

International Languages



Philosophy Statement

The purpose of language study in District 128 is to equip students linguistically and culturally to communicate and function in the world neighborhood as an individual and within a group. Language study develops an awareness of other people's views, an understanding of their unique ways of life, and recognition and respect for their contributions to the world at large. Linguistic proficiency and cultural knowledge combined will enable students to interact in a variety of culturally authentic situations. **To reach proficiency, daily use of the target language is the expectation.**

Language study expands the educational experience of students by connecting with other disciplines in the school curriculum. It also encourages students to develop a greater understanding of their own language and culture and of language and culture in the broadest sense. In addition, the study of Latin increases one's English vocabulary skills, grammar skills and analytical skills.

Language study prepares competent and self-confident students for work in multi-cultural communities at home and around the world. Furthermore, District 128 recognizes the needs of non-English speaking students and provides opportunities to assist these students in developing proficiency in their first language as well as their proficiency in English as a second language.

In addition to linguistic and cultural competence, language study challenges students to use a variety of learning strategies and develop critical thinking skills, thereby preparing students to be successful in the workplace as well as to become life-long learners in a technological society.

International Languages

Course Descriptions

- Courses in this department may be used to fulfill the one-year required credit for graduation in Applied Arts, Fine and Performing Arts or International Languages.
- **It is strongly recommended that students earn a grade of "C" or better to advance to the next level.**

Advanced Placement French V Language

Course No.: 2502

Prerequisite: Previous level or placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 11, 12

Other:

Advanced Placement French V Language provides a rigorous review and refinement of grammar, composition, reading and communication skills leading to the Advanced Placement French Language Examination. Students are expected to participate in a variety of communicative situations. Students will read complete novels or plays and study feature-length films. Extensive oral and written work is expected.

Advanced Placement German IV

Course No.: 2504

Prerequisite: Previous level or placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 12

Other:

Advanced Placement German IV develops competence to understand, speak, read and write German for employment, pleasure and personal growth or for continued study at the intermediate or advanced level in colleges or universities. Students read, discuss, and write about a variety of literary selections. A thorough, step-by-step approach is used to prepare students for the Advanced Placement German Examination. Students will study feature-length films and create research projects to further enhance communication skills and cultural understanding.

Advanced Placement Latin IV

Course No.: 2508

Prerequisite: Placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 12

Other:

Advanced Placement Latin IV completes the basic canon of secondary Latin instruction with substantive selections from books of Vergil's *Aeneid*. Specific attention is given to Vergil's manipulation of the epic

genre and his adaptation of the earlier Greek literature. Knowledge of Latin grammar and syntax is expected. The goals of the course aim toward enhancing fluency in reading advanced literature, strengthening literary analysis skills, and developing an appreciation of the literary contributions of the *Aeneid* in Roman society as well as throughout the balance of history. The vocabulary work is intensive, but accomplished in a manner that encourages success. The A.P. Latin syllabus covers the content for the Vergil A.P. exam, and students should complete the course with this goal in mind.

Advanced Placement Spanish V Language

Course No.: 2510
Prerequisite: Previous level or placement
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 12
Other:

Advanced Placement Spanish V Language prepares the advanced student for the study of the language at an intermediate or higher level in college and provides extensive training for those who take the Advanced Placement Spanish Language Exam. The course stresses oral skills, composition, reading, and grammar. The objectives are the same as those of the College Board. The students will develop 1) the ability to comprehend formal and informal spoken Spanish, 2) the acquisition of vocabulary and a grasp of structure to allow the easy, accurate reading of newspapers and periodicals, as well as of modern literature in Spanish, 3) the ability to compose expository passages, and 4) the ability to express ideas orally with accuracy and fluency. The emphasis is on refining communication skills.

Chinese I

Course No.: 2512
Prerequisite: Placement for grade 9; none for grades 10-12
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Other:

Chinese I is an introductory Mandarin Chinese course focused on the development of basic listening, speaking and reading skills, as well as an introduction to the writing of simplified Chinese characters and familiarization with the traditional characters. Oral proficiency in Chinese is based on an understanding of the characteristic tones and pinyin (phonetic transliteration system for the sounds of Chinese). Chinese society and cultural topics are also studied including daily life, family, school and holidays. Students will do individual and group research projects to investigate other areas of interest relating to China, its history, people and culture.

