**General Information and Syllabus**

**IB Spanish ab Initio – SL**

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**The aims of Spanish ab initio are to:**

1. Develop students’ intercultural understanding.
2. Enable students to understand and use the language they have studied in a range of contexts and for a variety of purposes.
3. Encourage, through the study of texts and through social interaction, an awareness and appreciation of the different perspectives of people from other cultures.
4. Develop students’ awareness of the role of language in relation to other areas of knowledge.
5. Develop students’ awareness of the relationship between the languages and cultures with which they are familiar.
6. Provide students with a basis for further study, work and leisure through the use of an additional language.
7. Provide the opportunity for enjoyment, creativity and intellectual stimulation through knowledge of an additional language.

The course is divided to develop students who recognize and help build a better and more peaceful world. They will explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance, becoming knowledgeable across a broad range of issues. They will apply and develop critical thinking skills. Students will express ideas and information, working effectively and willingly with others. They will act with integrity, honesty and with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of others.

Students will understand and appreciate their own cultures while open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and cultures. They will give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. Students will assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

**Course objective:**

**The overall objective of this course is for students to achieve communicative competence in a variety of everyday situations.**

At the end of the language ab initio candidates will be expected to demonstrate ability to:

* Communicate information and some basic ideas clearly and effectively, in a limited range of situations.
* Understand and use accurately the essential spoken and written forms of the language in a limited range of situations.
* Understand and use a limited range of vocabulary in common usage.
* Use a register that is generally appropriate to the situation.
* Show awareness of some elements of the cultures related to the language studied.

The four primary language skills to be developed in an integrated way are: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The balance between these four skills should be appropriate to the needs of the students, but none should be neglected.

**Core Syllabus**

The core syllabus must be the foundation for any language ab initio course. It is divided into seven topics with which the students should become familiar in order to develop a vocabulary range that covers the most common situations in everyday life. These topics are:

* The individual
* Education and work
* Town and services
* Food and drink
* Leisure and travel
* The environment
* Health and emergencies

**Cultural Awareness**

During the language ab initio course students are expected to become familiar with aspects of everyday life and culture of the countries in which the language is spoken.

Texts should be used as a means of exploring aspects of the culture(s) related to the language studied.

The study of particular features of the culture is not an end in itself but a means by which the students learn about a different way of life, and consequently develop their language skills.

**Course Expectations**

The students are expected to engage at all times in the Foreign Language Core Proficiencies: Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking. The student will be able to demonstrate successfully the core competencies, as defined by the Modern Language Standards of South Carolina, given the necessary exposure.

**Evaluation**

The students will be evaluated using: tests, quizzes, written and oral productions, homework and participation in class activities. The Sumter High grading scale will be used. Grades will be calculated as follows:

1. Tests 30%
2. Quizzes 20%
3. Participation 10%
4. Projects 20%
5. Homework 20%

The year average will be divided into the following categories: Semester 1 (50%) and semester 2 (50%)

**Homework Policy**

Homework will be assigned every session and should be turned in the following class day. Corrections are due next class day. Late homework will not be accepted unless it is due to student excused absence and will be turned in to the teacher within 2 days upon returning to school.

**Expectations for class bahavior**

1. Be prepared
2. Be positive
3. Show respect at all times
4. Follow all school rules

It is the student’s responsibility to make up a test on the day designated by the teacher and within one week of the absence. A zero will be recorded for that grade until the student takes the test. Students are responsible for assignments and homework missed during absences. It is also their responsibility to request make – up work from teacher.

**Consequences for inappropriate conduct**

1. Verbal warning
2. Conference with student
3. Parent conference
4. Detention
5. Discipline referral

**Classroom Supplies**

1. A binder with a set of dividers
2. Number 2 pencils for test taking
3. Black or blue ink pen
4. Spanish/English dictionary is highly recommended.
5. Red pen
6. A composition notebook

**Classroom Procedures:**

1. Place homework in the basket on the front table.
2. Raise your hand for assistance.
3. End of class bell – Remain seated and wait until I dismiss the class

**Classroom Rules:**

1. Be in your assigned seat and ready to work when the bell rings.
2. Listen when someone is speaking.
3. Raise your hand to answer questions or ask questions.
4. Treat everyone and their property respectfully.
5. Be on time.
6. Do not use cell phones and do not eat in the classroom.

*❝****One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.****❞* ***- Frank Smith.***

**STUDENTS:** I have read and understood this syllabus. I will respect the class rules and expectations listed. I will put effort and dedication to make this course a successful learning experience. I will commit myself to speak Spanish while in class, in the presence of all Spanish teachers, any exchange students and anywhere else that is required of me.

Print Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** I have read and understood this syllabus. My daughter/son and I will work to make this a successful and enjoyable year.

Print Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Provide the number you want to be reach by.)

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **(Please Print)**

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **(Street)** **(State)** **(Zip Code)**

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_