

9th Grade American Online School

SPANISH LANGUAGE CURRICULUM

Communication, Culture, and Confidence

Version Mar/2025

1. Introduction

The Role of Spanish Language in 9th Grade

The 9th Grade Spanish curriculum introduces students to Spanish as a living, global language. Emphasis is placed on communicative competence in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, as well as cultural exploration across the Hispanic world. Through engaging dialogues, real-world scenarios, and intercultural reflection, students begin building a foundation for fluency and global citizenship.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ **Communicate in Spanish using familiar vocabulary and sentence structures.**
- ✓ **Understand spoken and written Spanish in everyday contexts.**
- ✓ **Write basic paragraphs and participate in guided conversations.**
- ✓ **Explore and compare cultural practices across Spanish-speaking countries.**
- ✓ **Demonstrate openness, curiosity, and respect for global perspectives.**

2. Core Competence Areas

SP.1 Vocabulary and Everyday Communication

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Use high-frequency vocabulary in conversations and writing.
- ✓ Describe people, routines, and locations.
- ✓ Communicate needs and preferences in real-life situations.

Competencies

SP.1.A.1 – Using Vocabulary in Context.

- Introduce self and family, describe routines, and talk about likes/dislikes.

SP.1.A.2 – Describing People and Activities.

- Use adjectives, nouns, and verbs to describe physical appearance and personal traits.

SP.1.A.3 – Talking About Food and Meals.

- Engage in dialogues about meals, order food, and describe mealtime customs.

SP.1.A.4 – Talking About Travel and Transportation.

- Describe destinations, express travel plans, and navigate basic transport scenarios.

SP.2 Grammar Structures and Sentence Structure

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Form complete sentences in the present tense.
- ✓ Use correct subject-verb agreement and noun-adjective agreement.
- ✓ Ask and answer basic questions.

Competencies

SP.2.A.1 – Conjugating Regular Verbs in Present Tense.

- Use -AR, -ER, and -IR verbs accurately in conversation and writing.

SP.2.A.2 – Using Irregular Verbs

- Apply high-frequency irregular verbs (ser, estar, tener, ir, hacer) in personal contexts.

SP.2.A.3 – Forming Questions and Negations.

- Use interrogatives to ask about preferences, plans, and routines.

SP.2.A.4 – Applying Grammar Rules.

- Demonstrate understanding of gender/number agreement and sentence structure.
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SP.3 Listening and Speaking Skills

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Understand basic Spanish in classroom and real-life scenarios.
- ✓ Speak with accurate pronunciation and appropriate expressions.
- ✓ Participate in guided role-play and spontaneous conversation.

Competencies

SP.3.A.1 – Understanding Spoken Spanish.

- Follow classroom instructions, comprehend audio recordings, and identify main ideas.

SP.3.A.2 – Engaging in Dialogues.

- Respond to questions and use rehearsed scripts for interviews and situational conversations.

SP.3.A.3 – Speaking Clearly and Confidently.

- Use correct intonation, accent marks, and pronunciation (e.g., vowel clarity, rolled 'r').

SP.3.A.4 – Holding Simple Conversations.

- Greet others, make polite requests, express needs, and ask for information.
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SP.4 Reading and Writing Skills

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Read and interpret simple texts and everyday materials.
- ✓ Write structured paragraphs about familiar topics.
- ✓ Reflect and communicate in writing for cultural and personal purposes.

Competencies

SP.4.A.1 – Reading Short Texts..

- Understand menus, signs, schedules, and short stories with the aid of cognates and context.

SP.4.A.2 – Writing Structured Paragraphs.

- Write 4–6 sentence paragraphs about daily life, hobbies, and celebrations.

SP.4.A.3 – Journaling and Message Writing.

- Keep personal journals and write messages or postcards for real-world application.

SP.4.A.4 – Using Proper Spelling and Punctuation.

- Apply basic grammar rules including accent marks, sentence punctuation, and capitalization.
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SP.5 Culture and Global Understanding

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ **Identify Spanish-speaking countries and their cultural symbols.**
- ✓ **Compare traditions, foods, and lifestyles to their own.**
- ✓ **Demonstrate respect for diverse practices and worldviews.**

Competencies

SP.5.A.1 – Exploring the Spanish-Speaking World.

- Locate countries, capitals, and flags and associate them with regional traditions.

SP.5.A.2 – Comparing Cultural Practices.

- Reflect on differences and similarities in holidays, meals, school systems, and family life.

SP.5.A.3 – Demonstrating Cultural Sensitivity.

- Use appropriate gestures, greetings, and phrases in cultural contexts.

SP.5.A.4 – Engaging with Music, Art, and Dance.

- Analyze songs, watch traditional dances, and explore visual art for deeper understanding.

3. Assessment and Evaluation

Formative Assessments – Checking Progress Through Interactive Learning

- ✓ **Vocabulary quizzes, pronunciation drills, and grammar exercises.**
- ✓ **Oral participation in class and language games.**
- ✓ **Listening response sheets and pronunciation check-ins.**

Summative Assessments – Final Projects and Exams

- ✓ **Writing tasks (paragraphs, messages, letters).**
- ✓ **Listening comprehension tests and oral interviews.**
- ✓ **Cultural mini-projects and unit exams.**

Authentic Assessments – Real-World Applications

- ✓ Role-plays: ordering in restaurants, visiting a doctor, giving directions.
- ✓ Video journals and Flipgrid reflections.
- ✓ Cultural posters or short presentations in Spanish.

Feedback Tools

- ✓ Rubrics for oral fluency, grammatical accuracy, and writing clarity.
 - ✓ Self-assessment logs and vocabulary trackers.
 - ✓ Peer feedback on dialogues and pronunciation.
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4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

Interactive and Immersive Language Practice

- ✓ Use Total Physical Response (TPR) for vocabulary acquisition.
- ✓ Incorporate storytelling, visuals, and dialogues to build comprehension.

Differentiated Instruction

- ✓ Offer sentence frames, vocabulary banks, and leveled activities.
- ✓ Adapt reading materials and conversation partners by fluency level.

Cultural Immersion through Media

- ✓ Use YouTube, Spotify, or Edpuzzle for interpreting cultural videos and music.
- ✓ Explore real menus, travel sites, and cultural interviews.

Technology Integration

- ✓ Duolingo, Quizlet, and Conjuguemos for personalized vocabulary practice.
- ✓ Flipgrid or Seesaw for recording and reflecting on spoken Spanish.
- ✓ Use Google Docs for collaborative writing and peer feedback.

Classroom Culture

- ✓ Celebrate risk-taking and progress in language learning.
- ✓ Use Spanish as the primary classroom language.
- ✓ Encourage peer support and a no-shame environment for speaking up.