

# **WORLD LANGUAGES**

The World Languages program is designed to meet the needs of students who demonstrate varying levels of proficiency. Unusual language experience or aptitude could accelerate language acquisition; therefore, the Language Department continuously evaluates students to ensure proper pacing and placement.

The study of foreign languages is an integral part of secondary education. It is clear that in today's global society, proficiency in a foreign language will be necessary in order to face the difficult challenge of our contemporary world. The increasing interdependence of all nations, the sensitivity of international relations and international trade have created a crucial need for foreign language proficiency.

The World Languages Department offers courses in five languages. Mandarin Chinese, French, Hebrew, Latin, and Spanish are offered in three, four, and five unit sequences.

Spanish students will take a final examination at the end of grade 8. A determination will be made based on the final course grade as to whether students will be recommended for the three-year Regents equivalency sequence or the four-year Regents equivalency sequence. Those students approved for the three-year Regents equivalency sequence will take the Regents equivalency exam at the end of the tenth grade. Students approved for the four-year Regents equivalency sequence will take the Regents equivalency exam at the end of 11th grade. Generally, students who start their first foreign language in the ninth grade will be in the four-year Regents equivalency sequence.

A chart below identifies typical sequences of study for students of varying ability levels in foreign language

## **FOREIGN LANGUAGE SEQUENCES**

LANGUAGE	MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES	HIGH SCHOOL GRADES
<b>CHINESE</b>	6, 7,8	9, 10*, 11/11H, 12/AP 1, 9, 10, 11
<b>FRENCH</b>	6, 7, 8	9, 10*, 11/11H, 12/AP I, 9, 10*, 11/H
<b>HEBREW</b>	6, 7, 8	9, 10*, 11/11H, 12/12H I, 9, 10*, 11 10*, 11/11H, 12/12H Seminar
<b>LATIN</b>	6,7,8	9,10*, 11/11H, 12/AP I, 9, 10*, 11/H
<b>SPANISH</b>	6, 7, 8 6, 7, 8 I I	9, 10*, 11, 12 9, 10*, 11H, AP II, 9, 10*, 12 II, III, IV, 12 I, II, 9, 10* I, II, III, IV* I, 9, 10*, 11H or 12

\*Regents equivalency Examination is administered at the end of this course

# **CHINESE (Mandarin)**

## **MANDARIN CHINESE I**

This is a foundation course for the student with little or no background in Mandarin dialect and/or reading knowledge of Chinese characters. The basics of pronunciation, simple conversation, and character writing will be introduced. Students will study Chinese culture.

1 unit of credit

No prerequisite

## **MANDARIN CHINESE 9**

A continuation of Chinese I, with further development of both conversational and reading skills. Appreciation for Chinese culture continues to be developed.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Chinese 1 or Chinese 8

## **MANDARIN CHINESE 10**

This course seeks to develop more advanced speaking and writing skills in Mandarin. Chinese culture will also be explored. This course will culminate in a comprehensive exam, which fulfills the NYS Regents requirement.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Chinese 9

## **MANDARIN CHINESE 11/ 11H**

This course will continue to develop all four language skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Special attention will be paid to the study of traditional and modern Chinese culture as well as the study of characters. Chinese 11H is essentially the first half of an extended AP curriculum that culminates with the AP Exam taken in the subsequent year. Students choosing not to explore this path (Chinese 11) will have a modified curriculum, differentiated so that the student may continue their language study and acquisition in Chinese.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Chinese 10 and Department recommendation

## **CHINESE 12/ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

This course develops a high level of proficiency in Chinese. Conversational ability is directed toward extended discourse, comprehension of texts on a wide variety of topics, and competent reaction orally and in writing to materials presented for listening and reading.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Chinese 11H and Department recommendation

# FRENCH

## **FRENCH I**

This is a beginning audio-lingual course which emphasizes basic communication skills in the foreign language. It is an introduction to French culture.

1 unit of credit

No prerequisite

## **FRENCH 9**

This course is designed for students who began their study of French in grade 6, completed French grade 8, or completed French I as a second foreign language. While the development of audio-lingual skills continues to be stressed, increasing emphasis is placed on the acquisition of proficiency in reading and writing. Cultural study will be enlarged with selected materials from contemporary magazines, short stories, poems and visuals.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: French in grade 8 or French I

## **FRENCH 10**

Designed for students who have successfully completed French 9. Language concepts will move from the concrete to the abstract. Students will continue to develop audio-lingual skills while reading and writing will be stressed on a more advanced level. Cultural understanding will evolve with increasing mastery of the language.

Selected issues on contemporary French society will be discussed with the aid of periodicals and newspapers. Students must take the Regents equivalency Examination at the end of French 10.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: French 9

## **FRENCH 11/11H**

This course will continue to develop all four language skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Special attention will be paid to linguistic, cultural, historical and contemporary aspects of francophone civilization. French 11H is essentially the first half of an extended AP curriculum that culminates with the AP Exam taken in the subsequent year. Students choosing not to explore this path (French 11) will have a modified curriculum, differentiated so that the student may continue their language study and acquisition in French.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: French 10 and Department recommendation

## **FRENCH 12**

This course is specifically designed as an advanced conversation course in French. Problems of contemporary society will be discussed through the study of selected essays by significant writers, sociologists and journalists of modern France.

