



Remote Schools' Frequently Asked Questions

What is Moodle?

Moodle is an online content delivery system that is utilized by educators, schools and universities all over the world for the delivery of instruction online.

Who is teaching the course?

Mrs. Debra Streacker, course creator and instructor, is a fluent Spanish speaker with a Bachelor's degree in Spanish from The Ohio State University and a Master's degree in Bilingual Education and TESOL (Teaching English to Speaker's of Other Languages) from the University of Findlay. She currently teaches high school Spanish at St. Joseph Central Catholic High School in Fremont, Ohio.

What technical requirements will the remote school have?

The following are the technical requirements of the remote school:

- a) **High speed Internet connection**
- b) **Audacity software downloaded to each machine (open source software available for free download from <http://audacity.sourceforge.net>) usable on either the Mac or PC platform.**
- c) **Skype software downloaded to 2 – 3 machines (open source software available at: <http://www.skype.com/intl/en-us/get-skype/on-your-computer/macosx/>)**
- d) **Webcams for 2-3 machines**
- e) **Ability for students to access an Elementary Spanish Twitter page located at: <http://www.twitter.com>**

Search for: **moodlespanish**
Password: **moodlespanol**

This page is provided to give the students access to the instructor in order to post questions, post issues for resolution, etc. The instructor will receive the Tweet and it will be forwarded out to to the page so that anyone may access it and read the questions as well as the responses. It is provided **ONLY** for this purpose. Any misuse of the page will result in the account being deactivated. It is **NOT** for random chat messages.

Additional technical recommendations may be made as the course and the students' use of the course evolves.

How do the students receive the instruction over the internet?

Students who register and pay for the course are given a **Moodle** login and password to access the course online. They will access the course from the computer labs at their schools or from a personal computer at home. This information will be passed on to the contact person at each participating school before the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year.

The course has been designed to allow each student to work at his or her own pace, completing a series of activities around a topic and then moving on to the next. The course is divided into unit topics. Information about a topic is provided, followed by a series of activities and finally quizzes at the end of the course. These quizzes are graded and are used to determine if the student passes or fails the course.

Do the students receive any credit for the course?

Students are being graded pass/fail and as such will not receive any credit. However, it is recommended that each school provide a transcript noting that the student has successfully completed a year of online foreign language instruction so that a receiving high school may issue a proficiency test in order to place the student in an appropriate level of high school Spanish (for 8th grade students).

What is the cost for the course?

The cost of this course is \$70 for the year.

How should the remote school submit payment?

Payment per student registered from your school is expected to be remitted to the host school (**St. Joseph Central Catholic High School, Attn: Debra M. Streacker**) no later than **September 15, 2010**.
(*Shari, does this seem reasonable?*)

How are the students monitored?

This course is for the self-motivated student who can work independently. Students work at their own pace but will be given benchmarks in order to complete the course by the end of the year. Of course, students may work on achieving these goals from home if they fall behind.

It is recommended that the remote school provide an adult to assist the students with any technical issues they may encounter, or to help facilitate communication with the instructor regarding any technical or content issues.

When is the class offered?

The participating remote school will determine how frequently during the week and for what duration of time the students will access the course.

Is there any way to look at the course?

You may view a sample unit of the course by accessing the following link: <http://moodle.streaks.net/> From there, on the left from "**Course Categories**" select "**Foreign Language**" and "**Elementary Spanish Sampler Course**". You may access everything in this sample unit.

Is there any personal interaction between the instructor and the students?

The students are encouraged to contact the instructor with any questions or issues that may occur during the course of the class. In addition, the remote school is requested to allow students the opportunity for periodic, real-time chat with the instructor through iChat, Skype, AIM or Jabber.

There is also a **MoodleSpanish Twitter** page that students will have access to for the purposes of asking questions "on-the-fly" and receiving responses in the same way. This page will serve as an archive of student questions and responses for other students who may have the same questions or encounter the same issues. Information for accessing this page is above.

Student questions and responses will also be stored in the **Forum** section of the **Moodle** course for the students to refer to.

Will the course continue after this year?

For 6th and 7th grade students, a subsequent "Elementary Spanish 2" and "Elementary Spanish 3" will be developed to continue the instruction in 7th and 8th grades.

When is the registration deadline?

Deadline for registration is June 30, 2010.