

Michael E. DeBakey High School for Health Professions

LOTE Department

Teacher: Laurie León

[LLEON1@houstonisd.org](mailto:LLEON1@houstonisd.org)

Room 233 / Conference period: A4

Tutorials (by appointment):

Tuesdays 3:35 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Spanish 3 MAGNET**  
**Syllabus Fall/Spring 2024- 2025**

## Course Description

In this course, students will continue building on the communicative skills acquired on levels 1 and 2 of Spanish in all three modes of communication: presentational, interpersonal, and interpretive.

Each unit will cover a variety of activities in which students will be exposed to authentic printed, audio, and video materials from the Hispanic world. Each unit also includes a variety of interactive activities and cultural notes.

Evaluations (quizzes, tests, projects, etc.) will assess students' mastery in a variety of ways: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

## Course Topics

**Lección Preliminar: Una vida ocupada.** Talk about yourself and your friends. Say what you know what to do. Talk about places and people you know. Describe your daily routine. Make comparisons.

### Unidad 1: México.

Lección 1- Lección 1: **Vamos a acampar:** Describe a camping trip; talk about what you did with friends; talk about nature; using tense of regular verbs, conjugating **Irregular Preterite**.

Lección 2- **Vamos a la playa:** Talk about family vacations; discuss activities, skills, and abilities.

Describe a place and its climate. Conjugating **Imperfect tense**, differentiating when to use **Preterite vs. Imperfect**.

### Unidad 2: Estados Unidos

Lección 1- ¡**Todos para uno y uno para todos!**: Describe volunteer activities; organize people to do a project; persuade or influence others. Using **tú, usted(es) and nosotros commands**; making polite requests.

Lección 2- **¿Cómo nos organizamos?:** Make requests and recommendations, express opinions; talk about media and the community, using **pronouns with commands**, using **impersonal expressions + infinitive; impersonal constructions with se**.

### Unidad 3: Centroamérica

Lección 1- **¿Cómo será el futuro?** Discuss the impact of technology; express environmental concerns and possibilities, make predictions and discuss causes and effects; using **future tense**; differentiating the use of **por** and **para**.

Lección 2- **Por un futuro mejor:** Discuss obligations and responsibilities; present and support an opinion; express a point of view and make recommendations; **present subjunctive of regular verbs and other subjunctive verbs forms**.

### Unidad 4: El Caribe

Lección 1- **¿Quién te inspira?** Describe people; tell others what to do, express wishes and desires, **using subjunctives with ojalá and verbs of hope; using subjunctive with verbs of influence; using suffixes**.

Lección 2- **¿Quiénes son los héroes?** Describe people and things; express doubt, denial, disbelief, express positive and negative emotions; using **subjunctive with doubt, and subjunctive with emotion**.

### Unidad 5: Los países andinos

Lección 1- **“Comuniquémonos entre naciones”:** Talk about personal items; talk about requirements; express what does and doesn't exist, using expressions with **sea**; subjunctive with conjunctions; subjunctive with the unknown.

Lección 2 - **“Nuevos amigos; nuevas oportunidades”:** Say what you would or would not happen; report what someone said, talk about the day's activities; using **qué and cuál**, using **conditional** tense, reported speech.

### Resources

- **Avancemos** (digital book & accompanying audio and video resources).
- Handouts and worksheets provided by the teacher throughout the year.
- **Canvas** will be the main platform where students and parents will access the Spanish class resources, assignments, information about deadlines, and other announcements.

### Spanish class materials checklist

- **HISD** Laptop
- Three-ring binder with 4 tabs
- Wired headsets (wireless headsets are NOT allowed)
- Loose-lined paper
- Pencils (to complete work)
- Red pens (to make corrections)
- Agenda or planner (physical or digital).

## Binder organization:

- **Sección 1 (Tab1):** Class syllabus, Goal Setting Sheets
- **Sección 2 (Tab 2):** Avancemos 3 Vocabulary lists / Grammar Review Packet
- **Sección 3 (Tab 3):** Classwork/Homework (including "Did you get it?" packets, conversation assignments, listening exercises, warm-ups, other classwork activities.
- **Sección 4 (Tab 4):** Songs, Evaluations

### Spanish 3 –Grading Plan

Test/ Projects = 40 %

Quizzes = 30 %

Classwork =20 %

Homework: 10%

#### Note:

Quizzes and Projects **are not** eligible for retakes.  
Extra credit **is not** offered in this class

- The teacher will submit grades every week on the student's gradebook in [HISD Connect by PowerSchool](#). This information is available 24/7. Students and parents are encouraged to monitor grades at least once a week and notify the teacher of any errors if found.
- Students will ask questions about their assignments DURING school hours (preferably during the class period) to make sure the teacher can assist them before an assignment's deadline.
- Questions asked during non-school hours will likely be answered on the next school day.
- Students MUST report any problem in completing an assignment **before the deadline**; otherwise, the assignment will be considered late.
- Students will contact the teacher at [LLEON1@houstonisd.org](mailto:LLEON1@houstonisd.org).

### Late Work Policy and Make-Up Policy

- The student should complete assignments/assessments by the due date. Late assignments are graded based on a scale of 70 points unless due to an excused absence.
- A missed assignment or assessment must be completed within 3 school days; otherwise, the grade will be zero.
- A student who has been unable to complete assignments/assessments due to an excused absence (i.e.: illness or other special circumstances as determined by DeBakey HSHP student handbook) should complete them within three school days counted from the day the student has returned to school. After 3 school days, the grade will be zero.

