

Middle School Italian/Spanish:

Sandy Pilla

Italian 6/7 and Spanish 7 are introductory language classes which meet twice a week.

Materials: "*Italian is Fun*" / "Spanish is Fun." The text books double as workbooks and are designed to create basic proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.

DVD: Standard Deviants; reinforces material covered in text with interactive quizzes and practice in pronunciation.

Audio CD: Students are introduced to dialogues, authentic interviews and transcripts for pronunciation exercises.

Film: Age appropriate Italian/Spanish movies with English sub-titles are shown on special occasions.

Mini-Projects: Students are given a project each marking period. For example, Spanish 7 will be studying parts of the body and the verb, "tenet" (to have). Students will create a monster on poster board and label all parts of the body in Spanish. Each student will orally present his/her project to the class in Spanish.

Similarly, Italian 6 will be doing a project on the agreement of adjectives with nouns, either in booklet form or on poster board, with colorful pictures and labels in Italian.

Although there is a strong academic component to these classes, with tests and quizzes based on activities completed, the major goal is to interest students in continuing their study of the second language beyond Middle School.