

The AP Spanish Literature and Culture course is a fourth year course in advanced Spanish designed to provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that of an introductory college course in literature written in Spanish. The course introduces students to the formal study of a representative body of texts from Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Hispanic literature. The course provides opportunities for students to demonstrate their proficiency in Spanish across the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) and the five goal areas (communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities) outlined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. The overarching aims of the course are to provide students with ongoing and varied opportunities to further develop their proficiencies across the full range of language skills — with special attention to critical reading and analytical writing — and to encourage them to reflect on the many voices and cultures included in a rich and diverse body of literature written in Spanish. The course reflects a meaningful integration of the cultures, connections, and comparisons goal areas of the Standards. Emphasis is placed on approaching the study of literature through global, and contemporary cultural contexts. Teachers and students are encouraged to make interdisciplinary connections and explore linguistic and cultural comparisons. A key objective of the course is to encourage students not only to understand and retell the content of the texts they read but also to relate that content to literary, historical, sociocultural, and geopolitical contexts in Spanish. It is hoped that when exposed to the methods of literary analysis, with its rigorous attention to linguistic detail coupled with critical interpretation and analysis, students will be able to apply the skills they acquire in this course to many other areas of learning and life.