WORLD LANGUAGES

Life in a global community has heightened awareness as to the value of and the need for effective communication in two or more languages. The World Languages Department believes that everyone must be prepared to meet the challenges of a diverse and changing world. We believe that the study of world languages enhances one’s appreciation of the unique contributions of other cultures - their history, art, music, and literature. We believe that language study strengthens the understanding of one’s native language and introduces opportunities to expand one’s horizons. In addition, recent studies have shown that the study of another language improves cognitive skills and can keep the brain healthy!

**Recommended:** 3 or 4 year sequence in one language

**Required:** 2 consecutive years in one language

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**WORLD LANGUAGES**

- **French I**
  - College Prep
- **French II**
  - College Prep
- **French III**
  - College Prep
- **French IV**
  - College Prep
- **French I**
  - Honors/MPS Pre-IB
- **French II**
  - Honors/MPS Pre-IB
- **French III**
  - Honors/IB
- **French IV**
  - Honors/IB
  - IB Standard Level
- **Spanish I**
  - College Prep
- **Spanish II**
  - College Prep
- **Spanish III**
  - College Prep
- **Spanish IV**
  - College Prep
  - IB Standard Level
- **Spanish I**
  - Honors/MPS Pre-IB
- **Spanish II**
  - Honors/MPS Pre-IB
- **Spanish III**
  - Honors/IB
- **Spanish IV**
  - Honors/IB
  - IB Standard Level

Please note: There is mobility among College Prep, Honors, and IB Levels based on teacher and/or department recommendations.

Term Electives: Intro to Italian, Learning Abroad at MPS I, Learning Abroad at MPS II

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**FRENCH**

French is the 2nd most commonly taught language in the world. It is the language of cuisine, fashion, architecture, theatre, arts and dance. It is spoken in 43 countries on 5 continents and is the second most used language on the internet. It is the official 2nd language of Canada and the official working language of many international organizations including the U.N., the International Red Cross, and the International Olympic Committee.
FRENCH I – COLLEGE PREP
#5001 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This is an introductory level course, addressing the skill areas of communication: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will be introduced to basic everyday vocabulary and learn how to greet people, talk about themselves, family and friends, describe their classes, the school day, discuss food, and places in the city. They will learn grammar structures needed for conversation at this level, such as verb conjugations in the present tense, adjective agreement, asking and answering questions and using numbers to tell the date and time. Culture and traditions of the francophone world will be presented throughout the year in relation to the vocabulary topics, holidays, and current events.

FRENCH I – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#5002 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Student must be in an Honors/IB English class

The Honors level is designed for serious and academically motivated students who are capable of learning at an accelerated pace. Students will regularly work beyond the minimum requirements as they focus on speaking in French. This year they will learn how to greet people, talk about themselves, family and friends, describe their classes, the school day, discuss food, and places in the city. They will learn grammar structures needed for conversation at this level such as verb conjugations in the present tense, adjective agreement, asking and answering questions and using numbers to tell the date and time. Culture and traditions of the francophone world will be presented throughout the year in relation to the vocabulary topics, holidays, and current events.

FRENCH II – COLLEGE PREP
#5003 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: French I

This is a year-long course that reinforces the foundation of communication skills introduced in French I. Students will continue to strengthen their abilities in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. They will learn vocabulary for traveling and vacation time. They will be able to discuss the weather, pastimes and sports, talk about clothing, shopping and celebrations, as well as be able to describe one’s home and house chores. The course will continue to present grammar topics with emphasis on the past tense and irregular verb conjugations. Cultural readings and discussions accompany each chapter with a focus on France and its regions, Quebec, and Tahiti. Holiday celebrations, culinary specialties, and unique traditions will also be observed through variety of media.

FRENCH II – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#5004 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: French I and teacher recommendation

The honors level is designed for serious and academically motivated language students who regularly work beyond the minimum requirements and who are capable of learning at an accelerated pace. This course reinforces the foundation of communication skills introduced in French I Honors. Students will continue to strengthen their abilities in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. They will be encouraged to speak in the target language as much as possible. They will learn vocabulary for traveling and vacation time, be able to discuss the weather, pastimes and sports, talk about clothing, shopping and celebrations, as well as describe one’s home and house chores. The course will continue to present grammar topics with emphasis on the past tense, irregular verb conjugation, and the different parts of speech: adverbs, adjectives, and object pronouns. Cultural discussions accompany each chapter with a focus on France and its regions, Quebec, and Tahiti. Holiday celebrations, culinary specialties, and unique traditions will be also observed through variety of media.

