



VALWOOD

GO BEYOND

Seventh Grade Spanish Curriculum

7th Grade Spanish Overview

Course Description	Topics at a Glance
<p>In this semester-long course that meets daily, students will review and recycle previously learned materials as well as learn and meaningfully practice new information. Almost all instruction and practice will be in the target language. Students will use the language in the interpretive (listening and reading), presentational (speaking and writing) and interpersonal communication (person-to-person) modes. Pair and group work feature prominently in the course. Successful students will rate in the range of Novice-Mid on the ACTFL Proficiency Scale. Students will also work toward cultural competence and learn about a wide range of cultural attitudes and practices of Spanish speakers. (Currently students will review chapters 1 through 8 of the textbook, Spanish Is Fun, and learn the new material offered in chapters 9 through 16. In the event that the textbook is changed, the ACTFL Can-Do Statements for this level will still be followed.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alphabet & Numbers • Classroom Objects • Clothing & Colors • Daily Activities • Days, Months, Dates, Time • Family • Food & Beverages • Greetings, Farewells, & Personal Information • Places & Locations • Seasons & Weather
<p style="text-align: center;">Assessments</p> <p>Assessments are standards-based. Students are assessed on the Communication standard in three modes: interpretive (reading, listening), interpersonal (spontaneous listening/speaking or reading/writing) and presentational (formal speaking/writing). When applicable, Culture, Connections and Comparisons are embedded in assessments of the Communication standard.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Grade Level Expectations</p> <p>We believe that our students must be prepared to face the challenges of an increasingly pluralistic society. Acquiring a World Language will equip them to participate in our global community and empower them to meet the challenges of the 21st century:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lifelong Learning –The skills required to acquire a World Language are basic to the learning process. ▪ Higher Achievement – A higher level of skill is demanded of all workers in a global community. ▪ Economic Necessity – In order to ensure our own future, we must be able to communicate with the rest of the world. ▪ Multicultural Perspective – World Languages open doors not only to other languages, but also to other cultures, people and lands. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Effective Components</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessments: formative & summative ▪ Cooperative learning groups ▪ Cues, questions & advance organizers ▪ Feedback: frequent & systematic ▪ Graphic organizers ▪ Homework & guided practice ▪ Hypotheses: generate & test ▪ Nonlinguistic representations ▪ Positive reinforcement & recognition of student effort ▪ Similarities & differences ▪ Summarizing & notetaking

Principles of the Standards

The Valwood School process was informed by these guiding principles:

- Begin with the end in mind; define what prepared graduates need to be successful using 21st century skills in our global economy.
 - Align K-12 standards with early childhood expectations and higher education.
 - Change is necessary.
 - Standards will be deliberately designed for clarity, rigor, and coherence.
 - There will be fewer, higher, and clearer standards.
 - Standards will be actionable.
1. **Standards are written for mastery.** The standards define mastery of concepts and skills. Mastery means that a student has facility with a skill or concept in multiple contexts. This is not an indication that instruction on a grade level expectation begins and only occurs at that grade level. Maintenance of previously mastered concepts and skills and scaffolding for future learning are the domains of curriculum and instruction, not standards.
 2. **Intentional integration of technology use.** The standards encourage using appropriate technology to allow students access to concepts and skills in ways that mirror the 21st century workplace.

Use of the Target Language in the Classroom

Research indicates that effective language instruction must provide significant levels of meaningful communication* and interactive feedback in the target language in order for students to develop language and cultural proficiency. In classrooms that feature maximum target-language use, instructors use a variety of strategies to facilitate comprehension and support meaning making. For example, they:

1. provide comprehensible input that is directed toward communicative goals;
2. make meaning clear through body language, gestures, and visual support;
3. conduct comprehension checks to ensure understanding;
4. negotiate meaning with students and encourage negotiation among students;
5. elicit talk that increases in fluency, accuracy, and complexity over time;
6. encourage self-expression and spontaneous use of language;
7. teach students strategies for requesting clarification and assistance when faced with comprehension difficulties; and
8. offer feedback to assist and improve students' ability to interact orally in the target language.

