

WORLD LANGUAGE

Students should plan on a concentration in one world language rather than exploring several languages.

More colleges are now requiring entering students to have taken at least two years of a world language while attending secondary school. Therefore, a student planning to attend college is advised to learn about the world language requirement for admission to the college(s) of choice.

Students may begin a secondary school language sequence anytime between seventh grade and twelfth grade, but research says that students learn best when starting a language early and continuing study in one language for an extended period.

Students in their fourth, fifth, and sixth year of world language study take the same thematically organized class. These students have had basic instruction in their first three years and use this class to hone their language skills and enhance their understanding of culture and literature. Students taking the course for the International Baccalaureate diploma or certificate may take the “standard level” assessment during their junior or senior year. Students taking the course as a “higher level” IB course will take the higher-level assessment in their senior year. Students without four or more years of world language classes may consider taking two years of world language and achieving IB “Ab initio” status. You may talk with your counselor or IB Coordinator for more information about these options.

Students may travel to another campus to pursue world language study. Transportation is provided.

We offer the following courses of study:

Midland High School Spanish Survey of Spanish French	H. H. Dow High School Spanish Survey of Spanish German Mandarin
Northeast Middle School Spanish French Mandarin	Jefferson Middle School Spanish German Mandarin

COURSE TITLE	PREREQUISITE	GRADE LEVEL	SEMESTER OR FULL YEAR	CONTENT
French 1 (or 1 A) WL1220 .2 WL1320 .3 NE & MHS only	None	7-12	Full Year	This course is for any student who has a personal interest in learning French. Students will learn to understand, speak, read, and write basic French, and become acquainted with French culture. The conversational method is used to establish basic language patterns in speaking and understanding French in everyday situations. Reading and writing are done to reinforce the oral learning, and the course utilizes texts, CDs, and audio-visual materials to accomplish its goal. Students may take the course at the .2 level, while students opting for a more rigorous course may take it at the .3 level. Note: This class is offered exclusively at Northeast Middle School and Midland High School.
French 2 (or 2 A) WL2220 .2 WL2320 .3 NE & MHS only	French 1	8-12	Full Year	The purpose of the course is to expand on the French 1 discoveries. More basic vocabulary and structure are learned to aid in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing French. Emphasis is also placed on studying the cultures and learning about the countries and people who speak French. Note: this class is offered exclusively at Midland High School and Northeast Middle School.
French 3 A WL3320 <i>Accelerated</i> MHS only	French 2	9-12	Full Year	The purpose of the course is to develop a greater proficiency in understanding, speaking, reading and writing the French language. The skills acquired in the first two years of language study are developed. Concurrent with the reading, the student studies the structure of the French language and continues to learn about the cultures represented by those speaking French as their native language. Composition at this stage is controlled.
IB French H* WL4470 <i>Honors</i> Three-year cycle denoted by colors: Blue (WL4470, Green (WL4460) and Gold (WL4480) MHS only	French 3	10-12	Full Year	The purpose of this course is to develop a greater degree of competency in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing French. The class is taught in French and all readings and texts are in French. Students will deal with several themes throughout the year. Emphasis continues on language proficiency along with the International Baccalaureate emphasis on global cultural awareness. This is part of the International Baccalaureate sequence and will prepare the student to take the standard level IB test at the end of either the eleventh or twelfth grade year. Although an International Baccalaureate course, any student who has taken three years of French prior to this course is encouraged to take it. The content is appropriate for the advanced French student regardless of whether he or she is an International Baccalaureate candidate. Note that this course cannot be part of the International Baccalaureate diploma sequence unless taken in the junior or senior year of high school because the IB diploma is a junior and senior program. Note that students taking this course as a sophomore may take the next course in the sequence to test at the SL level as a junior. A student who completes IB French as a junior and a senior, qualifies to test at the HL level.
German 1 (or 1A) WL1210 .2 WL1310 .3 JMS & DHS only	None	7-12	Full Year	This course is for any student who has a personal interest in learning German. Students will learn to understand, speak, read, and write basic German, and become acquainted with German culture. The conversational method is used to establish basic language patterns in speaking and understanding German in everyday situations. Reading and writing are done to reinforce the oral learning, and the course utilizes texts, CDs, and audio-visual materials to accomplish its goal. Students may take the course at the .2 level, while students opting for a more rigorous course make take it at the .3 level. Note: This class is offered exclusively at Jefferson Middle School and Dow High School.
German 2 (or 2 A) WL2210 .2 WL 2310 .3 JMS & DHS only	German 1	8-12	Full Year	The purpose of this course is to increase the ability to understand, speak, read and write German and to increase cultural awareness. Previously learned structures are reviewed, while more basic vocabulary and structures are acquired to aid in understanding, speaking, reading and writing German. In addition, culture continues to be stressed, allowing learners to compare their own lives with those of their counterparts in German-speaking lands. Note: this class is offered exclusively at Dow High School and Jefferson Middle School.
German 3 A WL3310 <i>Accelerated</i> DHS only	German 2	9-12	Full Year	The purpose of this course is to develop a greater proficiency in the understanding, speaking, reading and writing of German, while continuing to emphasize culture. The class is conducted in German and the skills of aural-oral communication are reviewed and expanded, increasing students' vocabulary and preparing them for longer, more complex texts.

