

# Spanish I Course for 2023-24

## (Regular or Honors Track)

amy.ruff@outlook.com

Amy Ruff's Home School Tutorials

(919)219-4338

**Course Description:** This Spanish I course is designed to develop an elementary level of proficiency in the target language. Even if **inhibited initially**, students always **develop confidence & enjoy Spanish** with **Sra. Amy Tango Ruff!**

- Devoting **two weeks of study to each lección/chapter** & including **cumulative review after every sixth lección**, the text introduces both **grammar & vocabulary through dialogue & functional models**.
- After **in-class introduction to new vocab & grammar** for each lección, students **complete 2 pp of homework = HW**.
- Rather than having the teacher correct this HW & then hand it back with a grade, HW is **corrected aloud together at the next class**, enabling students to **practice speaking** the new material & **discover/correct** any errors on the HW.
- Students take **16 home-proctored tests** of which **2 are cumulative** & for which **students are amply prepared**.
- Class involves **lots of oral participation** to develop **skills in speaking & understanding** both oral & written Spanish.
- Students **present an oral project** at the **end of each semester** on: 1) a children's book, song, or collection of poetic/Bible verses; & 2) three paragraphs on a Latino country's cuisine, geography, hx, arts, athletics, fashion, government, current events.
- Students make & bring a **food & drink to share** at **two class parties: New Year's Fiesta & Cinco-ish de Mayo**.

**Testimony** from Joan Monnig, **Mom & Professional Educator** in Chapel Hill, NC:

*My son, Marlow, took Amy Ruff's Spanish 1 & 2 use an older textbook because, Amy & Marlow decided to play it safe & put Well, he should really have been placed **class...with absolutely no effort**.... In other school Spanish 1, 2, & at least a 1/2 year of Marlow just received the **results from** Considering he has learned no new material **Do I recommend Amy Ruff? Yes!***



*Spanish classes during his 7th & 8th grade years. Amy's she says, "The newer textbooks are just not up to snuff." Marlow in Spanish 2...his freshman year at CHHS. in Spanish 3 as **he has been top of his CHHS Spanish 2** words, what Amy Ruff calls Spanish 1 & 2 is really high Spanish 3. **She covers a lot...in...1-1 ¼ hours per week!** **the National Spanish 2 Exam & placed third in NC.** in Spanish 2 at CHH, **this is Marlow & Amy Ruff's win!** **Two thumbs up! She's that good.***

**Prerequisite, Student Age, & Course Unit Value:** There is **no prerequisite** for Spanish I. Student age ranges from **advanced middle to high school**. The course's unweighted value = 1 unit of foreign language or elective credit.

**Bio:** Amy Ruff lives next to her **beloved alma mater, Duke University**, & enjoys teaching, tutoring, & test prepping students **in person or online** in her areas of specialty: SAT, ACT, & APs (AP Eng Lang & Lit; APUSH; AP Psych); **literary analysis; writing & composition; Spanish; psychology; philosophy & religion; executive functioning & study skills**.

Having completed her **BA at Duke University with double majors in English & religion**, Amy also earned a **Certificate in Duke's rigorous interdisciplinary Women's Studies Program**. While an undergraduate & after graduation, Amy worked in **editing for the Duke University Press** & continues to **freelance edit**.

**Intuitive and seasoned at identifying & developing the potential in her students**, Amy's **energetic & engaging style** enables students to **grow in their knowledge of subject matter** while also **honing their critical-thinking skills & elevating their character**. Having **homeschooled her own children** through high school, Amy continues to **support the homeschooling community by offering group-class tutorials**.

Counseling students to **align self-understanding with their envisioned future**, Amy has aided many to **make wise choices** for their **post-high-school paths**. She has assisted students to **succeed on test prep & applications for acceptance** into a range of schools. From **Harvard, Duke, & Stanford** to **UNC & NCSU** to **community colleges across NC**, Amy's students **thrive in diverse academic, artistic, athletic, trade, & professional pursuits**.

Of **Argentine-Italian descent** & hailing from **Italian roots in Pittsburgh, PA**, Amy attended boarding prep school on a **full scholarship & received a college scholarship from the Spanish National Honor Society**. Amy continued her **Spanish studies at Duke** & served on **short-term missions as a Spanish interpreter**. From the **rudiments of grammar & vocabulary** to encounters with **cooking & dancing**, Sra. Amy's students **learn to love Latina language & culture!**

Always eager to serve the local & global community, Amy's volunteering includes support of **several non-profits**, graduation from/involvement with **REI (Racial Equity Institute) Phase I Training**, & promotion of **The Honor Foundation** (helping special-ops retirees, like Amy's deceased big brother who was a decorated Navy SEAL).

