**Course Syllabus 2025-2026**

**Course Description and Objectives**

**Spanish Exploratory** is a one-semester course designed to introduce students to the Spanish language and the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. The class focuses on developing basic communication skills and making cultural comparisons to promote understanding and acceptance of differences.

Students practice correct pronunciation, reading, and writing in Spanish. They learn to express and understand simple ideas on everyday topics such as greetings, numbers, the calendar, weather, and likes and dislikes.

This course is available to students in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade, but may only be taken once during middle school.

**Textbook**

Encuentros 1 – Comunicación y cultura (Vista, 2022)

**Unit/Concept Names**

Unit 1: Introduction to Spanish: Conversation, Language and Culture

Unit 2: The basics: Numbers, the time, the weather and the calendar

Unit 3: The Alphabet: vowels, consonants, syllables and words

Unit 4: Creating sentences: articles, noun, adjective and verb

Unit 5: Verb to like (Gustar): likes/dislikes

**Richmond County Board of Education Grading Policy**

- Minor Grades 60% Assignments to be completed in the classroom (minimum per 5-week progress=5)

- Major Grades 40% Special Projects, quizzes and tests (minimum per 5-week progress= 2)

**Academic Grading Scale :**

A (90-100) B (80-89) C (75-79) D (74-70) F (Below 70)

Parents are encouraged to monitor their child’s progress using the district **Infinite Campus Parent Portal**. Please contact the front office at 706-737-7288 for information to gain access to Infinite Campus.

**Academic Dishonesty**

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, considering any written materials, observation, or information from witnesses. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the task may be entered as “incomplete” and the student required to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.

**Late Work**

Late work is defined as assignments that are submitted after the specified deadline. This does not apply to work submitted late due to absence from school. Students are expected to submit assignments on time. Multiple incidents of late work may result in teacher-student-parent conferences to examine and correct the student’s work habits through an academic contract. Students in grades 6-12 may have their scores reduced by 5% per day for a 25% maximum reduction (five school days). Late work submitted after the fifth school day will only be accepted at the teacher’s discretion. Completing work in a timely manner during the learning unit is essential for academic success. If the score is reduced for late work, the teacher must make a notation in the Infinite Campus comment section of the gradebook to reflect the reduction for late work. Students and parents should refer to the teacher’s course syllabus for specific late work procedures.

**Make-up Work -** Students will receive a variety of assignments throughout the semester, including at least one in-class project. This project will serve as an extension or enrichment of the topics covered in class and must be completed during class time only.

If a student is absent, they are responsible for any missed assignments. All missed work must be completed within five days of the student’s return to school.

Homework is designed to provide meaningful independent practice and supports what students are currently learning in class. Homework should be completed at home and turned in on time. Students will receive feedback on all homework that is submitted.

**Homework –** Students will receive a variety of assignments throughout the semester, including at least one in-class project. This project will serve as an extension or enrichment of the topics covered in class and must be completed during class time only. If a student is absent, they are responsible for any missed assignments. All missed work must be completed within five days of the student’s return to school. Homework is designed to provide meaningful independent practice and supports what students are currently learning in class. Homework should be completed at home and turned in on time. Students will receive feedback on all homework that is submitted.

**Relearn & Reassess (R&R Procedures)-**

Students can submit a relearning plan for any major assessment. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, a student will be given a minimum of one opportunity to be reassessed. Students scoring below 70 on a major assessment are expected to complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

Teachers have discretion to determine if R&R opportunities will be given for any minor assessment.

**Cell phones** are not permitted in class, per school policy, and should not be seen nor heard. Students should turn cell phones off and place them in their bookbags.

- First offense will receive an explicit verbal warning.

- Further offense will receive a parent phone call.

- Repeated offenses will result in phone confiscation. In this case, a parent will need to request the phone be returned in person.

**Classroom Expectations**

1. Students are expected to be **ready** to learn when they come to class. This means being on time and being prepared with materials and assignments.
2. Students are expected to be **respectful** of other students, teacher, all adults, and their environment.

Students are expected to be **responsible** for their own actions, attitudes, and behavior.

**Discipline Policy:**

Students are expected to follow the classroom and school behavioral guidelines. In the event that disciplinary action is administered, the discipline policy outlined in the Student Handbook will be followed.

Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further guidance on Richmond County School System’s policies and procedures.

 **Course Materials**

\* (2) Composition Notebook \* Ear buds (wired) or headphones (No Bluetooth) \*Pre-sharpened or mechanical pencils **\*** Colored pencils \*Ruler \*Scissors \*Index cards (white) \*Glue Sticks \*Mini stapler

Important: Students must bring a **charged computer** to the class.

**My contact information:**

Email: trujica@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

Front office: 706-737-7288

**Teacher Webpage:** [**https://www.rcboe.org/Domain/19505**](https://www.rcboe.org/Domain/19505)

**Resources:** Canvas, Duolingo, Edpuzzle, Nearpod, Goconqr, Kahoot & IXL.com, among others.

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Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus to affirm that you have reviewed this document:

Student’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_