<p>IB German H* WL4440</p> <p><i>Honors</i></p> <p>Three-year cycle denoted by colors: Blue (WL4440), Green (WL4430) and Gold (WL4450)</p> <p>DHS only</p>	German 3	10-12	Full Year	<p>The purpose of this course is to develop a greater degree of competency in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing German. The class is taught in German and all readings and texts are in German. Students will deal with several themes throughout the year. Emphasis continues on language proficiency along with the International Baccalaureate emphasis on global cultural awareness. This is part of the International Baccalaureate sequence and will prepare the student to take the standard level IB test at the end of either the eleventh or twelfth grade year. Although an International Baccalaureate course, any student who has taken three years of German prior to this course is encouraged to take it. The content is appropriate for the advanced German student regardless of whether he or she is an International Baccalaureate diploma candidate. Note that this course cannot be part of the International Baccalaureate diploma sequence unless taken in the junior or senior year of high school because the IB diploma is a junior and senior program. Note that students taking this course as a sophomore may take the next course in the sequence to test at the SL level as a junior. A student who completes IB German as a junior and a senior, qualifies to test at the HL level.</p>
<p>Mandarin 1 (or 1 A)</p> <p>WL1240 .2 WL1340 .3</p> <p>DHS only</p>	None	7-12	Full Year	<p>This course is for any student who has a personal interest in learning Mandarin. Students will learn to understand, speak, read, and write basic Mandarin, and become acquainted with Chinese culture. The conversational method is used to establish basic language patterns in speaking and understanding Mandarin in everyday situations. Reading and writing are done to reinforce the oral learning, and the course utilizes texts, CDs, and audio-visual materials to accomplish its goal. Students may take the course at the .2 level, while students opting for a more rigorous course make take it at the .3 level.</p> <p>Note: This class is offered at both middle schools and H.H. Dow High.</p>
<p>Mandarin 2 (or 2 A)</p> <p>WL2240 .2 WL2340 .3</p> <p>DHS only</p>	Mandarin 1	8-12	Full Year	<p>The purpose of this course is to expand on the Mandarin 1 discoveries. More basic vocabulary and structures are learned to aid in understanding, speaking, reading and writing Mandarin. Its objective is for students to achieve communicative competence in a variety of everyday situations. Emphasis is also placed on studying the cultures and people who speak Mandarin.</p> <p>Note: This class is offered exclusively at H H. Dow High.</p>
<p>Mandarin 3 (or 3 A)</p> <p>WL3240 .2 WL3340 .3</p> <p>DHS only</p>	Mandarin 2	9-12	Full Year	<p>The purpose of this course is to expand on the Mandarin 2 learning experiences. Additional vocabulary and communication structures are learned through an interdisciplinary approach to aid students in listening, speaking, reading, and writing Mandarin, given various contexts and everyday situations. The study of culture, countries, and the people who speak Mandarin are included.</p> <p>Note: This class is offered exclusively at H. H. Dow High.</p>
<p>IB Mandarin 4 H*</p> <p><i>Honors</i></p> <p>Three-year cycle denoted by: 4 (WL4491), 5 (WL44A1) and 6 (WL44B1)</p> <p>DHS only</p>	Mandarin 3	10-12	Full Year	<p>The purpose of this course is to develop a greater degree of competency in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Mandarin. The class is taught in Mandarin and all readings and texts are in Mandarin. Students will deal with several themes throughout the year. Emphasis continues on language proficiency along with the International Baccalaureate emphasis on global cultural awareness. This is part of the International Baccalaureate sequence and will prepare the student to take the standard level IB test at the end of either the eleventh or twelfth grade year. Although an International Baccalaureate course, any student who has taken three years of Mandarin prior to this course is encouraged to take it. The content is appropriate for the advanced Mandarin student regardless of whether he or she is an International Baccalaureate diploma candidate.</p> <p>Note: this course cannot be part of the International Baccalaureate diploma sequence unless taken in the junior or senior year of high school because the IB diploma is a junior and senior program.</p> <p>Note: students taking this course as a sophomore may take the next course in the sequence to test at the SL level as a junior. A student who completes IB Mandarin as a junior and a senior, qualifies to test at the HL level.</p>

