

YSA 2026-27 Young Spanish Adventure

amy.ruff@outlook.com

Amy Ruff's Home School Tutorials

(919)219-4338

YSA Course Description: From **songs & dances** to **games & read-aloud books**, **lively learning awaits** with **Sra. Amy Tango Ruff!!!** We will bond through our **fun & silly learning** that includes the following & much more:

1. Juegos = Games:

- Pato, Pato, Ganso (Duck, Duck, Goose)
- Simon Dice (Simon Says)
- Tic Tac Toe de Verbos

2. Canciones = Songs:

- “Cabeza, Hombros, Rodillas, Dedos” (“Head, Shoulders, Knees, & Toes” Song)
- “Los Días de la Semana” (“Days of the Week” Song)
- “Me Gusta La Playa” (“I Like the Beach” Song)
- “¿Dónde Está el Baño?” Choo-Choo Version (“Where Is the Bathroom?” Song)
- “Mis Colores” (“My Colors” Song)
- [Bartolito - La Granja de Zenón 3](#)
- [La Vaca Lola y Más Canciones](#)

3. Fiestas = Parties & Holidays:

- “Cumpleaños Feliz” (“Happy Birthday” Song)
- “Hola, Sr. Pavo” (“Hello, Mr. Turkey” Song)
- “Feliz Navidad” (“Merry Christmas” Song)

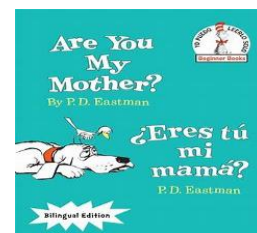
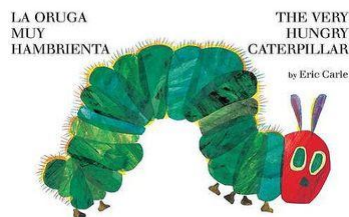
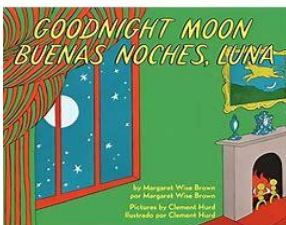
4. Parejas de Poesía = Poetry Partners

5. Read-aloud Books: See below under Materials.

YSA Materials: Please purchase the following, noting preferred Spanish-English editions at links below:

1. A **3-ring binder** is helpful for **taking notes & filing** emailed **handouts** from Sra. Amy.
2. **Notecards** can facilitate **visual, auditory, & kinesthetic learning** by writing, reading, & touching vocabulario/vocab.
3. **Read-aloud Book:** **¿Eres Tú Mi Mamá?** = **Are You My Mother?** by P.D. Eastman [Amazon.com: Are You My Mother?/¿Eres tú mi mamá? \(Bilingual Edition\)](#)
4. **Read-aloud Book:** **Buenas Noches, Luna** = **Good Night, Moon** by Margaret Wise Brown [Amazon.com: Goodnight Moon/Buenas Noches, Luna \(Bilingual Edition\)](#)
5. **Read-aloud Book:** **La Oruga Muy Hambrienta** = **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** by Eric Carle [Amazon.com: The Very Hungry Caterpillar/La Oruga Muy Hambrienta \(Bilingual Edition\)](#)

Our Read-aloud Books:



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Bio: Amy Ruff lives with her husband Brian next to her beloved alma mater, Duke University. When not spending time with her 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 & dancing, 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), board VP for Feather in a Cap drama troupe, volunteer with local nonprofits, & graduate of REI (Racial Equity Institute) training.

Academic Vision:

1. **Attend & participate**—irresistibly easy 😊—during class!
2. **Practice class content at home** (i.e., songs, dances, poems, read-aloud books with Sra. Amy's audio recordings).
3. Keep a **vocabulario/vocabulary journal/notebook** of **Spanish-English words** that derive from our songs, dances, poems, games, read-aloud books.
4. Add key **verb charts** to a **journal/notebook** throughout the year (tener, ir, ser, estar, etc.).
5. Take class notes if that learning style suits the student → Sra. Amy will pair songs, dances, poems, games, read-aloud books with some written teaching on the classroom big TVs for those who are note-taking learners.

Class Time/Location/Dates:

1. YSA Dates & In-person Location:

- At **Grace Church**: 200 Sage Rd, Chapel Hill, across from Lowe's near 15-501/I-40
- In **room #118**: park on the smaller-lot side of Grace to enter double exterior doors & find **#118 on the right**
- On **Tues 345-430 PM 9/8-12/1/26 & 1/12-4/6/27** w/**10/13/26 fall, 11/24/26 T-giving, & 3/9/27 spring breaks**

2. Virtual YSA:

- COVID launched me into **virtual teaching**—which I make very **colorful** (with my Surface Pro Pen) & **engaging** (with my go-go gramma personality).
- If **you need to attend class virtually** b/c of sickness (parent or student), travel, etc., then **I will launch Zoom** & allow my camera to capture as much of our lively, in-motion, not-seat-bound class as possible.
- On my end, if **I have to teach virtually** due to some **unexpected reason** (such as being sick but feeling well enough to teach), **I will conduct class via Zoom**, notifying parents by email & text of a shift to virtual YSA.
- If **I am sick & unable to teach**, I will use the **following dates as our buffer to add classes** at the end of the semester: 12/8/26, 12/15/26 & 4/13/27, 4/20/27.

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Registration & Tuition:

1. The non-refundable **registration/tuition** should be paid via one of the following methods.

- **Venmo** www.venmo.com/Amy-Ruff-8 • **Zelle** under 919-219-4338 • **Check** 1101 Anderson St Durham 27705

2. The **registration** is due in July, & **tuition** is due as $\frac{1}{2}$ in **August** & $\frac{1}{2}$ in **January**: \$100 reg/\$800 tuition

Names: Student's _____ Parents' _____

Address: _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Emails: _____

Phones: Student's _____ Parents' _____

Introduction to Psychology 845-10 AM ☐ Honors Track \$100/900 ☐ AP \$150/1000		
American Lit 10-1115 AM ☐ Regular Track \$75/850 ☐ Honors Track \$100/900 ☐ AP \$150/1000		
Spanish I Registration/Tuition 1-2 PM Tues at Grace Church ☐ Regular Track \$75/800 ☐ Honors Track \$100/900	Spanish II Registration/Tuition 1115 AM-1210 PM Tues at Grace Church ☐ Regular Track \$75/850 ☐ Honors Track \$100/950	Spanish III Registration/Tuition Day/Time TBD ☐ Regular Track \$75/900 ☐ Honors Track \$100/1000
Middle School Composition 1210-1 PM Tues at Grace Church ☐ One Track Reg/Tuition \$100/1000		
Introduction to Literature 2-3 PM Tues at Grace Church ☐ Regular Track \$75/850 ☐ Honors Track \$100/900		
YWA Young Writers Adventure on Tues at Grace Church 3-345 PM ☐ One Track Reg/Tuition \$100/900		
YSA Young Spanish Adventure on Tues at Grace Church 345-430 PM ☐ One Track Reg/Tuition \$100/800		
<u>Times for Amy's 2026-27 Classes – Hybrid classes are conducted in person & via Zoom (per student preference) *at Grace Church (unless specified otherwise):</u> • *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 YWA Young Writers Adventure (ages 7-10) • *Tues/345-430 PM YSA Young Spanish Adventure (ages 7-10) • TBD time/place Spanish III (regular & honors tracks; 8th-11th grades)		<u>Class Calendar 2026-27 Middle/High School:</u> • 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)
<u>YWA/YSA 2026-27 Class Calendar:</u> • 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		