French I

Course No.: 2520
Prerequisite: Placement for grade 9; none for grades 10-12
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Other: Students who have successfully completed 7th and 8th grade French and are recommended for placement in French II will not receive credit for French I. They can, however, take French I on an audit basis.

French I begins to develop the four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing presented within a cultural context. The course stresses understanding of French vocabulary and grammatical structures through exercises in listening and speaking and assignments in reading and writing. French society and culture are also studied. Cultural focus is on daily life, family, school, and French around the world.

French II

Course No.: 2522
Prerequisite: Placement for grade 9; previous level or placement for grades 10-12
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Other:

French II reviews, strengthens, and expands students' French language skills. Students will improve their understanding of French grammatical structure and expand their vocabulary. In addition, students will increase their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Cultural enrichment is offered in the form of films, readings, videos, and music.

French III Honors

Course No.: 2524
Prerequisite: Previous level or placement
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Other:

French III Honors is intended for students with an understanding of the basic principles of the French language. The course emphasizes cultural and practical uses of speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. The course introduces new verb tenses and grammatical elements. Students will be able to understand spoken French and respond in a manner comprehensible to a native speaker. Cultural enrichment is offered in the form of films, articles, videos, and music. Students will read one book.

French IV Honors

Course No.: 2526
Prerequisite: Previous level or placement
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 10, 11, 12
Other:

French IV Honors is intended for students who wish to increase their proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, and understanding French within a cultural context. Students will review and further develop their knowledge of French grammar and syntax. They will increase their vocabulary and develop greater fluency and accuracy. Plays, short stories, and novels may be read. Students will study two feature-length films and complete a study unit on French Impressionism.

French V Honors

Course No.: 2528
Prerequisite: Previous level or placement
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 10, 11, 12
Other:

French V Honors is a course designed to meet the needs of French students who want to continue their intensive study of French language skills, French literacy, and cultural understanding relative to a variety of topics not included in the AP French V curriculum. The topics for French V Honors will be explored through literature, poetry, film studies, and history. All discussions and written assessments will be in French.

German I

Course No.: 2530
Prerequisite: Placement for grade 9; none for grades 10-12
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Other:

German I begins to develop basic understanding, speaking, reading, and writing of German for everyday living. Students will practice listening, speaking, reading, and writing through dialogues, a variety of computer lab activities, feature-length film studies, and other resource materials. Grammar structure and usage are studied. Students learn about the way of life of German-speaking people and study the differences and similarities of people in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Individual as well as group research projects explore areas of culture and language.

German II Honors

Course No.: 2532
Prerequisite: Previous level or placement
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 10, 11, 12
Other:

German II Honors reviews and expands understanding, speaking, reading and writing skills. Students increase their active vocabulary and knowledge of grammatical structures as they learn about German culture in German. Conversations, dialogues, narrative readings, audiovisual materials, a variety of computer lab activities, and feature-length film studies focus on everyday life in German-speaking countries. Using German actively is expected. Students learn to assume leadership roles in peer practice activities, research projects, and presentations. Students will read at least one graded reader.

German III Honors

Course No.: 2534
Prerequisite: Previous level or placement
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 11, 12
Other:

German III Honors strengthens and refines the students' abilities to understand, speak, read and write. German is used in all individual and group activities to develop fluency. Students read, discuss, and write about a variety of reading and literary selections. In addition, students are involved in research projects focusing on a variety of topics. Students also explore German culture and language in feature-length film studies.

German IV Honors

Course No.: 2536
Prerequisite: Previous level or placement
Credit: 1.0 / Full Year
Fees: \$25.00
Grades: 12
Other:

German IV Honors continues to strengthen the active use of German. Students read, discuss, and write about a variety of literary selections. Discussions increase conversational fluency through the exchange of ideas. Students develop ideas and practice vocabulary and structure in writing compositions. In addition, students are involved in research projects focusing on a variety of topics. Students also explore German culture and language in feature-length film studies. This course is for students who want to continue German language and culture studies but who do not desire Advanced Placement test preparation.