Prepared Valwood Graduate Competencies in World Languages

The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Valwood education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

Prepared graduates in world languages:

- Engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions (interpersonal mode)
- Understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics (interpretive mode)
- Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics (presentational mode)
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the cultures studied
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the cultures studied
- Reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language
- Acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its cultures
- Demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own
- Demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own

7th Grade Spanish
Range Level: Novice-Low

Course Description		Topics at a Glance	
<p>In this semester-long course that meets daily, students will review and recycle previously learned materials as well as learn and meaningfully practice new information. Much of the instruction and practice will be in the target language. Students will use the language in the interpretive (listening and reading), presentational (speaking and writing) and interpersonal communication (person-to-person) modes. Pair and group work feature prominently in the course. Successful students will rate in the range of Novice-Low. Students will also work toward cultural competence and learn about a wide range of cultural attitudes and practices of Spanish speakers. (Currently students will review chapters 1 through 8 of the textbook, Spanish Is Fun, and learn the new material offered in chapters 9 through 16.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alphabet & Numbers • Classroom Objects • Clothing & Colors • Daily Activities • Days, Months, Dates, Time • Family • Food & Beverages • Greetings, Farewells, & Personal Information • Places & Locations • Seasons & Weather • Present Tense Regular and Irregular Verb Conjugations • Professions and Trades • Adjectives (adjective agreement) • Ser vs. Estar 	
Assessments			
<p>Assessments are standards-based. Students are assessed on the Communication standard in three modes: interpretive (reading, listening), interpersonal (spontaneous listening/speaking or reading/writing) and presentational (formal speaking/writing). When applicable, Culture, Connections and Comparisons are embedded in assessments of the Communication standard.</p>			
Standards			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communication in languages other than English, using interpretive, interpersonal and presentational modes. 2. Knowledge and understanding of other Cultures. 3. Connections with other disciplines and information acquisition. 4. Comparisons to develop insight into the nature of language and culture. 			
Course Beliefs	Key Concepts & Structures		Instructional Strategies
<p>We believe that our students must be prepared to face the challenges of an increasingly pluralistic society. Acquiring a World Language will equip them to participate in our global community and empower them to meet the challenges of the 21st century:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lifelong Learning –The skills required to acquire a World Language are basic to the learning process. ▪ Higher Achievement – A higher level of skill is demanded of all workers in a global community. ▪ Economic Necessity – In order to ensure our own future, we must be able to communicate with the rest of the world. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adjectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Agreement & placement ▫ Possessives ▪ Articles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Definite & indefinite ▪ Cognates & False Cognates ▪ Nouns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Gender & number ▪ Pronouns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Subjects ▪ Sentence Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Negatives ▫ Questions ▫ Question words ▫ Statements ▪ Verbs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Present tense, regular & irregular ▫ Stem-changing ▫ Verb + infinitive ▫ <i>Tener</i> expressions 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessments: formative & summative ▪ Cooperative learning groups ▪ Cues, questions & advance organizers ▪ Feedback: frequent & systematic ▪ Graphic organizers ▪ Homework & guided practice ▪ Hypotheses: generate & test ▪ Nonlinguistic representations ▪ Positive reinforcement & recognition of student effort ▪ Similarities & differences ▪ Summarizing & notetaking

- **Multicultural Perspective** –
World Languages open doors
not only to other languages,
but also to other cultures,
people and lands.

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1. Communication in Languages Other Than English

The educated American of the 21st century needs to be conversant in at least one language in addition to his/her native language. Valwood's continued positional leadership is going to rely heavily on its capacity to communicate across borders. Communication is the heart and soul of any culture, but learning another language builds a bridge that helps Americans relate to people of other nations and cultures. Students acquire the communication strategies that will aid them in bridging communication gaps that result from differences of language and culture.

In the 21st century students speak, read, and comprehend both spoken and written languages other than English to participate effectively in personal interactions with members of other cultures. Students interpret the concepts, ideas, and opinions expressed by members of these cultures through their media and literature. As students learn the languages and cultures that they may encounter in their personal lives and careers in the future, communication strategies that empower students include the ability to guess intelligently; to derive meaning from context; to understand, interpret, and produce gestures effectively; to ask for and provide clarification; to make and check hypotheses; to make inferences, predictions, and generalizations; to reflect on the nature of interaction; and to draw informed conclusions and maintain a healthy sense of humor, patience, and tenacity in the communication process. Strong, confident communicative command in a language other than English gives students excellent skill and knowledge for success in the workforce of the 21st century.

Real-world communication occurs in a variety of ways. It may be **interpersonal**, in which culturally appropriate listening, reading, viewing, speaking, and writing occur as a shared activity among language users. It may be **interpretive**, in which language users listen, view, and read using knowledge of cultural products, practices, and perspectives. It may be **presentational**, in which speaking and writing occur in culturally appropriate ways.

Prepared Graduate Competencies

The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Valwood education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

Prepared Graduate Competencies in the 1. Communication in Languages Other Than English Standard are:

- Engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions (interpersonal mode)
- Understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics (interpretive mode)
- Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics (presentational mode)

Content Area: World Languages

Standard: 1. Communication in Languages Other Than English

Prepared Graduates:

- Engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions (interpersonal mode)

Range Level Expectation: Novice-Low

The articulation at range level of the concepts and skills of a standard that indicates a student is making progress toward being ready for novice-mid expectations.

