

**2025-2026**

# 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 1. 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 presents a more rigorous pace at which the students cover the curriculum, with higher expectations of language production and deeper dives into the grammar or cultural topic. Spanish II Honors asks students to stay in the Target Language around 85-90% of the time, and to produce more original work, such as papers and presentations instead of posters, to demonstrate their knowledge. This course typically requires 45 minutes of homework per night.*

## SPANISH III AND SPANISH III HONORS

Spanish III and Spanish III Honors offers students 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 1 and 2, 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 3, you'll be equipped to communicate in a variety of contexts with increased ease.

*The Spanish 3 Honors class is by teacher recommendation and presents a more rigorous pace at which the students cover the curriculum, with higher expectations of language production and deeper dives into the grammar or cultural topic. Spanish III Honors asks students to stay in the Target Language around 95% of the*



*time, and to produce more original work, such as papers and presentations instead of posters, to demonstrate their knowledge. This course typically requires 45 minutes of homework per night.*

## **SPANISH IV**

This Spanish IV Culture and Conversation is 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 3 and who want to further their study of Spanish and Hispanic cultures without language being an impediment to their understanding; in that sense it can serve as an alternative to Spanish IV Honors or one of the Advanced Spanish courses.

## **SPANISH IV HONORS**

Spanish 4H is a thematically rich course that revisits grammatical concepts first introduced in the basic sequence (1-3), but drills deeper into their usages. The course encourages students to further develop their linguistic competence with a special emphasis on oral comprehension and production. Cultural contexts range from family relationships to leisure/outdoor activities to current environmental challenges. Every unit culminates with a project that invites students to use their recently acquired skills to produce a tangible artifact. Among other things, students create a tourist guide for a Latin American city, film a television news broadcast about current events in Latin America and present an oral cultural lesson comparing extracurricular programming in their community with an after-school soccer program in Colombia. The course is taught entirely in Spanish. Students are encouraged to continue their language journey to either Advanced Spanish Language and Culture or Advanced Spanish Literature.

*The Spanish 4 Honors class is by teacher recommendation and asks students to stay in the Target Language 99% of the time. Students are expected to produce original work, such as papers and presentations instead of posters, to demonstrate their knowledge. This course typically requires 45 minutes of homework per night.*

## **SPANISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE (ADVANCED)**

This course is open to students who have completed 4 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 and aesthetics, 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, students learn to express themselves in informal and formal writing, to make formal oral presentations to their 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



beautiful hair 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 rigorous college level class with a demanding but rewarding curriculum.

## **SPANISH LITERATURE (ADVANCED)**

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 from 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.

## **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, authentic texts, and cultural celebrations, such as la fête de la musique, Mardi Grass, la fête du citron, 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 French where knowing the language will allow you to communicate with a wide diversity of people from around the globe.

## **FRENCH II**

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 French II Honors class is by teacher recommendation and asks students to stay in the Target Language 90% of the time. Students are expected to produce original work, such as papers and presentations instead of posters, to demonstrate their knowledge. This course typically requires 45 minutes of homework per night.*



## **FRENCH III**

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 La Chandeleur, and write a short podcast using the passé composé and the imperfect.

*The French III Honors class is by teacher recommendation and asks students to stay in the Target Language 95% of the time. Students are expected to produce original work, such as papers and presentations instead of posters, to demonstrate their knowledge. This course typically requires 45 minutes of homework per night.*

## **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), 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. Students are provided language-use activities that will enable them to function in informal and most formal settings; understand authentic materials (oral/written), produce written paragraphs, articles and essays, and do research assignments using current and relevant resources online. 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 asks students to stay in the Target Language 95% of the time. Students are expected to produce original work, such as papers and presentations instead of posters, to demonstrate their knowledge. This course typically requires 45 minutes of homework per night.*

## **FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE (ADVANCED)**

In Advanced French Language and Culture, 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: SHORT WORKS OF FICTION**

### **TRIMESTER 1**

This French elective is designed for students who have completed French III H or above. In this elective, students will tackle French literature by reading short stories and poetry, from medieval works to classic fairy tales to contemporary fiction. The works studied will span many centuries and include medieval poetry by Marie de France, fables by Jean de la Fontaine and fairy tales by Charles Perrault, poetry of the 19th century, and a selection of contemporary literature by authors such as Annie Ernaux. Such a survey will help students better understand French literature and develop students' confidence in reading, writing, and discussing work in the target language. The students will research authors and the contexts in which they wrote and produced their work and also write their own versions of short stories, fables, fairy tales, or poetry inspired by the works studied in this course.

## **FRENCH LITERATURE: THE FRENCH COMEDY**

### **TRIMESTER 2**

Bienvenue sur scène, welcome to the stage! This French elective serves as a stand-alone elective course offered to students who have completed French III H or as a continuation of the previous trimester's elective course, Exploring Short Works of French Literature. In this course, students will study plays based in the genre of comedy, such as Tartuffe by Molière, Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmond Rostand, and La Cantatrice Chauve by Eugene Ionesco. Along with reading these works, the students will also watch scenes from adaptations of these plays in order to understand how these works go from the page to the stage. Students will also get a taste of the history of French theatre from the Renaissance to the 19th century, developing their knowledge of French playwrights, actors, and famous French theatres. This course culminates in the students performing their own monologue, dialogue, or scene of their choice, giving themselves the chance to adapt them to their liking.

## **FRENCH LITERATURE: THE FRENCH NOVEL**

### **TRIMESTER 3**

This French elective serves as a stand-alone elective course offered to students who have completed French III H or as a continuation of the previous one or two French Literature electives. Students will read and dissect a full-length novel in the target language. The course will focus on one particular novel, chosen from this list of possible candidates: Les Trois Musquetaires (1844) by Alexandre Duman, Madame Bovary (1857) by Gustave Flaubert, or Au Bonheur des Dames (1883) by Emile Zola. The chosen work will also be supplemented by excerpts from other relevant works to enhance the students' understanding of the themes presented in the novel. The exercise of reading a novel in French will further develop the students' ability to read and analyze the target language, introduce aspects of French history and culture through a unique lens, and inspire research into the author and the context of the work in French literary history. The course will also show a screen adaptation of the novel providing students with the chance to compare and contrast how characters, themes, and events are handled in the novel versus on screen. Students will finish the semester by developing their own thesis and articulating their own thoughts about the novel in an essay.



## World Language Course Levels: Honors and Advanced

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### **HONORS COURSES**

Honors courses progress at a faster rate than standard courses and cover more material in more depth. They ask students to stay in the Target Language and produce more original work, such as debates, discussions, papers and presentations instead of posters, to demonstrate their knowledge. They typically require more homework of the students and more independent work, too.

### **ADVANCED COURSES**

Advanced Courses are courses that were formerly taught as Advanced Placement classes. Thus, they represent a step up from the introductory courses in the major disciplines. They integrate prior knowledge into their instruction and require a pre-requisite, such as Spanish or French IV Honors. Advanced courses typically come with a higher homework load--often 45 minutes per night as opposed to the 30 minutes a night that typifies levels I-IV courses (honors and standard level). Independent study and skill practice is emphasized in these classes. The Advanced courses are taught 100% in the target language and students are expected to speak only the Target Language in class.

