Overview of the curriculum for grades 10-12 at the German International School Washington, D.C.

The curriculum of the GISW is based on the curriculum of the German Bundesland of Thuringia, which is skill-oriented.

In grades 10-12 at the GISW, a Spanish course at the advanced level is offered, which consists of 4 periods per week. This course serves to expand on the students’ intercultural, method and communication skills in the foreign language. By means of authentic factual texts, literary texts as well as modern media and other materials, the students learn about key topics of Spanish and Latin American history, society, civilization and way of life. At the end of the qualifying phase (grades 10-12) the students will have reached competence level B2 of the Common European Reference Framework for Languages\(^1\), with the potential for a C1 level in some areas of language reception.

The written exams in grades 10-12 make up 50 % of the report mark, all remaining performance demonstrated in class makes up 50 %. For the final grade at the end of 10th grade, all examinations and the class performance of the entire school year are taken into account.

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<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>4 hours/week</th>
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<td><strong>Contents and Skills</strong></td>
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<td>• Understand increasingly complex and authentically written texts as well as statements spoken by native speakers. State one’s opinion on familiar and less familiar topics in a differentiated way. Express wishes and feelings more liberally.</td>
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\(^1\) Common European Reference Framework for Languages: http://www.europaeischer-referenzrahmen.de/
- Continued expansion on vocabulary and grammar
- Analysis of cultural and historical events in Spanish-speaking countries

**Course Book:** ¿Qué pasa?, Book 4, Diesterweg Verlag

**Materials (starting at approx. the 2nd semester of grade 10):**
Authentic fictitious and factual texts, pictures, movie clips, song texts – partially shortened for educational use.

**Written exams:** 4 class tests\(^2\), duration 90 minutes:
- Vocabulary/grammar
- Listening comprehension
- Summarizing texts
- Text analysis
- Creative texts (letters, e-mails, etc.)
- Translation

<table>
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<th>Grades 11 and 12</th>
<th>4 hours/week</th>
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<td>Understand more complex statements and texts of a variety of genres with partially unknown vocabulary – some on non-familiar topics.</td>
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<td>Express one’s thoughts in a functionally appropriate and differentiated matter that conforms to standards (in written and spoken form)</td>
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<td>Write structured, cohesive texts of all required genres while using complex linguistic elements</td>
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<td>Continued expansion on vocabulary and grammar</td>
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**Materials:** Authentic fictitious and factual texts, movie clips, plays, TV shows, pictures, songs, etc.

**Written exams in grade 11:** 3 class tests, duration 135 minutes:
- Vocabulary/grammar
- Listening Comprehension
- Summarizing texts
- Text analysis
- Creative texts (letters, e-mails, etc.)
- Translation

**1 oral language proficiency test:**
- Listening comprehension

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\(^2\) One test each may be replaced by an oral language proficiency test.
Written exams in grade 12: 3 class tests, duration 135 minutes:

- Vocabulary/grammar
- Listening comprehension
- Summarizing texts
- Text analysis
- Creative texts (letters, e-mails, etc.)
- Translation