



Robert E. Fitch High School WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVES

“Without language, one cannot talk to people and understand them; one cannot share their hopes and aspirations, grasp their history, appreciate their poetry, or savour their songs.”

— Nelson Mandela

Students of World Languages are encouraged to earn the Connecticut State Seal of Biliteracy award which will appear on their high school transcript and diploma. Ask your teacher or counselor for further information.



American Sign Language—ASL

American Sign Language I (1 Credit)



Students are introduced to the basics of ASL: hand shapes that comprise the numerical and linguistic system, grammar and syntax, vocabulary, fingerspelling, numbers, visual-manual communication and Deaf culture. “Deafness”, Deaf culture and history are introduced with an emphasis on making comparisons and connections to one’s own culture. Topics include: introducing oneself, exchanging personal information, talking about where you live, talking about family, and talking about everyday activities. Class participation is required and **voicing in English is limited**, so that visual and manual skill development can be maximized. Chrome books are required daily.

American Sign Language II (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: completion of ASL I (C or better)

In this second course, students continue to develop receptive (viewing/visual) and expressive (manual) communication skills with ASL. Emphasis is placed on receptive and expressive vocabulary, syntax and grammar and fingerspelling skills, while continuing to explore American Deaf history and culture. Course activities and instruction are primarily in ASL, to continue to foster and enhance visual & manual learning and skill development. Students will be introduced to classifiers and ASL idioms and challenged to expand use of non-manual markers (facial expression & gesture). **English is limited**. Chrome books are required daily in class.

American Sign Language III (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: completion of ASL II (C or better)

In this third course, students will further deepen their skills and understanding of ASL and Deaf culture. Students will continue to develop receptive and expressive fingerspelling, vocabulary, syntax and grammar skills, and will expand their use and understanding of ASL classifiers and idioms. American Deaf culture and history will continue to be expanded upon, and students will delve into more modern/contemporary issues relevant to ASL, Deaf culture and “Deafness.” Course activities and instruction are primarily in ASL, **English is very limited**, and students are required to bring chrome book to class daily.

French

CP French 1 (1 Credit)

Did you know that about 45% of English vocabulary is of French origin?

This course offers speaking and listening practice, basic sentence structure and elementary grammar patterns within thematic units about everyday life. Students begin to study cultural relationships. Technology and audio-visual material enhance skill development. Student performance and acquisition of key foundations are focused upon.

Students who earned "C-" or better in middle school or out-of-district French 1 should do French 2 or Honors French 2. Teacher recommendation advised to go to Honors 2.



CP French 2 (1 Credit)

Build on communication tasks introduced in French 1 with opportunities to develop listening, reading, writing and speaking skills. Writing and speaking style is enriched through practical application of vocabulary and grammar. Media, technology and hands-on projects help students see French in action.

CP French 3 (1 Credit)

Active communication skills in listening, reading, writing and speaking are emphasized. You'll need a good foundation in French 1 and 2 for the more advanced language applications in this course. Students take responsibility to substantially enrich their vocabulary through authentic readings, audio and video activities, dialogues and key topics of daily life.

CP French 4 (1 Credit)

Continue to explore key topics of daily life, picking up where CP French 3 leaves off. Review more complex structures in everyday conversation and in practical writing activities. Various short readings and documents support emphasis on writing, role plays and presentations. Broadened cultural understanding is fostered through research and creative projects. Current events are highlighted through online resources.

Prerequisites

A "C-" or better in the prior language level is highly recommended for these courses.

Honors French 2 (1 Credit)

Designed for students who have demonstrated superior motivation and skill level in French 1, focus is placed on oral proficiency and application of language structures in various types of writing and speaking tasks. The pace is faster than that of CP French 2, incorporating enrichment activities such as projects and active communication requirements. Authentic readings and audio-visual exercises expand vocabulary and stress communication about present and past events. Honors French 2 prepares students with tools and practice required for Honors French 3.

Honors French 3 (1 Credit)

Language acquisition goals of students who have shown superior achievement in Honors French 2 are addressed. Oral and written practice integrate higher-level vocabulary and advanced structures, while developing more natural syntax. Skills are strengthened through paired and group activities, audio-visual methods and projects. French is used daily in class. Communication centered on future, hypothetical and subjunctive concepts is key. Honors French 3 supports proficiency required for transition to Honors French 4 and is a prerequisite for IB French 11.





IB French ab Initio (Year 1 and Year 2)

Be a part of IB! World Language is integral to the focus of the IB program. ***Ab initio*** is designed for students with little to no experience in French; it is an initiation to a new language and culture. The most important placement consideration is that the course be a challenging educational experience. The course is based on acquisition of measurable performance skills with an emphasis on speaking and writing. Core themes of Identities, Experiences, Human Ingenuity, Social Organization and Sharing the Planet provide students with opportunities to practice and explore French and to develop intercultural understanding. Exams at the end of Year Two include an oral interview, reading and listening comprehension and writing tasks to assess students' full range of abilities.