FRENCH III – COLLEGE PREP
#5005 Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: French II and teacher recommendation

This course is designed to reinforce the grammar and vocabulary previously learned in the first two years of French, as well as introduce new topics of study. Students will learn how to describe themselves and their childhood experiences using the imperfect tense. They will learn the grammatical structures necessary to help them communicate, both in writing and speaking. Vocabulary topics include food preparation, daily routines, health care, technology, and city life. They will also begin to talk about the future and future plans. Relevant cultural readings, videos, and discussions complement each unit.
FRENCH III – HONORS/IB
#5006 Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: French II Honors and teacher recommendation

The course is intended for students who are able to continue their language studies at an accelerated rate. It is required for those students wishing to pursue an IB certificate in French. The focus of level III Honors courses is the acquisition of a wide range of vocabulary and the study of advanced grammatical topics. As they continue to perfect their abilities in the four areas of language acquisition, students will write longer essays, carry on discussions, and use texts from various media. Students are expected to speak French in class. Students will learn how to describe themselves and their childhood experiences using the imperfect tense. Other verb tenses will be introduced to help students fully express themselves and they will greatly add to their existing base of knowledge about other grammatical structures. They will also learn vocabulary regarding food preparation, daily routine, health care, technology, and the job market. Students will have the experience of developing oral presentations, both recorded and before their peers, giving them confidence to speak as well as write the language. A particular emphasis will be placed upon IB oral work.

FRENCH IV – COLLEGE PREP
#5007 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: French III and teacher recommendation

French IV will continue developing the communicative skills established through the previous three years of study. In addition to perfecting their French pronunciation and knowledge of grammatical structures, students will expand their vocabulary so that they can discuss future plans for university and work, explore environmental issues facing the world today, and take a more in-depth look at arts and leisure-time activities of the francophone world. Students will be able to read and understand material presented on these topics, watch short films and videos relevant to these topics, and be able to discuss and give their opinions about what they have read/watched.

FRENCH IV – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#5008 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: French III IB/H and teacher recommendation

This course is the second part of the two-year sequence that is required for students pursuing the IB certificate in French. The main focus of the course is on the development of the three types of communication skills: interpretive (listening and reading), presentational (writing and speaking), and interpersonal (debating and discussing). These language skills will be developed through the study and use of written and spoken material that is associated with francophone cultures around the world. Vocabulary topics will center on the IB themes of communication and media, social relationships, global issues, health, leisure, customs and traditions. Students will continue to study advanced grammar topics to augment what they have already learned and to allow them to speak and write at a more advanced level.

SPANISH

Spanish is spoken in more than 20 countries, is the 4th most spoken language in the world, and is an official language of many international organizations. Most recent numbers suggest that the United States is home to 41 million native Spanish speakers, with an additional 11.6 million who are bilingual.

SPANISH I – COLLEGE PREP
#5101 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This class is an introduction to the Spanish language stressing the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through a communicative approach. Students will learn how to greet people, talk about themselves, family and friends, describe their classes, tell what they do during the school day, and discuss pastimes and weather. They will learn grammar structures needed for conversation at this level, such as verb conjugations in the present tense, adjective agreement, asking and answering questions, and using numbers to tell the date and time. Cultural topics include holiday celebrations and information pertaining to various countries throughout the Spanish-speaking world.
SPANISH I HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#5102 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Student must be in an Honors/IB English class

The Honors level is designed for serious and academically motivated students who are capable of learning at an accelerated pace. Students will regularly work beyond the minimum requirements as they focus on speaking in Spanish. Students will learn how to greet people, talk about themselves, family and friends, describe their classes, tell what they do during the school day, and discuss pastimes and weather. They will learn grammatical structures needed for conversation at this level, such as verb conjugations in the present tense, adjective agreement, asking and answering questions and using numbers to tell the date and time. Cultural topics include holiday celebrations and information pertaining to various countries throughout the Spanish-speaking world.

SPANISH II – COLLEGE PREP
#5103 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Spanish II College Prep is a year-long course that reinforces the foundation of communication skills introduced in Spanish I. Students will continue to strengthen their abilities in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. They will explore vocabulary topics such as sports, clothing and shopping, house and chores, and daily routines. The focus on grammar will extend from Spanish I in describing events in the present as well as using reflexive verbs, expressing ongoing actions in the present progressive, and concluding with an introduction to actions happening in the past. Students will continue their study of cultures of various Spanish-speaking countries around the world, with a special focus on the islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico.

