

WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

The world languages program at Walter Johnson is designed to enable students to use oral and written language for meaningful and culturally appropriate communications. The program helps students appreciate linguistic and cultural diversity and the contributions of other peoples to world civilization. Students will begin to acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for effective participation in an economically, socially, and politically interdependent world. **The prerequisite for all courses, except 1A, is successful completion of the preceding course.**

In order to attain proficiency, students are encouraged to continue their study of world languages through their senior year. Students may expect their teachers to speak in the target language during class. Honors courses are offered at Level 3 and above. Preparation for AP® courses and exams in world languages begins in level 4. All level 5 world languages courses count as honors classes in calculating the student's GPA. In choosing a world language, students should be aware that there is no easiest language. If a student has a strong interest in languages, it is possible to enroll in two world languages at the same time. Students who do so should look into the department's LEAD! program of study. **See registration card for course codes**

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

Students use American Sign Language to communicate about daily life with basic vocabulary and simple grammatical structures. They explore the cultural and linguistic heritage of the Deaf community and its influence. Open to 10th, 11th, and 12th graders.

Grade Level: 10 -11-12

CHINESE

China is the most populous nation in the world; 25% of the world population speaks Chinese. For historical, economic, and cultural reasons, it is important to study China's language, people, and customs to prepare the way for global understanding.

Grade Level: 9-10-11-12

AP® CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

192900/193000

This course is for world language students interested in college-level work or credit. It links the language and the culture while developing students' proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students read, discuss, and react to a variety of texts orally and in writing in preparation for the Advanced Placement examination. In addition, this course not only focuses on the students' linguistic competence, but also emphasizes the students' awareness of Chinese culture.

FRENCH

Traditionally, French has been a second language for educated people the world over and has enjoyed the status of being the language of monumental literary works, as well as the language of international diplomacy. Among all languages, French is second only to English as the world's most used second language. Not only is French spoken in France, but it is also spoken in Canada, Belgium, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Haiti, and in many African nations.

Grade Level: 9-10-11-12

AP® FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

163500/163600

AP French is a year-long course that follows the curriculum defined by the College Board. This course is for world language students interested in college level courses or gaining advanced college credit. Students concentrate on developing proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in preparation for the Advanced Placement® language examination. In addition, this course will emphasize mastery of linguistic competencies at a very high level of proficiency in accord with the curriculum defined by the College Board.

Prerequisite: French 5

FRENCH 6

161600/162600

French 6 will consider the breadth of French culture, to include signal achievements in French film, music, art, theater, and literature. Organized thematically, the works will include masterpieces originating both in France and in the wider Francophone world. Students will be expected to apply analytic techniques learned in other literary, art, and music courses as well as to master the uniquely French "explication de texte," where the reader learns to examine closely the precision and the authorial intent inherent in the written text or the viewed or oral experience provided by the author. This course may be considered the student's culminating high school experience in French.

Prerequisite: AP® French Language

Grade Level: 10-11-12

ITALIAN

A vibrant, musical language, Italian is the official or co-official language of Italy, San Marino, Vatican City, parts of Switzerland, and some areas of Slovenia and Croatia. Italian cultural contributions world-wide are familiar to most. Italian 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 emphasize a practical, authentic approach to learning the language.

Grade Level: 9-10-11-12

AP® ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**194500/194600**

AP® Italian is a year-long course that follows the curriculum defined by the College Board. This course is for world language students interested in college level courses or gaining advanced college credit. Students concentrate on developing proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in preparation for the Advanced Placement® language examination. In addition, this course will emphasize mastery of linguistic competencies at a very high level of proficiency in accord with the curriculum defined by the College Board.

Prerequisite: Italian

LATIN

The language of the ancient Romans is alive and well today in our Latin classes. Students who study Latin gain the opportunity to discover the Romans' influence on language, science, law, art, literature, film, and architecture. Latin classes focus on developing the analytical skills needed for reading the language, examining Latin roots in English, and exploring Classical history, mythology, art, and literature. Statistics show that students of Latin improve their verbal SAT scores.

Grade Level: 9-10-11-12

AP® LATIN**181900/182000**

AP® Latin is a year-long course that follows the curriculum defined by the College Board. This course is intended for only the most advanced Latin students.

SPANISH

The United States is a highly multilingual country with Spanish the second-most spoken language in U.S. homes. This has tremendous implications for education, business, and the professions. Those Americans who learn Spanish will be able to participate more actively in, and benefit from, this vital cross-cultural phenomenon. There is a large body of literature to be read and enjoyed from both Spain and Latin America.

Grade 9-10-11-12

AP® SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**175900/176000**

This course is for world language students interested in college level courses or gaining advanced college credit. Students concentrate on developing proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in preparation for the Advanced Placement® language examination. In addition, this course will emphasize mastery of linguistic competencies at a very high level of proficiency.

Prerequisite: Spanish 5

Grade Level: 11-12

AP® SPANISH LITERATURE**176100/176200**

This course is open to students who have completed Spanish 5, AP® Spanish Language or who have near-native fluency in speaking, reading, and writing as determined by the instructor or the Resource Teacher.

This course is for world language students interested in college level work or credit. A selection of challenging literary materials helps students deepen their understanding of how literature communicates meaning through form and content. Students read, discuss, and react to representative works of a range of literary genres and themes in preparation for the appropriate AP® exam.

Prerequisite: Spanish 5

Grade Level: 11-12