically throughout the semester, I will upload pictures from class onto our classroom website as display student work on our website. Please complete the following release so I know if you consent to your child’s image being used.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I consent for my child’s image/ work to be displayed.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I do NOT consent for my child’s work/ image to be displayed.

Printed Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Syllabus Agreement:**

I attest that I have read and understand the syllabus.

Student’s printed Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s printed name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_