- If absent, a student is responsible to find out what work needs to be completed by checking the Spanish class page in Canvas.
- If a student is unable to access the Spanish class's webpage or has problems while completing an assignment; he/she should notify the teacher at [LLEON1@houstonisd.org](mailto:LLEON1@houstonisd.org) or during class. **The student MUST report any problem before the deadline has passed; otherwise, the assignment will be considered late.**

## **Cheating Policy**

Cheating is academic dishonesty. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary penalties and grade penalties on assignments or tests. Academic dishonesty includes copying the work of another student, allowing work to be copied, writing notes on desk tops or other surfaces, using cell phones during examinations, taking pictures of assessments and/or sharing with others, plagiarism, unauthorized communication between students during an examination, making untrue statements or giving misleading information or impressions, and any other situation that involves students attempting to mislead or acquire information to gain academic advantage.

## **Cell Phones and Electronic Devices**

Cell phones, personal devices, headphones, and earbuds are not to be out, visible, nor used during class time and during transitions between classes. Cell phones are not to be used during class time unless the teacher has specifically allowed it for instructional purposes. In addition to disciplinary action, the unauthorized use of electronic devices may result in confiscation. A \$15 administrative fee payable to HISD will be charged if the device is claimed within the 30 days. Devices not claimed will be sent to Property Management for disposal. As of publication, students may only use cell phones during the lunch period when on campus.

**IMPORTANT:** If a student uses a phone during testing, the consequences for cheating will apply. Students who possess cell phones during state and national testing will have their exams voided.

## **Retake Policy**

- If a student receives a failing grade on a test, he/she may request a retake for a maximum average of 70 points.
- The retake grade will be calculated by averaging the grades of the first and second tests. If such an average is higher than 70, the final grade will automatically default to 70.
- **Quizzes and Projects are not eligible for retakes.**
- Common Assessments or Final Exams are not eligible for retakes.
- The retake must be completed within 5 school days after the results of the first test have been communicated to the student or on the day and time indicated by the teacher.
- Retake opportunities should only be scheduled outside of regular class time.

### Tutorials (by appointment only)

- Tuesdays afternoon (3:35 p. m. - 4:30 p. m.). At the teacher's discretion, tutorial days may be changed throughout the year. The teacher will notify students when it happens.
- To schedule a tutorial, students should email their teacher at [LLEON1@houstonisd.org](mailto:LLEON1@houstonisd.org) at least 24 hours in advance.

## CLASSROOM RULES

1. Be on time
2. Be prepared
3. Be attentive
4. Be respectful
5. Ask for help
6. Keep food and drinks out of class (except for bottled **water**)
7. Take care of your restroom / water needs during passing time. Any medical condition that causes a student to go to the restroom frequently should be reported to the school nurse to request special accommodations if applicable.
8. Refrain from using electronic devices (cell phones, cameras, music players, tablets, etc.) unless authorized by your teacher. Unauthorized devices will be taken up and given to the administration according to the DHSHP policy.
9. **Don't chew gum!**
10. ALWAYS follow your teacher's instructions.
11. Always follow the [DeBakey HSHP Student Code of Conduct](#).



**These are NOT ALLOWED in Ms. Leon's classroom.**

**WHY?** They spill too easily and disrupt classroom instruction.  
Only water bottles with screw caps are permitted. No exceptions!



**NO CHEWING GUM!**

**NOTE TO PARENTS – PLEASE READ**

**How to monitor your child's progress in the Spanish course:**

There is no need to wait until you receive a progress report or report card by mail to learn about your child's progress. You can obtain a detailed report on your child's grades and attendance at any time by accessing [HISD Connect by PowerSchool](#) (please note that, per HISD policy, teachers are not allowed to send progress reports electronically).

Monitor your child's grades at least once a week, and communicate any concerns via email to [LLEON1@houstonisd.org](mailto:LLEON1@houstonisd.org)

Learn your child's log in information to Canvas, to have access to lesson plans and announcements for my class.

Report any condition temporary or permanent that interferes with your child's performance or attendance to school administrators and teachers.

Verify that your contact information in [HISD Connect by PowerSchool](#) is current and accurate to receive communications from our school.

A successful learning journey can only be possible with the active participation of teachers, students and parents or guardians.

I look forward to working with you on your child's academic journey.

Sincerely,

Ms. Leon

## Letters of Recommendation for College Admissions

Before requesting a letter of recommendation from Ms. Leon, make sure you have met the following qualifications in her Spanish course:

- A cumulative grade of 85 or above.
- A conduct code of “E” (Excellent) in every cycle.
- No more than 2 unexcused absences each semester.
- No more 2 unexcused tardies each semester.

Your recommendation letter should be requested **at least 4 weeks before its deadline**. Otherwise, your request will be denied even if you have met all the criteria.

Please note that teachers are under no obligation of writing you a letter of recommendation. Receiving one is a privilege, not a right.

Plan accordingly.

Ms. Leon

**PARENT - STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT ID: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this paper, you are indicating that you have read **thoroughly and understood:**

- (1) Ms. Leon's Spanish class syllabus
- (2) Class rules & expectations
- (3) Grading plan.

In the event of any change to any of the items mentioned above, Ms. Leon will notify students and parents/guardians in writing.

_____	_____	_____
Student name (print).	Student signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Parent or Guardian name (print).	Parent or Guardian signature	Date
Parent or guardian's email address: _____		
Parent or guardian's phone number: _____		

**This paper should be signed and returned to Ms. Leon on:**

**Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**