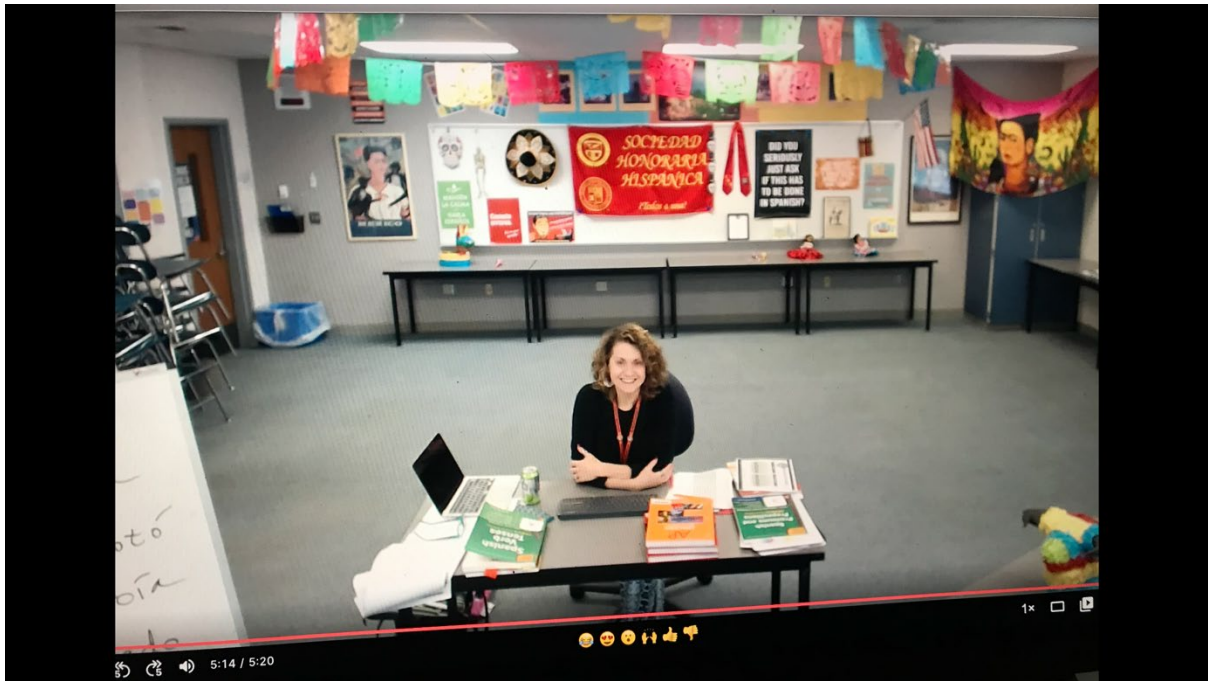




Savannah Wood

The Bolles School, Jacksonville, FL

Hello! My name is Savannah Wood and I teach Spanish 1A and 1B classes at the Bolles School in Jacksonville, FL. I decided that bursts of happy colors were crucial elements to the design of my classroom for a few reasons!! Hispanic culture is rooted in the arts and to me it is important for my students to get a taste of the exciting pops of color that define many Hispanic cultures. I am Mexican-American myself, and I decided to paint a mural depicting a colorful “centro” of any popular Hispanic city. I also have traditional papel picado hanging from the ceiling, a clock decorated like a flower with Spanish phrases to assist in learning time, and a sombrero mounted on my wall! On my desk you can also see cascarones, or hollowed out eggs filled with confetti. Each year we do this as a project and the students crack them on each other’s heads on Halloween! It’s one of their favorite activities. Another part of my decoration also includes many items I bought during the time I lived in Madrid, Spain. The students love to ask me about them and I love to talk about them! Our school is using desk separators to keep our students safe which seem to be quite effective! I hope you enjoy my classroom, I certainly do!



Merrie Siegel Parmley

Monroe High School, Monroe, WA

While there are very few teachers in my school teaching remotely from their classrooms, I thought that it would help the students to see their actual classroom during Zoom sessions. I took everything that was from all around the room and created my Zoom backdrop with it: our SSH banner/regalia, some of my favorite artwork and images of Frida (our SSH chapter is Frida Kahlo, of course :), fun posters and handicrafts from my travels, etc. While I miss my students terribly, I do like that they can see everything that I love about our classroom, even if it's through their screens, until we can all enjoy it together in person.