SPANISH II – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#5104 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish I and teacher recommendation

This Honors/Pre-IB course is designed for serious and academically motivated language students who regularly work beyond the minimum requirements and who are capable of learning at an accelerated pace. Students will continue to advance in the four areas of language acquisition, i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing. They will be encouraged to speak in Spanish as much as possible. Some vocabulary topics include sports, clothing and shopping, house and chores, food, and daily routines. Grammar topics include stem-changing verbs, reflexive verbs, the preterite tense, and various pronouns and adjectives. This course incorporates culture pertaining to the Spanish-speaking world, with a focus on the islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico.

SPANISH III – COLLEGE PREP
#5105 Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish II and teacher recommendation

As the students begin the year, they will continue their study of the preterite tense. Also, they will learn how to describe their childhood experiences and be able to tell what they were like as children using the imperfect tense. Vocabulary topics include ordering food at a restaurant, talking about personal health and well-being, and discussing vacations and traveling. Students will be introduced to necessary grammatical structures as they increase both written and oral abilities. Relevant cultural readings, videos, and discussions complement each unit.
SPANISH III – HONORS/IB
#5106 Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish II Honors and teacher recommendation

The course is intended for students who are able to continue their language studies at an accelerated rate. It is required for those students wishing to pursue an IB certificate in Spanish. The focus of level III Honors courses is the acquisition of a wide range of vocabulary and the study of advanced grammatical topics. As the students begin the year they will learn how to describe their childhood experiences and be able to tell what they were like as a child using the imperfect tense. The students will be able to talk about personal health and well-being, describe vacations and traveling, and discuss careers and professions. They will be introduced to necessary grammatical structures such as giving commands and using the prepositions por and para. As the students progress in their study of Spanish, they will write several essays and prepare presentations in order to increase both written and oral abilities.

SPANISH IV – COLLEGE PREP
#5107 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish III and teacher recommendation

As students enter their final year of Spanish, they will be introduced to vocabulary for outdoor activities, nature, the environment, conservation and life in the city. They will also learn structures that will enable them to express their beliefs and opinions about current events and issues. They will learn how to tell what someone has or had done, give advice to others, give and receive directions and much more. Students will write several essays and prepare oral presentations. By the end of the fourth year students will have a basic command of Spanish in all four language skills: listening, talking, reading and writing.

SPANISH IV – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#5108 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish III IB/H and teacher recommendation

This course is the second part of the two-year sequence that is required for students pursuing the IB certificate in Spanish. Students will spend this year reinforcing and reviewing what they have learned in the last three years as well as learning new grammar and vocabulary. Students will focus on the themes and topics that are pertinent to the IB curriculum. Students will be given the opportunity to communicate in Spanish in a meaningful and relevant manner. Significant topics, such as immigration, health, science and technology, global issues, etc. will be covered. During the course of the year, students will write several essays and compose oral presentations as they prepare for the IB Spanish exam in May. At the end of the year, an improved linguistic ability will allow the students to appreciate the Spanish language as a tool that will provide them with a plethora of opportunities that will open many doors in their future.

WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVES

INTRODUCTION TO ITALIAN - COLLEGE PREP
#5301 Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Would you like to order something at an Italian restaurant and be able to pronounce it correctly and know exactly what you are eating? Would you like to arrive at the airport in Rome and know what to do, what to say and where to go? Come and spend a term in Intro to Italian and we’ll give you the tools that you will need to comfortably get around and communicate in the land of amore! There will be an emphasis on speaking and translating in the present tense as well as on the vocabulary which will be the most useful in the area of travel. Come on...let’s go! Andiamo!

LAMPS I - LEARNING ABROAD AT MPS I
#5321 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed to introduce students to the history, culture, architecture, and language of the target countries during the spring trip abroad. Participation in this trip is not required for the course. MPS faculty with particular expertise related to the trip as well as outside experts will be invited to work with the students to develop a rich understanding of specific content. Students will work in teams to put together a digital travel guide and blog focused around the sites to be visited. A field trip to a location related to the spring itinerary (but within the tri-state area) will offer the opportunity to enhance content and to develop travel skills.
This course is designed specifically for students who will be participating in the spring trip abroad and who have completed #5321 in the previous term. The specific outcomes will be to provide 1) an experiential learning experience about the targeted countries, 2) an opportunity to reflect after the trip on the full arc of their learning, and 3) an opportunity to create a digital artifact of their learning through travel. Students will build on the historical, cultural, and social knowledge they developed in #5321 through targeted travel experiences to other countries. Specifically, students will experience other cultures during the trip, augmented by targeted lectures from accompanying faculty, and will reflect on their experiences through the creation of an individualized digital travel portfolio that they may use for college applications or other academic/occupational purposes.