Concepts and skills students master:

1. Communicate about very familiar topics (written or oral) using isolated words and high-frequency phrases (interpersonal mode)

Evidence Outcomes

Students can:

- a. Copy and exchange simple messages
- b. Imitate modeled words and phrases using intonation and pronunciation
- c. Form simple sentences on very familiar topics using learned vocabulary and high-frequency phrases
- d. Use words and phrases without awareness of grammatical structures
- e. Answer simple questions about very familiar topics

21st Century Skills and Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness

Inquiry Questions:

1. What do people need to know, understand, and be able to do to conduct effective interpersonal communication with those who speak another language?
2. How do people show that they do not understand?
3. How does one know they are understood?

Relevance and Application:

1. Simple surveys on websites appear in multiple languages.
2. Exchanging words, phrases, and short messages with people from different cultures creates positive personal connections around the world.

Nature of World Languages:

1. Language learners start with words to make meaning.
2. Language learners acquire and retain.

Content Area: World Languages

Standard: 1. Communication in Languages Other Than English

Prepared Graduates:

- Understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics (interpretive mode)

Range Level Expectation: Novice-Low

The articulation at range level of the concepts and skills of a standard that indicates a student is making progress toward being ready for novice-mid expectations.

Concepts and skills students master:

2. Comprehend isolated learned words and high-frequency phrases (written or oral) on very familiar topics (interpretive mode)

Evidence Outcomes

Students can:

- Understand short, simple conversations and narratives when using objects, visuals, and gestures
- Respond to questions seeking clarification (for example, do you understand? What is this?)
- Follow simple commands
- Recognize the symbols of the target language writing system

21st Century Skills and Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness

Inquiry Questions:

- What do people need to know, understand, and be able to do to correctly interpret what they hear and read in another language?
- Why do cognates exist?
- Why are there many languages in the world?

Relevance and Application:

- Information on writing systems for languages around the world is available on web pages.
- Understanding basic questions and commands in different languages helps people from different cultures create positive personal connections.

Nature of World Languages:

- Language learners start with words to make meaning.
- Language learners acquire and preserve connections.

Content Area: World Languages

Standard: 1. Communication in Languages Other Than English

Prepared Graduates:

- Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics (presentational mode)

Range Level Expectation: Novice-Low

The articulation at range level of the concepts and skills of a standard that indicates a student is making progress toward being ready for novice-mid expectations.

Concepts and skills students master:

3. Present on very familiar topics (written or oral) using isolated words and high-frequency phrases (presentational mode)

Evidence Outcomes

Students can:

- Reproduce high-frequency words and phrases
- Use words derived from cognates, prefixes, and thematic vocabulary
- Recite single-word or high-frequency responses to visual cues

21st Century Skills and Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness

Inquiry Questions:

1. What do people need to know, understand, and be able to do to effectively present oral and written information in another language?
2. Why memorize?
3. What is the impact of culture on language?

Relevance and Application:

1. Record and play aural playback lists, chants, and songs using a tape recorder.
2. Bilingual or multilingual signs and labels on streets and buildings can provide information to people who speak a variety of languages.

Nature of World Languages:

1. Language learners start with words to make meaning.
2. Language learners acquire and retain.

2. Knowledge and Understanding of Other Cultures

Today's increasingly global society requires a better understanding of cultures. To communicate successfully in another language, students must not only develop facility with the language but they should also develop familiarity with the cultures that use the languages and an awareness of how language and culture interact in society. Only those who possess knowledge of both can then realize the unique and significant connections between the culture that is lived and the language that is spoken. Students apply this knowledge as they express and interpret events and ideas in a second language and reflect upon observations from other cultures.

Culturally appropriate language use requires the understanding of the relationship between the products a culture produces, the practices that the culture manifests, and the perspectives that underlie these products and practices. Students must acquire the ability to interact appropriately with target culture members to communicate successfully. This category allows students to connect and compare languages and cultures.

Prepared Graduate Competencies

The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Valwood education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

Prepared Graduate Competencies in the 2. Knowledge and Understanding of Other Cultures Standard are:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the cultures studied
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the cultures studied

3. Connections with Other Disciplines and Information Acquisition

Learning is interdisciplinary. Students bring a wealth of experience and knowledge of the world around them to the language classroom. Connecting the foreign language curriculum to what students already know from other parts of their academic lives opens doors to information and experiences that can enrich their entire school and life experience. The connections that flow from other areas to the foreign language classroom can add unique experiences and insights into the rest of the school's curriculum. Students use their developing language skills to pursue topics of personal interest, unrelated to the limits of academic life, and as a result nurture and strengthen their lifelong learning skills and lifelong language-using skills.

