

Español 3-WT Eich Middle School

Scott Benedict
Spanish 3
WT Eich Middle School
August 2019



Dear students and families:

Welcome back to a new school year at WT Eich Middle School! I am looking forward to meeting with all of you in the near future. This is my seventh year at Eich and I am very excited to be here! This is my eighteenth year teaching Spanish. Before Eich, I taught Spanish at Arcadia High School in Arcadia, CA and at Silverado High School and Veteran's Tribute Career & Technical Academy in Las Vegas, NV.

Just a little about myself: my name is Scott Benedict and I grew up outside of Detroit, MI. I am of Maltese descent (Malta is a small island off the coast of Sicily in the Mediterranean Sea). I moved to Los Angeles when I was twenty. I moved to Las Vegas in 2005 and in 2012 moved to the Sacramento Valley! I took Spanish, German, and French both in high school and in college and can currently speak both Spanish and German. Most of my French has been lost along the way! I began college at Wayne State University in Detroit and graduated from California State University in Northridge, CA. Before I became a teacher, I worked in the travel industry for Northwest Airlines, Princess Cruises, and United Airlines. In addition to being a Spanish teacher, I am also a national presenter and teacher trainer in grading and assessment strategies as well as second-language acquisition methodologies.

My class relies heavily on the TPRS® (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling) method of foreign-language teaching invented by Blaine Ray. It provides a language-rich environment that promotes foreign-language learning by what sounds right. TPRS® provides natural language acquisition in humorous, non-stressful situations. Strict grammatical instruction is not the focus, but through TPRS®, grammatical correctness is modeled throughout the class within the stories and discussions in much the same way we all learned grammar in our native language.

This type of class is dependent upon ACTIVE participation and develops fluency in Spanish through understandable Spanish language; therefore, the majority of class time will be spent in the target language. Also integral to this method, is actively reading in the target language. To this end, students will be reading a variety of stories, spending thirty minutes per week reading self-selected novels in class, and reading two class novels in Spanish.

Students' progress is directly linked to their level of participation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email (rbenedict@rcsdk8.org). Google Classroom (classroom.google.com) will be used as a class website where students can find many helpful Spanish resources, vocabulary and verb practice, obtain extra copies of any handouts, check what's going on in class, and much more. Please encourage your child to use this website on a regular basis! Students have said in the past that the resources have helped them be more successful in my class. I look forward to working with all of you and having a great year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Benedict'.

Scott Benedict

Spanish Classroom Supply List

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In order to be prepared for classroom activities, to keep your Spanish notes and papers organized, and to maximize success in Spanish class, the following classroom supplies are highly recommended:

1. **Whiteboard Materials**
 - At least 1 Dry Erase or Overhead Projector Marker
 - Erasing cloth (old sock works great)
2. **5 Page Protectors**
(will be used to hold important classroom resources)
3. **Folder dedicated to Spanish with pockets.**
4. **Composition book**
(minimum 100 pages for keeping track of vocabulary, taking notes, maintaining reading log.)
5. **Assorted pencils and pens for various classroom activities.**

If, for any reason, you are having trouble obtaining these supplies, please let me know as soon as possible so that other arrangements may be made.

**LET'S HAVE A
GREAT YEAR TOGETHER!**

Grading

You will be graded on the following four IB criteria:

- Criterion A: Comprehending spoken and visual text.**
How well you understand what you hear in Spanish.
- Criterion B: Comprehending written and visual text.**
How well you understand what you read in Spanish.
- Criterion C: Communicating in response to spoken and/or written and/or visual text.**
How well you speak and write in Spanish.
- Criterion D: Using language in spoken and/or written form**
How accurately do you speak and write in Spanish.



Homework

There is no homework in this class. YAY!

Attendance & Tardies

- Regular attendance is essential for success.
- Please check Google Classroom for what we did when you were absent.
- If you know in advance that you will be absent, please see me before you leave.
- Please be on time to class. If you are coming from across campus you get an extra two minutes.
- If a teacher keeps you late, be sure to get a pass otherwise you will be marked tardy.



español 3

Scott Benedict
rbenedict@rcsdk8.org
Room D4
classroom.google.com

Need Help?

- Please don't wait until it's too late to ask for help!
- I am available before/after school.
 - Email or contact me on Google Classroom. If you contact me after 5p, I'll answer first thing the next morning.

Late Work

- Do your best to turn in work on time.
- Late work is accepted up to one week before grades are due. No exceptions.
- Late work will be reduced by one grade.

Bathroom Passes

- Ask me to go before tardy bell.
- You may not go during the first/last 10 minutes of class.
- Sign out on the bathroom log
- Only one person at a time.**

Expectations

- It's NOT okay to talk to your neighbor.
- Listen with your ears AND your eyes.
- Don't sink! Ask questions!
- Make smart choices.
- KEEP PROFE HAPPY!**

Appropriate language at all times.
No electronic devices without permission.

Academic Honesty

Cheating is considered to be, but not limited to, copying or giving answer on any homework assignment, project, test, quiz, etc., talking during tests or quizzes, eyes looking anywhere but on your own paper during a test or quiz, acquiring any handout, test, quiz, or assignment without teacher permission, use of any electronic devices during a test or quiz, unauthorized use of notes, book(s), cheat sheets, etc., plagiarizing, or having a more advanced Spanish student or teacher/tutor edit your work or using any type of language translator, including web/online translators.

Required Reading

- Each student is to read 3 novels per trimester.
- Novels must be approved by me unless they are in the classroom library.
- Written book report per book is due approximately every 4 weeks.

Discipline

Strike 1: See me after class.
Strike 2: Detention with me after school.
Strike 3: Phone call home and citation.

Additional Credit

You may earn additional credit by reading up to 3 pre-approved, extra novels and writing a book report. Each novel is worth 1%. You may not use any previously read novels.

If the behavior is serious in nature, concerns safety, drug, alcohol, or dress-code issues, an immediate referral to the Assistant Principal may be warranted.

Eich Middle School
2019-20 SPANISH CLASS INFORMATION

This page must be returned to the teacher by: Friday, August 16, 2019.

Parents, please be advised that all information pertinent to class including important dates, daily activities, vocabulary lists, and any assignments will be posted on the Google Classroom site. Please have your child register for this site at classroom.google.com (it's free).

Please be advised that as a national presenter on second-language teaching methods, I regularly video record my classes for my own betterment as a teacher and for demos for other teachers during workshops and conferences. It is very helpful for other teachers to see the techniques that I talk about in action with real students. Other than possibly first names, no identifying information about your child will be given. Sometimes we also take short videos and/or pictures of our class activities and post them on my school Instagram. Please note below if you give permission for your child to be photographed and/or videotaped for the above purposes. Thank you in advance.

- I give permission for my child to be photographed and/or videotaped for the above-mentioned purposes.
- I do not give permission for my child to be photographed and/or videotaped for the above-mentioned purposes.

Print student name _____

By signing this page, both parent/guardian and student state that they have read and understood the class information for Spanish and were given the opportunity to contact the teacher with questions before signing.

_____ Date _____
Student Signature

_____ Date _____
Parent Signature

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