

2024-2025

World Language

Course Offerings

SPANISH I

In first-year Spanish, get ready to embark on a dynamic and engaging journey of language acquisition. This course is designed to provide beginners with a solid foundation in Spanish language and culture. Through a scaffolded curriculum, students will build a gradual progression of skills, ensuring a strong grasp of the fundamentals while gaining confidence in communication. Learn grammar and vocabulary as tools to express yourself accurately. Immerse yourself in the diverse cultures of the Spanish-speaking world through videos, songs, and cultural celebrations, such as Día de los Muertos, Reyes Magos and more. From basic greetings to more complex dialogues, you will develop and practice your speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Jump on the path of linguistic and cultural exploration in Spanish where so many doors will be opened to you as you develop proficiency in the language!

SPANISH II AND SPANISH II HONORS

Spanish II continues the exploration of Spanish language and culture, building upon the foundational knowledge acquired in Spanish I. Students will engage in immersive activities that emphasize real-world scenarios, fostering the development of meaningful oral and written communication skills while making connections between disciplines and cultures. The curriculum integrates grammar and vocabulary as essential tools to building proficiency, ensuring that language learning is purposeful and applicable while also rooted in the rich variety of Spanish-speaking cultures. Get ready to “travel” to a famous market in Madrid, create a mock-food truck featuring your favorite tacos, learn music by new Latin artists, and engage in daily conversations in Spanish with your classmates. This course sets the stage for continued language development and cultural exploration in the next level of your Spanish studies. The Honors level is by teacher recommendation and provides a more rigorous and in-depth study of the material with higher expectations of language production.

SPANISH III AND SPANISH III HONORS

Spanish III provides students with the next step on their language-acquisition path, where communication in the target language and further exploration of more advanced grammar take center stage. This course builds upon the foundational knowledge acquired in Spanish I and II, employing a communicative approach to enhance both oral and written skills. Continue to deepen your appreciation for the Spanish language through culturally contextualized lessons, gaining a deeper understanding of Hispanic cultures. Grammar and vocabulary are integrated as tools to further develop your proficiency in communication while encouraging you to make connections between cultures. Travel in time and space to the Mexican Conquest, creating a Códice to talk about your role in the Conquest in the past tenses. Design an ecotravel brochure about Nicaragua and read a short story by Gabriel García Márquez. By the end of Spanish III, you'll be equipped to communicate in a variety of contexts with increased ease. The Spanish III Honors class is by teacher recommendation and provides a more rigorous pace at which the students cover the curriculum, with higher expectations of language production. ¡Se habla español! It is the natural progression for more advanced Spanish courses.



SPANISH IV AND SPANISH IV HONORS

Spanish IV is a thematically rich, project-based course that continues the curriculum of Spanish III. This course encourages students to further develop their linguistic competence with a special emphasis on oral comprehension and production. Cultural contexts range from the world of work, art, current events and environmental challenges. Each unit culminates with a project that invites students to use their recently acquired skills to produce a tangible artifact. Among other things, students create an interactive art gallery, film a television news broadcast about current events in Latin America, and discuss environmental challenges. The course is taught entirely in Spanish. Students who engage at the more rigorous Honors level can continue their language journey to either Advanced Spanish Language and Culture or Advanced Spanish Literature.

SPANISH LANGUAGE (ADV)

This course is open to students who have completed IV Honors or by teacher recommendation. In this advanced course, students learn to use their Spanish in real-life situations while engaging in the study of six overlapping contemporary themes related to Hispanic culture, such as beauty, global challenges, and personal identity. Students practice the four skill areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing via emails, articles, short stories, podcasts, and videos. In this course, you will learn to express yourself in informal and formal writing, to make formal oral presentations to your classmates, and to engage in daily conversations and debates. Students hone finer grammar points and expand their vocabulary while engaging in everything from exploring the definition of beauty in Venezuela to reading a short story by Julio Cortázar to debating the ethics of genetic engineering. The course is taught entirely in Spanish and is designed to be a college level class.

SPANISH LITERATURE (ADV)

Join us on this amazing journey of Hispanic Literature from 16th century barrier-breaking Sor Juana de la Cruz to the 20th century master of magical realism Gabriel García Márquez in the Advanced Spanish Literature course. This class offers students a curated selection of essays, poetry, drama, and short stories by important Spanish and Latin American authors spanning the medieval era to the 21st century. Students will analyze literary masterpieces by engaging in dynamic class discussions and essays that compare, contrast, and contextualize what they've read within their cultural and historical settings. Conducted entirely in Spanish, the class will help students hone their speaking, listening, and writing fluency. This challenging but rewarding class is equivalent to a college-level course, offering a profound exploration of Spanish literature.