Maritza Santillán

Bright Stars Schools, Los Angeles, CA

My name is Maritza Santillán and I am a high school Spanish teacher in Los Angeles, California. Currently I am teaching Spanish 3, AP Spanish Language and AP Spanish Literature.

We are continuing to work remotely, so I have utilized my apartment living room as my classroom. I have numerous prints and artifacts that I use as examples in my lessons such as using an "alcancía" as a metaphor, representing money and the fixation on greed for my AP Spanish Literature class. More recently, I started utilizing the full-sized Spanish-speaking country flags that once hung in my classroom as my backgrounds while we are covering that country. Students in my Spanish 3 classes enjoy seeing the flag and incorporating it into our activities such as describing the flag or analyzing its different components. It has been a very challenging year but the students make our effort worth the struggle.



Susan Stites

Carrboro High School, Carrboro, NC

In this new environment, we are all remote and my "classroom" is now virtual. I created a different Bitmoji Virtual Classroom for all three levels I teach in order to give my students a connection to what my room would be like if we were actually able to be in one! The jpeg version attached (Spanish II) doesn't have the clickable links so I am sharing a link to the Google doc that gives you the ability to click on the links to connect you to all the ways kids can interact with Spanish. I make changes to the classroom before we meet twice a week in Google Meets and I have a different version for each level.



Lindsey Carrasco
Park View High School, Sterling, VA

I like not having a commute to work. What works best for me is additional lighting, a second monitor, blue light glasses, and a standing desk. My advice to other teachers is create a workspace that is comfortable for you.



Lissa Dallas
Fairhill School, Dallas, TX

Fairhill School is doing hybrid education, with students choosing to learn remotely, or face to face. We are confronting Covid-19 head on in Spanish class, with the power of masked superheroes reminding us to wear our *mascarillas*, and that we have *el poder* to beat *el virus*. Even our classroom's band of musical frogs (on the desk) and King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia (see their picture on the Spain bulletin board) are expected to wear their masks at all times. We say, "Adiós, Coronavirus! ¡No vuelvas! ¡Nunca!"



Patricia Hetherington

Columbia Middle School, Berkeley Heights, NJ

I know that we are living through unprecedented times, but what doesn't change is the need to be with our students and colleagues. I feel so blessed to be back with them all, even if it is for half of the day. My advice would be to stay in contact with your students. Use the Zoom sessions to have some good one on one time with them. Remember that this too shall pass.



Kristin Odegaard

Lake Stevens High School, Lake Stevens, WA

I am currently teaching Spanish 1 at Lake Stevens High School remotely. It is sad to teach all alone in my big, beautiful room. I use my Chromebook to host the Google Meet with an extra monitor to present my slides. I log on to the meeting with my desktop so I am able to see what the students see.



Kimberly Watson

Pelahatchie High School, Raymond, MS

Bienvenidos to the Spanish classrooms of Kim R. Watson at Pelahatchie High School. I get to have twice the fun this year with a traditional/physical classroom and a virtual classroom; as our school district offers families two learning options - traditional (face to face) and virtual (distance). Teaching two sets of students, simultaneously, is definitely a challenge that yields to patience and creativity. Furthermore, teaching a commutative curriculum during a pandemic has given me the opportunity to become creative, embrace technology, really embrace having fun teaching a language I love, and genuinely focus on building connections with students. My advice to other teachers teaching two sets of students, simultaneously, foster a sense of community in your Spanish classroom, no matter where the student is sitting in class. We are Spanish teachers, because we understand the importance of building genuine human connection.



Kally Smith

Everglades Preparatory Academy, Homestead, FL

I like the space that I have in my classroom, and the position of my desk to project on the board. What works best is my students working on their computers and completing all their assignments digitally. My advice is that set the rules from the first-day and repeat to the students the steps to keep all us safe.



Casey Hinkebein

St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School, Cape Girardeau, MO

Welcome to Hispanic Hogwarts! What I like most about my classroom is the vibrant colors and decorations that bring the language and culture of Spanish to life for my students. For pandemic cleaning, I enlist the aid of my students at the end of each class to clean and arrange their desks neatly before the next class comes in; this cuts down on the time I would need to clean individual desks. I've also set up disinfecting stations outside and inside my classroom for students to clean classroom materials such as whiteboards and markers after their use.