Language Culture Study Abroad

Course No.: 2537H (0.5 credit), 2538 (1.0 credit)
Prerequisite: Placement; Interested students must contact the International Languages Supervisor for program approval **prior** to enrollment.

Fees:

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Other: **A maximum of 1.0 credit** may be received throughout a student's four years in high school. Grades received will not be included in the student's GPA.

Language Culture Study Abroad is an opportunity for a student who participates in a **recognized study abroad program** to be awarded credit. The study of a foreign language and increased proficiency in that language must be demonstrated upon his/her return in the form of transcripts or a written evaluation by the program instructor, and an interview with the International Languages Supervisor. **1.0 credit** will be awarded following participation in a **recognized study abroad program** that afforded the student a minimum of nine months study abroad once department expectations have been met. **0.5 credits** will be awarded following participation in a recognized study abroad program that afforded the student three weeks or more of experience and language study abroad once department expectations have been met.

Latin I

Course No.: 2540

Prerequisite: Placement for grade 9; none for grades 10-12

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Other:

Latin I introduces students to the everyday life of a Roman family living during the first century A.D. while focusing on the fundamentals of Latin grammar. Through sequential, thematic readings in Latin, the students will become familiar with the elements of Latin prose. Through an interdisciplinary approach, students will become aware of how Latin and the Romans have influenced our own vocabulary, history, art, architecture, etc.

Latin II Honors

Course No.: 2542

Prerequisite: Previous level or placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Other:

Latin II Honors reviews Latin I concepts and builds upon this foundation adding expanded instruction of Latin grammar and syntax. Attention is given to building and solidifying the student's basic vocabulary through additional vocabulary and continued exposure to English derivatives. There will be a solid focus on strengthening reading and translation skills. Gaining an appreciation of

the progression of Roman history from the period of the kings through the Republic and Empire is an important feature of this course.

Latin III Honors

Course No.: 2546

Prerequisite: Placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 11, 12

Other:

Latin III Honors reviews Latin II Honors concepts and builds upon this foundation through added instruction of Latin grammar and syntax. Attention is given to building and solidifying the student's basic vocabulary through additional vocabulary and continued exposure to English derivatives. There will be a solid focus on strengthening reading and translation skills. Gaining an appreciation of the progression of Roman history from the period of the kings through the Republic and Empire is an important feature of this course.

Spanish I

Course No.: 2550

Prerequisite: Placement for grade 9; none for grades 10-12

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Other: Students who have successfully completed 7th and 8th grade Spanish and are recommended for placement in Spanish II will not receive credit for Spanish I. They can, however, take Spanish I on an audit basis.

Spanish I is an introductory course focused on the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Spanish grammatical structures, vocabulary and pronunciation are stressed. Students learn to express themselves in Spanish orally and in writing. Students will practice language skills using a variety of computer lab activities, feature-length film studies and other resources. Research projects are assigned to incorporate the study of customs, culture, and geography of the Hispanic world.

Spanish II

Course No.: 2552

Prerequisite: Placement for grade 9; previous level or placement for grades 10-12

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Other:

Spanish II enhances the language skills of students and develops the understanding of complex grammatical concepts. Reading, writing, listening, and speaking exercises aid the development of communication skills. The study of Spanish and Latin American cultures is

continued through work in the language lab, class discussions, and research projects. Students enhance their listening comprehension skills through films and videos.

Spanish III Honors

Course No.: 2554

Prerequisite: Previous level or placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Other:

Spanish III Honors emphasizes the further development of oral skills through discussions, oral reports, and daily participation in the target language, as well as the study of grammar and vocabulary through reading and compositions. Students read, discuss, and write about a variety of reading selections. Hispanic cultural studies are continued with research projects and feature-length film studies. Students increase their proficiency in speaking, understanding, reading, and writing Spanish.

Spanish IV Honors

Course No.: 2556

Prerequisite: Previous level or placement

Credit: 1.0 / Full Year

Fees: \$25.00

Grades: 11, 12

Other:

Spanish IV Honors provides an in depth grammatical review, as well as the introduction of advanced grammatical concepts and vocabulary development. This course develops an appreciation of Latin American and Spanish cultures through reading, writing, conversation, language lab activities, feature films, and projects. Students are expected to contribute daily in class discussions and activities.

International Languages Department

Course Sequences