French television programs, films, as well as a variety of audio-lingual materials will be utilized to foster individual oral mastery of the French language.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: French 11

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT FRENCH**

### **WHO SHOULD TAKE A.P. FRENCH?**

You should consider taking A.P. French Language if you have a firm grasp of the fundamentals of the language and a high degree of competence in listening comprehension, reading, speaking and writing. The abilities to think critically and to do literary analysis are necessary for success in the course. The prospective A.P. student should have an "A" average in all previous courses. In addition, you must be able to do independent study outside the classroom for utilization in class. A willingness to concentrate on developing a greater degree of proficiency, an ability to give oral reports and constant daily participation in class are requisites.

### **WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED OF ME?**

Over the summer, prior to the start of the A.P. course, you will be expected to do readings, write papers and record your speaking. During the year, you will be required to submit various papers, and oral presentations. You must be prepared to complete a minimum of six - eight hours of preparation outside the classroom per week and to complete the reading and writing assignments.

You will be prepared and required to take the A.P. exam in May. Grades will be determined solely on the mastery of the A.P. curriculum.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: French 11H and Department recommendation.

Those not receiving the department recommendation will be required to meet with counselor, chairperson of the Foreign Language Department, and parents to ensure full awareness of the high level of commitment and skill required to succeed in French A.P.

## **HEBREW**

### **HEBREW I**

This is a foundation course for the student with little or no background in Hebrew. Emphasis will be on the development of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

1 unit of credit

No prerequisite

### **HEBREW 9**

A continuation of Hebrew I. In addition to more advanced grammar and word study, emphasis will be placed on oral comprehension exercises of intermediate difficulty. Selected and adapted works related to Israeli culture will be read.

1 unit of credit  
approval

Prerequisite: Hebrew I, 8 or departmental

### **HEBREW 10**

A thorough review of spoken and written contemporary Hebrew and introduction to classical Hebrew structures will be made. Continued development of oral fluency and the ability to read extensively will be stressed. Cultural studies will include readings, lectures and reports on classical and contemporary mores. The Regents equivalency Examination will be required at the end of this course.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Hebrew 9 or departmental  
approval

### **HEBREW 11/11H**

This course will explore Israeli culture through the use of dialogues, interviews and library/internet sources. Students will be able to choose those areas of interest to them; i.e., Israeli poetry including Amichai and Rachel, literature, current events, or journal articles. Individual reports and papers will be required. Some contemporary Israeli films will be studied and discussed.

Continued emphasis will be placed on all language skills at an advanced level.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Hebrew 10 or departmental  
approval

### **HEBREW 12/12H**

A continuation of Hebrew 11/11H, this course will be offered to students who are interested in studying the different aspects of Israeli life through problem solving techniques. Contemporary authors, newspapers, periodicals, and films will be studied in this course. Emphasis will be placed on oral performance in the foreign language at a level of sophistication appropriate to advanced study.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Hebrew 11 or departmental  
approval

### **HEBREW SEMINAR**

This course will be offered to students having successfully completed Hebrew 12. Works of several major contemporary authors and thematic studies of Israeli culture will be selected by students. In addition, students will be expected to do numerous oral and written projects during each semester. Independent projects will be authorized and planned cooperatively with the teacher.

1 unit of credit

# LATIN

## **LATIN I**

This introductory course is designed for students interested in learning Latin and its culture, including mythology and Roman history. Students will strengthen their knowledge of English vocabulary and grammar, important components of standardized testing, such as the SAT exams.

1 unit of credit

No prerequisite

## **LATIN 9**

This course is a continuation of Latin 8 or Latin I. Emphasis is placed on vocabulary acquisition, translation, the principals of grammar and syntax, reading and writing, and etymology. A survey of Classical Mythology as well as an overview of Ancient Roman history is also covered. Class projects include writing and performing a one-act play based on a myth as well as contributing comics, riddles, and poems to the Latin magazine. Text: Latin Via Ovid

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Latin I/8

## **LATIN 10**

This course, an anthology of Roman authors, will review all elementary and advanced grammar, as well as introduce syntax particular to certain writers. Emphasis is placed on reading comprehension and translation. Readings include selections both from the prose of Caesar, Livy, Cicero, Sallust, and from the poetry of Ovid, Catullus, and Vergil. A detailed survey of Roman Republican and Imperial politics will also be covered. Class projects include a mock trial of Brutus. This course will culminate in a comprehensive exam, which fulfills the NYS Regents requirement.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Latin 9

## **LATIN 11/11H**

This course is a continuation of Latin 10. Emphasis is put on poetry and Latin poetics, as exhibited in the work of Catullus, Vergil and Ovid. Advanced study of Latin grammar and syntax is a significant component of this course. Students will be introduced to aspects of the AP curriculum. Students choosing not to explore a path which culminates in the AP exam in the subsequent year (Latin 11) will have a modified curriculum, differentiated so that the student may continue their language study and acquisition in Latin.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Latin 10

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT LATIN/ LATIN 12**

A detailed study of an author or two with emphasis on the translation and interpretation of selections from Latin poetry. About two thousand lines are required to be read and understood. Topics covered include literary criticism, meter, grammar, and literary devices. An ability to translate about thirty lines

per night and to write brief, clear essays that explain any aspect of the passages are vital to success. Passages must be prepared nightly and reviewed during class.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Latin 11H and Department Recommendation

Prerequisite: Hebrew 12 or departmental approval

## **SPANISH**

### **SPANISH I**

An introductory level language course which emphasizes the development of the four language skills: ability to speak, understand, read and write elementary Spanish. Introduction to Spanish culture. This course is for students who have no previous experience with Spanish.