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**Regular or Honors Track:**

1. **Regular-Track Students Do the Following:** a) Complete **18 sets of two-page HW** = homework = tarea **every two weeks**; b) produce **1 oral report per semester** to present during class; c) take **16 tests** of which **2 are cumulative**.
2. **Honors-Track Students Do the Following:** **HT students** complete a) – c) above for RT; d) complete **Confirme Su Progreso exercises** (found in the *Churros y Chocolate* text & crafted to ensure mastery of lección material); e) translate some short culture/history, grammar/vocab-based paragraphs (at end of certain lecciones) which may be completed with a partner & should be stapled to/handed in with the lección test; f) maintain a **90+% average**, but may do **extra credit** if the **average falls below 90%**.

**Class Location/Dates/Times:**

- Spanish I is **Tues 12-1 PM 8/22-12/12/23 & 1/9-5/14/24** with **10/10/23 fall & 3/12/24 spring breaks**.
- Class is at **Grace Church in room #118**: 200 Sage Rd, Chapel Hill, across from Lowe's near 15-501/I-40.

**Materials, Registration, & Tuition:**

1. **Textbook:** Purchase online **any used 1979-87 edition of the Scott, Foresman's Churros y Chocolate**. Vocab, homework, & tests are **emailed to the student**. Check with Sra. Amy to see if she has an extra *Churros y Chocolate* for sale.
2. The **nonrefundable registration & tuition** are based on the track the student chooses to follow & should be paid via the following preferred platforms.
  - **Venmo** [www.venmo.com/Amy-Ruff-8](http://www.venmo.com/Amy-Ruff-8)
  - **Zelle** under Amy's cell 919-219-4338
  - **CashApp** [https://cash.app/\\$AmyRT3](https://cash.app/$AmyRT3)
  - **Snail mail a check to amy.ruff@outlook.com** 1101 Anderson Street Durham NC 27705
3. The **registration is due in June**, & **tuition is due in advance** as **1/2 in August** & **1/2 in January**:
  - **\$100/\$750 for honors track**
  - **\$75/\$700 for regular track**
4. With **payment**, please **include pertinent details as below: name(s), class(es), track, contact**.

Names: Student's \_\_\_\_\_ Parents' \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Emails: \_\_\_\_\_

Phones: Student's \_\_\_\_\_ Parents' \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Spanish I Registration/Tuition</b> <b>Tues at Grace Church 12-1 PM</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Track \$75/700 <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/750	<b>Spanish II Registration/Tuition</b> <b>Tues at Grace Church 830-930 AM</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Track \$75/700 <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/750
<b>American Lit Tues 1045 AM-12 PM</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Track \$75/700 <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/750 <input type="checkbox"/> AP \$125/800	
<b>Introduction to Psychology Tues at Grace Church 930-1045 AM</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/750 <input type="checkbox"/> AP \$125/800	
<b>Introduction to Literature Tues at Grace Church 145-245 PM</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Track \$75/700 <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/750	
<b>Middle School Composition on Tues at Grace Church 1-145 PM</b> <input type="checkbox"/> One Track Reg/Tuition \$100/750	
<b><u>Times for Amy's 2023-24 Classes on Tues – Hybrid offerings of each class are conducted in person &amp; via Zoom (student preference):</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tues/830-930 <b>Spanish II</b> (regular &amp; <b>honors</b> tracks)</li> <li>• Tues/930-1045 <b>Psychology</b> (<b>honors</b> &amp; <b>AP</b> tracks)</li> <li>• Tues/1045-12 <b>American Lit</b> (regular, <b>honors</b>, &amp; <b>AP</b> tracks)</li> <li>• Tues/12-1 <b>Spanish I</b> (regular &amp; <b>honors</b> tracks)</li> <li>• Tues/1-145 <b>Middle School Composition</b></li> <li>• Tues/145-245 <b>Intro Lit</b> (regular &amp; <b>honors</b> tracks)</li> </ul>	<b><u>Academic Calendar for Amy Ruff's 2023-24 Classes:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8/22/23</b> First Fall Tues 2023 Class</li> <li>• <b>10/10/23</b> NO Class for Fall Break</li> <li>• <b>12/12/23</b> Last 2023 Tues Class</li> <li>• <b>1/9/24</b> First 2024 Tues Class</li> <li>• <b>3/12/24</b> NO Class for Spring Break</li> <li>• <b>5/14/24</b> Last 2024 Tues Class</li> </ul>