¡Bienvenidos, alumnos de español! You have chosen to take a rewarding and challenging AP course next year. I welcome you on this journey in exploring six major themes of study. The AP Spanish format for 2013 will be new—notice the word culture has been added to the test’s title; you will be among a group of thousands who will be taking this format for the first time. Here are the six themes for AP Spanish Language and Culture:

1. Beauty and Aesthetics
2. Global Challenges
3. Science and Technology
4. Families and Communities
5. Personal and Public Identities
6. Contemporary Life

As you look at each of these categorical themes, you should be able to envision sub-themes for each one. For example, under personal and public identities, you could think of Latino pop starts. Under families and communities, you could think of the affects of migration on families in Mexico.

**Your first task for the summer** is to visit the AP Central website. I want you to read the descriptions of the exam and ask yourselves which area(s) you feel will be the most challenging.

**AP CENTRAL COLLEGE BOARD: AP SPANISH AND CULTURE**

The other assignments are divided into categories based on the six aforementioned themes. They will be equal to a total of 100 points, which will serve as a PROJECT grade for the first quarter. **The work is due the first week of classes.** It is in your best interest to not wait until the week before school starts to begin these assignments.

**Asignación #1:** 150-word essay (en español) in which you describe and discuss the part or parts of the exam that you feel will be a challenge for you, using the AP Spanish and Culture website as your reference. Then, set a goal for yourself (en español) and write about what you can do to help yourself meet these challenges. 20 puntos, to be turned in the first day of school. (20 points)

**Asignación #2:** Choose two of the above themes and find an audio news report that addresses each one. You can use United Nations Radio in Spanish, BBC Mundo, or any other reputable news agency. You may find, for example, one report that discusses contemporary life in Spain, and another report that discusses the deforestation of the rain forests in South America. You must write a one-paragraph (5 – 6 sentences) summary of each report and provide a link to the source. (10 points each = 20 points)

**Asignación #3:** Choose another two of the above themes, and find a written news report that addresses each one. Write a summary (same as above assignment) of each report and provide a link to the source. (10 points each = 20 points)
Asignación #4: Choose the remaining two themes that you have not yet chosen. Find a news source—print or audio/visual—that addresses each theme. Create a podcast (via Audacity or SoundCloud) in which you summarize and discuss the main points of the article/source. Each podcast should have a duration of AT LEAST one minute. Please include your own opinion of the topic that is being discussed within the source. This will be GREAT PRACTICE for the oral presentation portion of the AP exam that will deal with culture. (20 points each = 40 points)

For the podcasts, you may save them on your computer or put them on your blogs that you already have created. It is up to you.

If you have any questions at all, feel free to email me. We can also set up chatting times on Skype or Gmail.

Please try to seek out Spanish-speakers this summer and practice. Believe in your skills!

¡Que tengan un verano estupendo, chicos! Nos vemos en agosto.

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