Survey of Spanish 1 WL1230	None	9-12	Full Year	This year-long course will provide students with an introduction to Spanish. Successful completion of this course will satisfy the first year of the Michigan Merit Curriculum graduation requirement. The purpose of this course is for the student to understand, speak, read and write basic Spanish and become familiar with Hispanic culture. There will be more emphasis on communication of ideas with this course. Various methods in media will be utilized including text, CD's, computer activities and video. Note: this class does not meet NCAA Clearinghouse standards for students planning to participate in college athletics.
Spanish 1 A WL1300	None	7-12	Full Year	This course is for any student who has a personal interest in learning Spanish. The purpose of the course is for the student to learn to understand, speak, read, and write elementary Spanish and become familiar with Hispanic culture and its influence in America. The conversational method is used to establish basic language patterns and stress basic vocabulary. Reading and writing are done to reinforce the oral learning. Various methods in media are utilized including text, CDs, computer activities and video.
Survey of Spanish 2 WL2230	Survey of Spanish 1	10-12	Full Year	This is the second course of the two-year Survey of Spanish sequence. Successful completion of this course will satisfy the second year of the Michigan Merit Curriculum graduation requirement. During the second year, a student will build on their knowledge to understand, speak, read and write Spanish. They will gain greater understanding of the Hispanic culture. This course will emphasize communication of ideas. Note: this class does not meet NCAA Clearinghouse standards for students planning to participate in college athletics.
Spanish 2 A WL2300 Accelerated	Spanish 1	8-12	Full Year	The purpose of the course is to increase the ability to understand, speak, read, and write Spanish with greater accuracy and to increase cultural awareness. Previously learned structures are reviewed and more vocabulary and structures are acquired to aid in the understanding, speaking, reading, and writing of Spanish. Included is the study of the cultures, countries, and the people who speak Spanish.
Spanish 3 A WL3300 <i>Accelerated</i>	Spanish 2	9-12	Full Year	The purpose of the course is to develop a greater proficiency in the understanding, speaking, reading, and writing of Spanish. At this level there is an increased emphasis on oral development. Work is continued in grammatical structure, oral proficiency, and cultural awareness.
IB Spanish H* WL4410 <i>Honors</i> Three-year cycle denoted by colors: Blue (WL4410), Green (WL4400) and Gold (WL4420)	Spanish 3	10-12	Full Year	The purpose of this course is to develop a greater degree of competency in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish. The class is taught in Spanish and all readings and texts are in Spanish. Students will deal with several themes throughout the year. Emphasis continues on language proficiency along with the International Baccalaureate emphasis on global cultural awareness. This is part of the International Baccalaureate sequence and will prepare the student to take the standard level IB test at the end of either the eleventh or twelfth grade year. Although an International Baccalaureate course, any student who has taken three years of Spanish prior to this course is encouraged to take it. The content is appropriate for the advanced Spanish student regardless of whether he or she is an International Baccalaureate diploma candidate. Note that this course cannot be part of the International Baccalaureate diploma sequence unless taken in the junior or senior year of high school because the IB diploma is a junior and senior program. Note that students taking this course as a sophomore may take the next course in the sequence to test at the SL level as a junior. A student who completes IB Spanish as a junior and a senior, qualifies to test at the HL level.

* Three different thematic courses offered on a rotating basis. A different course is offered each year with the sequence starting over every fourth year.