Prepared Graduate Competencies

The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Valwood education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

Prepared Graduate Competencies in the 3. Connections with Other Disciplines and Information Acquisition Standard are:

- Reinforce and further knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language
- Acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its cultures

Content Area: World Languages

Standard: 3. Connections with Other Disciplines and Information Acquisition

Prepared Graduates:

- Reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language

Range Level Expectation: Novice-Low

The articulation at range level of the concepts and skills of a standard that indicates a student is making progress toward being ready for novice-mid expectations.

Concepts and skills students master:

1. Identify information that can be gathered from target language resources connected to other content areas

Evidence Outcomes

Students can:

- a. Identify resources connected to other content areas in the target language (i.e.: math systems, maps, weather patterns and forecasts)
- b. Identify concepts, information and vocabulary in target language resources which incorporate knowledge in other content areas

21st Century Skills and Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness

Inquiry Questions:

1. How does an understanding of another language and culture increase people's ability to function in a variety of content areas in an interdisciplinary manner?
2. How does studying a language help?
3. How does one acquire a language?

Relevance and Application:

1. Learning a different language leads to greater understanding of an individual's own language.
2. Websites provide information on geographical and weather maps for areas in all parts of the world.

Nature of World Languages:

1. Language learners realize there are resources available in the target language about topics they study in other classes.

4. Comparisons to Develop Insight into the Nature of Language and Culture

The study of a language other than English (a second language) fosters the development of a greater understanding of not only the language and culture being studied, but of an individual's own language and culture. The resulting linguistic and intercultural explorations expand a learner's view of the world. Students gain insights into the nature of language in society in culturally appropriate ways. The study fosters an awareness of alternative views of other cultures by comparing the student's own culture with another culture, including the relationship between accepted practices, products and perspectives.

Prepared Graduate Competencies

The prepared graduate competencies are the preschool through twelfth-grade concepts and skills that all students who complete the Valwood education system must master to ensure their success in a postsecondary and workforce setting.

Prepared Graduate Competencies in the 4. Comparisons to Develop Insight into the Nature of Language and Culture Standard are:

- Demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own
- Demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own

Content Area: World Languages

Standard: 4. Comparisons to Develop Insight into the Nature of Language and Culture

Prepared Graduates:

- Demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own

Range Level Expectation: Novice-Low

The articulation at range level of the concepts and skills of a standard that indicates a student is making progress toward being ready for novice-mid expectations.

Concepts and skills students master:

1. Identify similarities and differences of the most basic vocabulary through comparisons of the student's own language and the language studied

Evidence Outcomes

Students can:

- a. Recognize basic vocabulary in both the native language and their own language to make comparisons
- b. Recognize some simple structures in the target language that differ from their own language
- c. Recognize different pronunciation and intonation of individual words and basic phrases
- d. Recognize features of their native and target language such as prefixes, suffixes, word roots, idioms, and sentence structure

21st Century Skills and Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness

Inquiry Questions:

1. How does knowledge of another language enhance people's understanding of the essentials of language in general?
2. How does a student identify most basic vocabulary and language patterns within his/her own language and the language studied?
3. How does the study of another language develop an individual's ability to identify and understand critical thinking skills?

Relevance and Application:

1. Linguists use databases, dictionaries, and interviews to analyze the meanings of words and phrases in a variety of languages.
2. Language researchers study word games (such as tongue twisters) in a variety of languages to learn about sounds and word structures.

Nature of World Languages:

1. Language learners experiment with a new language.
2. Language learners are eager to learn a language.

Content Area: World Languages

Standard: 4. Comparisons to Develop Insight into the Nature of Language and Culture

Prepared Graduates:

- Demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own

Range Level Expectation: Novice-Low

The articulation at range level of the concepts and skills of a standard that indicates a student is making progress toward being ready for novice-mid expectations.

Concepts and skills students master:

2. Identify and recognize the nature of culture through comparisons of the target culture(s) and the student's own culture

Evidence Outcomes

Students can:

- Identify the relationship between cultural perspectives and expressive products (music, visual arts, age level forms of literature) of the target culture(s) and their own
- Recognize an understanding of the form, meaning, and importance of certain practices in the target culture(s) and their own
- Identify and compare tangible products (toys, sports equipment, food) and intangible products (concept of time, daily routine, peer relationships, holidays, traditions) of the target culture(s) to those of their own
- Recognize the contributions of the target cultures to the student's culture and vice versa

21st Century Skills and Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness

Inquiry Questions:

- How does knowledge of another language enhance people's understanding of culture and society in general?
- How can the recognition of diverse cultures cultivate an understanding and appreciation of the multilingual world?
- How does language study increase a student's understanding and appreciation of his/her own culture?

Relevance and Application:

- Understanding games and songs around the world can help people working or traveling in other cultures to make friends.
- People who buy or sell things in other cultures need to understand differences and similarities in products and perspectives between cultures.

Nature of World Languages:

- Language learners identify cultural similarities.
- Language learners recognize and list significant cultural differences.