1 unit of credit

No prerequisite

### **SPANISH II**

This course is open to students who have successfully completed one year of Spanish and who have been recommended for the four-year Regents equivalency sequence. An audio-lingual approach is used with additional emphasis in reading and writing skills. Cultural study will be enlarged with selected materials from short stories, magazines, visuals, and student oral presentations.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Spanish I or Spanish 8

### **SPANISH 9**

This course is designed for students who began their study of Spanish in Grade 6, completed Spanish 8 and scored high in the placement exam in Grade 8 or completed Spanish II. While the development of audio-lingual skills continues to be stressed, increasing emphasis is placed on the acquisition of proficiency in reading and writing. Cultural study will be enlarged with selected reading materials and visuals.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Spanish 8/II

### **SPANISH III**

The practice of skills is continued, while more emphasis is placed on reading and writing than previously. Students' interests are considered in selection of conversational topics and reading materials. Authentic texts, videos, and podcasts are used to familiarize students with modern life in Spanish speaking countries. This Spanish class uses comprehension-based methods of

language instruction. Spanish language and culture are taught simultaneously in order for students to develop cultural understanding while building proficiency.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Spanish 8/II

### **SPANISH 10**

Spanish 10 prepares students for the Regents equivalency exam at the end of the year. This class combines students who have successfully completed Spanish 9. All four language skills are emphasized-listening, speaking, reading and writing. The curriculum also focuses on the culture and literature of all Spanish speaking countries. This course will culminate in a comprehensive exam, which fulfills the NYS Regents requirement.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Spanish 9

### **SPANISH IV**

Spanish IV prepares students for the Regents equivalency exam at the end of the year. The course consists of thematic units selected according to the New York State syllabus. They serve to increase conversational abilities, and the ability to write and to read. This Spanish class uses comprehension-based methods of language instruction. Spanish language and culture are taught simultaneously in order for students to develop cultural understanding while building proficiency.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Spanish 9/III

### **SPANISH 11 (Dual enrollment option)**

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Spanish 10/IV. Students will continue to develop their communication skills in a curriculum based on their interests and preferences. Individual and group projects will be assigned regularly. Please note that students not pursuing the AP program may register for this course. \*Students will have the option to earn college credit through a local university.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Spanish 10/IV

### **SPANISH 11H**

Spanish 11H is essentially the first half of an extended AP curriculum that culminates with the AP Exam taken in the subsequent year. This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Spanish 10 and have intentions of continuing to Spanish AP. Continued emphasis will be placed on conversational and syntactical skills, and on usage and understanding of the Spanish language. Linguistic, cultural, and literary aspects of Hispanic civilization will be explored and conversational proficiency will be emphasized.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Spanish 10, minimum of 90 average for course, 90 on Regents equivalency Exam and Department recommendation



## **SPANISH 12 (Dual enrollment option)**

This course is designed to continue the development of all four skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing at an advanced level. Spanish 12 will include units of study in Hispanic history, politics and customs. Films, newspapers, and magazines articles will be used to enhance cultural awareness, as well as to improve language proficiency. Students will also analyze and create original works and develop projects. Please note that students not pursuing the AP program may register for this course. \*Students will have the option to earn college credit through a local university.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Spanish 11/11H or Spanish10/IV, if enrolling as a senior.

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH**

### **WHO SHOULD TAKE A.P. SPANISH?**

You should consider taking A.P. Spanish if you have a firm mastery of auditory comprehension, speaking, reading and writing skills. The abilities to think critically and to do literary analysis are necessary for success in this course. The prospective student for A.P. Spanish should have an "A" average in all previous Spanish courses. In addition, you must be able to do independent study outside of class for utilization within the classroom. A willingness and an ability to give oral presentations in front of the class and constant daily participation in class are requisites.

### **WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED OF ME?**

You will be required to have assignments turned in on time and to be prepared daily. Assignments are given well in advance and it is your responsibility to organize your time wisely. You must be prepared to spend from six-to eight hours of outside preparation per week to adequately complete all reading and writing assignments. You will be required to prepare for and take the A.P. exam in May. The difficulty of the exam is equivalent to the third year of foreign language study at the university level. A summer reading will be assigned with an essay and packet due the first day of school.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Spanish 11H and Department recommendation\*

\*Those not receiving the department recommendation will be required to meet with counselor, chairperson of the Foreign Language Department, and parents to ensure full awareness of the high level of commitment and skill required to succeed in A.P. Spanish.