

World languages give you the competitive advantage:

- ⇒ Higher verbal scores on the SAT are associated with each year of study of a world language according to the Admissions Testing program of the College Board.
- ⇒ Greater cognitive skills such as mental flexibility, creativity and higher order thinking skills are shown in students who study a world language.
- ⇒ The University of Maryland requires 2 years of a world language in high school but recommends that students “exceed that minimum, taking several honors and/or AP courses.”
- ⇒ Your ability to communicate and understand cross cultural relations is deepened when you study a world language.
- ⇒ Sixty percent of your peers in Europe are studying at least two world languages.

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Please feel free to contact our department with any questions you have.



Damascus High School World Language Scholars



One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.

-Frank Smith

In today's ever changing world, the ability to communicate in another language has become an essential skill.

At Damascus High School we offer a comprehensive program of study for students interested in becoming accomplished language students and who want to be recognized for their efforts. Students who successfully meet the program requirements can graduate with the distinction of being a ***World Language Scholar*** and wear a cord at graduation to acknowledge this accomplishment.

Being a World Language Scholar allows students to distinguish themselves during the college application process and in their job-seeking endeavors. Further, it is tangible evidence of their desire to learn, their willingness to work hard, and their understanding of the importance of languages in today's global society.



At Damascus High School
you can become a
World Language Scholar
by studying
French, Spanish or
American Sign Language.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS:

- ◆ Four years of Spanish or French at Damascus *or* three years of American Sign Language and one year of another language at Damascus.
- ◆ Maintenance of a cumulative GPA in the language of at least 3.0
- ◆ Maintenance of an unweighted cumulative GPA in all classes of at least 3.0



In addition to meeting the basic requirements, students must also complete ***ONE*** of the following academic components by interim of 3rd quarter of their 12th grade year:

- ◊ Travel on a Damascus approved trip to a country where the language is spoken and successful completion of a follow-up activity
- ◊ Forty hours of paid or volunteer work in a setting that requires regular use of the language
- ◊ One year of study of at least one *other* language offered at Damascus
- ◊ Host a visiting or exchange student or teacher who speaks the language of study
- ◊ One year as a Student Instructional Aide for a teacher in the language of study.
- ◊ OR an approved student created project similar in scope to the examples above

