

A photograph of five students in maroon polo shirts sitting around a red mesh table, looking at papers and a laptop. The background shows a brick building and a window.

St Joseph High School World Language Department Fast Facts

Philosophy

The foreign language department offers French, Italian and Mandarin. Emphasis is placed on cultural themes, topics, and issues of target language countries in order to promote respect and empathy. The department encourages students to look beyond their own community and embrace diversity in a multicultural society.

The department also strongly urges students to travel to a country where the target language is spoken, or to somehow use the language outside the classroom in order to broaden their experience and ability in the language. To that end, the department in collaboration with the Francis Xavier International Baccalaureate program, organizes trips to Europe, South America, and China.

Curriculum Overview:

- French 1-5 (CP, H, AP)
- Italian 1-4 (CP, H)
- Mandarin 1-5 (CP, H)
- Spanish 1-5 (CP, H, AP)

National Honor Societies:

- Chinese
- French
- Italian
- Spanish

“Taking Mandarin prepared me for the Immersion trip to China. In only one and a half years, I can already converse with someone who solely speaks Mandarin, which I accomplished while in China!”

~ Rosie '21

World Language Department Chair

Jaqueline Carvalho-Sullivan, jcsullivan@sjcadets.org

Beyond the Classroom

Cultural Cuisine Club strives to promote a complex understanding of different cultures, which is accomplished through exposure to dishes and activities proposed by students that relate to specific nationalities or ethnicities.

InterAct Club raises awareness of cultural diversity between international students and their experience at SJHS. Interact club puts community service and international student integration at the forefront.

The French Club support the understanding of French culture through activities such as: visiting centers of French culture, attending operas and plays, and making trips to museums and restaurants.

The Italian Club meets several times a month in order to promote the study and understanding of Italian culture, music, art, food, etc.

The Multicultural Club is a socially-inclusive organization with the intent of embracing multiculturalism and diversity, while eliminating racism, prejudice, and intolerance on all levels.

Spanish Club meets throughout the year to experience the richness of the Spanish and Latin American cultures.