

Spanish I 2026-27 Course (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, or 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 M., **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's learned no new material in **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 1/4 hours per week! the National Spanish 2 Exam & placed third in NC.** Spanish 2 at CHHS, **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 with her husband Brian next to her **beloved alma mater, Duke University**. When not spending time with her six **precious grandchildren**, Amy enjoys teaching, tutoring, & test prepping students **in person** as well as **online** in her areas of specialty: **SAT, ACT, & APs (AP Eng Lang & Lit, AP Hx, AP Psych); literary analysis; research & composition; Spanish; psychology; philosophy & religion; executive-function/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 & dance**, Sra. Amy's students **learn to love Latina language & culture!**

Always eager to serve her community, Amy is a supporter of **The Honor Foundation** (helping special-ops retirees, like Amy's deceased big brother who was a decorated Navy SEAL); volunteer with **local nonprofits**; board **VP for Feather in a Cap Drama Troupe**; & graduate of **REI (Racial Equity Institute) training**.

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Regular or Honors Track:

- Regular-Track Students:** a) Complete **18 sets of 2-4-page HW** = homework = tarea every two weeks; b) produce **1 oral report per semester** to present during class; c) take **16 home-proctored tests** of which **2 are cumulative**.
- Honors-Track Students:** HT students complete a) – c) above for RT & also; d) do **Confirme Su Progreso** exercises (in the *Churros y Chocolate* text to ensure mastery of material); e) **translate** short paragraphs (culture/history or grammar/vocab) & submit them with the lección test; f) maintain a **90+% average**, but may do **extra credit** if the **average falls below 90%**.

Class Time/Location/Dates:

- Spanish I is **Tues 1-2 PM 8/25-12/15/26 & 1/5-5/11/27** with breaks **10/13/26 fall, 11/24/26 Thanksgiving, & 3/9/27 spring**.
- Spanish I is at **Grace Church in room #118:** 200 Sage Rd, Chapel Hill, across from Lowe's near 15-501/I-40.

Materials, Registration, & Tuition:

- Textbook:** Buy **Scott, Foresman's Churros y Chocolate** in any **used 1979-87 edition**. Vocab, HW, & tests are emailed to students.
- Registration & Tuition:** As follows, the non-refundable **registration** is due by **June** & tuition as **½ in Aug & ½ in Jan:**
 - \$75 reg/\$800 tuition regular track
 - Venmo** www.venmo.com/Amy-Ruff-8
 - Zelle** under 919-219-4338
 - \$100 reg/\$900 tuition honors track**
 - Mail check** 1101 Anderson St 27705

Names: Student's _____ Parents' _____

Address: _____

Grade ____ Age ____ Emails: _____

Phones: Student's _____ Parents' _____

Introduction to Psychology 845-10 AM <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/900 <input type="checkbox"/> AP \$150/1000		
American Lit 10-1115 AM <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Track \$75/850 <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/900 <input type="checkbox"/> AP \$150/1000		
Spanish I Registration/Tuition 1-2 PM Tues at Grace Church <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Track \$75/800 <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/900	Spanish II Registration/Tuition 1115 AM-1210 PM Tues at Grace Church <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Track \$75/850 <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/950	Spanish III Registration/Tuition Day/Time TBD <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Track \$75/900 <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/1000
Middle School Composition 1210-1 PM Tues at Grace Church <input type="checkbox"/> One Track Reg/Tuition \$100/1000		
Introduction to Literature 2-3 PM Tues at Grace Church <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Track \$75/850 <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Track \$100/900		
YSA Young Spanish Adventure on Tues at Grace Church 3-345 PM <input type="checkbox"/> One Track Reg/Tuition \$100/800		
YWA Young Writers Adventure on Tues at Grace Church 345-430 PM <input type="checkbox"/> One Track Reg/Tuition \$100/900		
Times for Amy's 2026-27 Classes – Hybrid classes are conducted in person & via Zoom (per student preference) *at Grace Church (unless specified otherwise): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Tues/845-10 AM Intro Psych (regular & honors tracks; adv 8th-12th grades) *Tues/10-1115 AM American Lit (regular, honors, AP tracks; 8th-12th grades) *Tues/1115 AM-1210 PM Spanish II (regular & honors tracks; 7th-12th grades) *Tues/1210-1 PM Middle School Composition (one track; 6th-10th grades) *Tues/1-2 PM Spanish I (regular & honors tracks; 6th-11th grades) *Tues/2-3 PM Intro Lit (regular & honors; 6th-10th grades) *Tues/3-345 PM YSA Young Spanish Adventure (ages 7-10) *Tues/345-430 PM YWA Young Writers Adventure (ages 7-10) TBD time/place Spanish III (regular & honors tracks; 8th-11th grades) 		Class Calendar 2026-27 Middle/High School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8/25/26 First Fall Tues 2026 Class 10/13/26 NO Class for Fall Break 11/24/26 NO Class for Thanksgiving Break 12/15/26 Last 2026 Tues Class 1/5/27 First 2027 Tues Class 3/9/27 NO Class for Spring Break 5/11/27 Last Class (Comp ends 4/27/27)
YWA/YSA 2026-27 Class Calendar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9/8/26 First Fall Class • 10/13/26 NO Class Fall Break • 11/24/26 NO Class Thanksgiving • 12/1/26 Last Class • 1/12/27 First Class • 3/9/27 NO Class for Spring Break • 4/6/27 Last Class 		