

Dear Parent(s)/Students,



Welcome to the beginning of a wonderful school year at Meridian Technical Charter High School! I am Andrew Pence, Sr. Pence to my students, and I have the privilege of working with your son or daughter in Spanish 1/2, or Spanish 3/4,

As a teacher, I share your concern for your children. Having learned Spanish myself, I remember what it was like to learn the language. Through my experiences abroad as well as in the University, I have discovered some materials and teaching techniques for language learning that I consider especially useful in the Spanish classroom that I hope to implement. In return, I hope you will share with me your thoughts and concerns regarding your daughter or son's education. Feel free to email me at andrew.pence@mtchs.org . You can also reach me by phone at (208) 288-2928 ex. 211



Grades:

Participation/Assignments-

Because active participation is the key to learning a foreign language, approximately 60% of a student's grade will consist of class assignments (homework), oral participation in class, and various cultural activities and assignments. Participation points or "puntos de participacion" (in the form of paper "pesos") will be awarded daily to all students who actively and orally participate in a positive manner. These points are not extra credit points, but rather participation points that will be handed in and averaged into the participation part of their grade. This has worked great in the other classes that I have taught and is meant to create enthusiastic and creative participation in the Spanish language. At least two homework assignments will be given each week along with other cultural activities and assignments. I will record assignments weekly and you can find them on PowerSchool.



Competencies-

- (5) Gold Pesos for Freshman/ (10) Gold Pesos for Sophomores
- Test over EOC Spanish –Speaking Countries 9th Grade/ Test over EOC Hispanos Famosos in 10th Grade.
- 70% or Higher on the EOC Oral Competency
- 70% or Higher on the EOC Written Competency

Quizzes-

1 quiz over the material covered will be given approximately every week or about 4 times a month. Quizzes will make up approximately 20% of a student's grade.

Tests-

A test will be given approximately every 2 1/2 weeks. Tests make up approximately 20% of a student's grade.

Late Work-

Work turned in one day late will count for only 70% of the grade. (Please see Student Handbook in regards to late work) It is crucial that students get their work finished and



turned in on time! Lack of completing homework assignments will drop the student's grade very quickly! It is important that students take responsibility for their own work and learning. (Special arrangements can be made by being responsible and contacting Sr. Pence before the due date of the assignment if problems arise completing the assigned material). Students may receive no more than 70% for any late assignment. Any missing or late assignment may be submitted up to two (2) school business days after the assignment is marked missing in PowerSchool. Exceptions to this policy may be requested by the student in writing or email. The instructor will make the final determination on extension requests and will inform the student of the decision in writing or email.

Just a reminder to parents and students!!!!!! I am always available for tutoring after school. Please contact me if you need extra help. The last thing I want is you feeling lost.

Materials:

A **Composition book** is a must in order for students to successfully complete and organize their board work activities!! Their **Composition book** will be graded at the end of each quarter and will be worth a substantial amount of points toward the participation portion of their grade. Students who quietly enter class and begin their board work activities will receive the highest amount of points possible for the notebook. Those students who do not follow classroom procedures will receive a mark on their notebook page for the day and points will be deducted from their notebook grade according to their lack of effort. Good organization and personal responsibility will ensure you success in Spanish!! I'm looking forward to a great year in Spanish class!

