

SPANISH IV & SPANISH IV HONORS | 2020 SUMMER READING

Welcome to Spanish IV and Spanish IV Honors. I am looking forward to exploring with you a number of different genres in Spanish literature this next school year, including poems, plays, short stories, and novels. We will also be listening to different genres of music and watching movies, and I encourage you to listen to as much music and watch as many Spanish language movies as possible over the summer. While this is not required, I will be asking students the first day back about the music they listened to and the films they watched over the summer, and I will take suggestions for class viewing. Indeed, the more that you can engage with Spanish (and with Spanish speakers) over the summer, the more successful you will be in Spanish IV and Spanish IV Honors.

Summer Assignment:

You are required to read a short story over the summer, which can be found in digital format [here](#). We will be reading the work of important authors from Latin America and Spain this next year, and we will start with one of these for your summer reading, Jorge Luis Borges of Argentina. Please read the short story [El otro by Borges](#) and write a two paragraph synthesis of the story in Spanish.

You will need to read the story twice. The first time read straight through trying to get the general meaning of the story and underlining the vocabulary that you are not familiar with. The second time, after looking up the vocabulary words, read through it again for a more nuanced understanding of the text. I expect you to read critically and analytically and to be able to interpret the text in a sophisticated way.

Spanish 4 Honors students, in addition to the above, need to write three more paragraphs giving a short biography of Jorge Luis Borges. Please provide an overview of his life as a writer and intellectual, as well as of his most famous works and the general themes with which they deal.

Students in Spanish IV Honors will be expected to read additional material, as well as write more detailed interpretations of the various texts we will be studying. They are also expected to take the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam in the spring.

The summer work for both Spanish IV and Spanish IV Honors is due the first day of class and will be presented there.

Enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing all of you in September.

Sincerely,

Paul Gelles
pgelles@midland-school.org