**Bienvenidos a la clase de espanol!** After reading this syllabus you should have a basic idea of what we will learn this year, my expectations for you, and ways that you will be able to track your goals for learning and using Spanish.

**1. Year at a glance:** Our learning this year will focus on the following major topics. You can expect a unit assessment on or near the closing date for each unit.

**2. Classroom Culture:** It is time to face a reality. It is a nearly impossible task to learn Spanish within the walls of this classroom. My job is to do the very best I can to enable you to develop communication skills in a less than perfect learning environment. While Spanish is a required course for graduation, I also hope that you want to be here, and you want to learn Spanish. In order for me to make this the best learning environment possible for you, here are some expectations:

I will be an understanding listener, and when I can tell that you need help, I will work with you to help you communicate.

**3. Assessment:** You will not see many grades in the grade book this year, but you should have a clear idea of your standing in class at all times as that will be based on lots of feedback throughout each quarter, and you will be setting some goals for yourself. Here is the basic breakdown:

**Disclaimers – also the stuff that would just not fit in my neat boxes:**

**Unit Performance Assessments: 60%**

Throughout each unit, you will have many opportunities to practice various skills that will enable you to show me what you can do with Spanish on a final performance assessment. The skill practices will not be graded as they are practice only and you should not feel nervous to be messy in the practice space. The performance assessments will be graded with feedback from you as there will be an opportunity to provide some feedback on your own learning at the end of each unit.

**Interdisciplinary Planning and Portfolio: 20%**

It is important that you take your Spanish skills outside of my classroom, hence the reason for this piece of your grade. An example might be memorizing a verse in Spanish as part of a Bible project, or choosing to focus some of the research for your senior project paper on an issue related to the Spanish-speaking community. Fridays will include time for you to research or discuss with me ways that you can do this.

**Blog Discussion Board: 20%**

Each week, I will post a video or article with a topic question on our class blog. It will be related to our current unit. During class on Friday you must read the article or watch the video and respond to the topic question.