SPANISH CULTURE AND CONVERSATION

Spanish Culture and Conversation is a bilingual, elective course that can be taken as a trimester or year-long class. Each trimester, students will immerse themselves in an exploration of Spanish Speaking cultures from Latin America, Spain, and Equatorial Guinea. Students will hone their language proficiency and intercultural competence, while learning about storytelling and mythology in the first trimester, the language of the kitchen and food in the second



trimester, and the evolution of protest through music in the final trimester. Each trimester ends with a final project that encapsulates the theme: performing an original creation story or myth, filming a recipe video, and writing an original protest song. By the end of the course, students will emerge with an appreciation of the cultural nuances, historical legacies, and contemporary dynamics that shape the vibrant tapestry of Spanish-speaking societies. This course is meant to accommodate students who have completed Spanish III and who want to further their study of Spanish and Hispanic cultures without language being an impediment to their understanding.

FRENCH I

In first-year French, students engage in the exciting initial steps of learning to communicate in French. This course is designed to provide beginners with a solid foundation in French language and culture. Through a scaffolded curriculum, students will build a gradual progression of skills, ensuring a strong grasp of the fundamentals while gaining confidence in communication. Grammar and vocabulary are taught as tools to facilitate expression. Immerse yourself in the diverse cultures of the Francophone world through videos, songs, and cultural celebrations such as la Fête de la Musique and la Fête du Citron.. From basic greetings to more complex dialogues, you will develop and practice your speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Jump on the path of linguistic and cultural exploration in French where knowing the language will allow you to communicate with a wide diversity of people from around the globe.

FRENCH II AND FRENCH II HONORS

The second year of French continues to build the strong foundation of the language necessary to creatively explore its nuances. This course takes an immersive approach to teaching and learning, offering students the opportunity to develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through practical lessons on grammar and exposure to authentic documents in the target language. Students in this course will practice telling stories using the past tense, discuss their daily habits and routines, and learn how to navigate conversations about health and technology with reflective verbs. Throughout the year, they will write and present conversations incorporating acquired grammar and vocabulary, celebrate Francophone holidays such as La Chandeleur, write a formal email in French, and reflect on the effects of technology on our social habits. The Honors course is by teacher recommendation and allows students who are ready to engage more deeply with higher expectations of language production.

FRENCH III AND FRENCH III HONORS

The third year of French invites students to start considering the nuances of the French language. Grammar structures and vocabulary play an integral role in this immersion-based approach to language acquisition, but French III presents the students with class discussions conducted mostly in the target language. Following the themes in our textbook *D'accord!*, students will strengthen their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills by expanding their vocabulary, studying authentic texts, and diving into cultural comparisons. Students will research French cities and compare them with their classmates, participate in a debate about living in the city versus the countryside, celebrate Francophone holidays such as Mardi Gras, and write a short podcast using the *passé composé* and the imperfect. The Honors course is by teacher recommendation and allows students who are ready to engage more deeply with higher expectations of language production.



FRENCH IV AND FRENCH IV HONORS

French IV is a deep dive into contemporary cultural issues of the French speaking world. Grammatical concepts are reviewed that were first introduced in the basic sequence (1-3), of French I, II, and III, but the emphasis of this course is to develop linguistic competence to be able to engage in discussions about issues from the impact of the media on the individual, the challenges of immigration, globalization and rural exodus, the changing character of the modern family. Special emphasis is placed on oral comprehension and production. Students will engage in activities such as creating posters and brochures to raise awareness about climate change, participating in debates, writing essays, and reading extracts of classic and contemporary authors such as Victor Hugo, Alexandre Dumas or Amélie Nothomb. The course is taught entirely in French and is the prerequisite for the Advanced French Language and Culture course. The French IV Honors class is by teacher recommendation and provides a more rigorous pace at which the students cover the curriculum, with higher expectations of language production.

FRENCH LANGUAGE (ADV)

In this French V Advanced course, students have the invaluable opportunity to deeply investigate a variety of subjects addressed through readings, audio documents, and classroom discussions. These authentic documents provide a launching point for the course, giving students exposure to new developments in medicine in Cameroon, the traditions of Carnaval in Quebec, the intercultural identities of Francophone peoples, and the creative innovation of Dakar Fashion Week. Pieces of literature are also woven into the curriculum, enhancing the students' understanding of Francophone language and culture. French V students will learn how to write cohesive essays in French, to carry classroom discussions about complicated topics, and to analyze documents written and spoken in advanced French.

FRENCH LITERATURE (ADV)

This French elective is designed for students in French IV Honors and higher and as a continuation of Advanced French. In the first trimester, students will tackle French literature by reading short stories and poetry, from medieval works to classic fairy tales to contemporary fiction. During the second trimester, students will study plays based in the genre of comedy. And during the third trimester, the course will focus on one particular novel, chosen from this list of possible candidates: *Les Trois Mousquetaires* (1844) by Alexandre Dumas, *Madame Bovary* (1857) by Gustave Flaubert, or *Au Bonheur des Dames* (1883) by Emile Zola.

