

## WORLD LANGUAGES CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

### Purpose

- To recognize students who concentrate their academic program in non-native languages and who go above and beyond the graduation requirement in this subject area
- To encourage students to consider the benefits of studying two non-native languages simultaneously during Upper School

### Certificate Components

There are three required components to the World Languages Certificate program:

- 1) The formal study of two languages beyond the beginning level
- 2) An experience or study that extends the formal language study to other areas of the student's life in order to demonstrate a commitment to becoming a citizen of the world
- 3) A culminating oral presentation in both languages

### PART 1: Formal Language Study

Two of the following languages may be chosen: Ancient Greek, Arabic, Chinese, French, Latin, Russian or Spanish

Certificate Levels	Total Credits	Language 1	Language 2
summa cum laude	8	4 credits	4 credits
magna cum laude	7	4 credits	3 credits
cum laude	6	4 credits	2 credits
	6	3 credits	3 credits

### Requirements:

- Language classes may be regular, honors or AP level
- A student must be enrolled in a tri-school class to earn credit for the Certificate. Other course work in a non-native language may be eligible for credit, pending approval of the Department
- Language levels prior to Upper School do not count towards the Certificate
- A student must achieve a minimum overall average of 80 in all language courses; year-end grades are used in the calculation
- A student may not repeat a level of a language, and no credit will be awarded if a year-end average is below 72

### PART 2: Extension of Language Study

To demonstrate a commitment to becoming a citizen of the world and to extend her knowledge of world languages, a student must accomplish at least one of the following during her Upper School years:

- participate in a tri-school exchange or other approved exchange program that includes a home-stay
- travel to another country of one of the languages studied that has some educational component

- complete a related elective course in a tri-school class; qualifying courses include: AP Art History, literature in translation, cultural history, or other elective, upon approval
- attend a summer camp or study abroad in another language
- pursue community service directly related to one of the languages of study with a supervisor
- serve as a host-family to a visitor from another country for an extended period of time (e.g. semester exchange)
- conduct a qualifying independent study as a senior elective or an independent research project

A student may select any member of the World Languages Department to serve as a mentor in fulfillment of this component.

### PART 3: Oral Presentation

To demonstrate proficiency in both languages, candidates will display their mastery of the languages in an oral presentation:

- topic of presentation must be approved; it is likely that the topic will relate to the student's extension experience
- students must speak naturally and without reading during the presentation (students may use notecards but no written scripts)
- presentation must include both languages in proportion to the length of study, and the whole presentation must be a minimum of six minutes in length; visual components, like PowerPoint, are optional
- presentations will be made to teachers of both languages, members of the World Languages Department, and invited guests (parents, friends, advisors, etc.)

### World Languages Certificate Timeline and Procedures:

9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> or 11 <sup>th</sup> grade	Application of Candidacy for Certificate submitted
By May 1 of 11 <sup>th</sup> grade	Proposal for extension piece due to Department Head for approval
By January 1 of 12 <sup>th</sup> grade (after winter break)	Topic for oral presentation due to mentor or Department Head for approval
January – March of 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Work on oral presentation
April 1 of 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Draft of oral presentation due to both language teachers
April of 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	One rehearsal for oral presentation with each language teacher/mentor once draft is approved; Formal oral presentation to members of the World Languages Department and guests
By May 1 of 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Formal oral presentation completed Extension of language study completed

All members of the World Languages Department will monitor the progress of candidates and support the Certificate Program. The Department Head, in collaboration with the Upper School Coordinator, will serve as the administrator of the program.

Students earning the World Languages Certificate will receive recognition on Class Day.