Honors French 4 (1 Credit)

Targeted to students with superior motivation and communication skills, course emphasis is on debate of current events and cultural topics in the French-speaking world. Literature, texts and videos are studied. Oral presentations and writing tasks are frequent. Projects allow students to explore particular areas of personal interest related to French language and culture and make connections with their



French for the Workplace (1 Credit)

Practical application of French in variety of workplace situations. The focus corresponds to the IB Career-related program (CP) but *also applies to students seeking a business-oriented French elective course*. Cultural adaptation and appropriate use of vocabulary in the workplace are emphasized. Students learn professional practices including meetings, emails, phone calls, client relations and correspondence in industries in which French is used, including: hospitality, culinary arts, retail, engineering and telecoms, manufacturing, general business support and healthcare.

Students acquire knowledge of local firms that are part of the French-speaking community. Building on language skills achieved in French 2, students do job searches, resumes, interviews, role plays, product campaigns, a business process video for a chosen industry, research/visit of a company, and a capstone project.

Tasks give students opportunities to examine career goals, networking and language skills needed to be successful in an increasingly global job market.

Prerequisite: C- or better in Level 2 French.

IB French Language B 11 (1 Credit)

IB French Language B 12 (1 Credit)

Be a part of IB! World Language central to the international focus of the IB Diploma Program. The Language B course is for second language acquisition. Based on measurable performance skills, emphasis is on speaking and writing. Productive, receptive and interactive skills are a main focus. The overall objective is to learn, appreciate and effectively interact in a different culture. Course content aligns with IB thematic requirements: Identities, Experiences, Human Ingenuity, Social Organization and Sharing the Planet, all viewed in a global context.

A wide range of linguistic experiences assist students in developing communication capacities in French. Brief literary and other texts, online resources, authentic audio-visual materials and daily interactive tasks play an important part of this process. *This course is conducted entirely in French*. Final oral, written and comprehension assessments take place in Year Two, IB12.

"C+" or better in Honors French 3 and teacher approval are very highly recommended.

Spanish



CP Spanish 1 (1 Credit)

Did you know 13% of US residents over age 5 speak Spanish at home? Work on listening, reading, writing and speaking in Spanish. Learn vocabulary and grammar in the context of everyday settings.

Spanish and Latin American cultures and their relationship to language learning is stressed. Students internalize and apply useful words and phrases through reading and participating in skits, presentations, online practice and other interactive activities. Acquisition of key foundations are the course focus.

Students who earned "C-" or better in middle school or out-of-district Spanish 1 should do Spanish 2 or Honors Spanish 2.

Teacher recommendation advised to go to Honors 2.

CP Spanish 2 (1 Credit)

Build upon communication tasks from Spanish 1. Oral and written proficiency are emphasized through use of more challenging vocabulary and structures. Learn to describe and understand past events. Vocabulary focuses on everyday themes such as home, school, shopping, and other general situations. Spanish and Latin-American culture is studied. Practical applications of useful words and phrases support meaningful communication. Media sources, technology and hands-on projects help students to see Spanish in action.

CP Spanish 3 (1 Credit)

Proficiency in listening, reading, speaking and writing is stressed in this course. Higher-level structures such as perfect tenses are applied. Vocabulary building is stressed in authentic readings, audio-video activities, dialogues and key topics of daily life. Skills learned in Spanish 1 and Spanish 2 are an essential foundation for this course. Through authentic resources and discussions, cultures of all Spanish-speaking countries are studied.

CP Spanish 4 (1 Credit)

Emphasis is on proficiency in listening, reading, speaking and writing. Students communicate in Spanish via group discussions and writing assignments on a regular basis. Students build upon vocabulary and grammar usage through authentic sources such as video, songs, and printed media. Cultures of Spain and Latin-American countries are studied. Projects highlight acquired language skills while discovering aspects of target cultures. Current events are explored through access to various online resources.

A grade of "C-" or better in Spanish 3 is recommended for enrollment in this course.





Spanish for the Workplace **(1 Credit)**



This course is designed to provide students with real-world language and culture training necessary to be successful in careers related to engineering, health care, culinary and/or business.

The course will be split into 4 thematic units related to careers in engineering, health care, culinary and business. Class will be conducted in Spanish and objectives will be achieved by providing students opportunities to speak, write and comprehend the language in an occupational setting.

Successful completion of Spanish 1 and 2 is required. By the end of level 3 students are expected to reach a written and spoken proficiency level of *Intermediate Low* which provides them with the ability to conduct themselves in professional settings related to entry-level positions in engineering, health care, culinary and business.

This course aligns to ACTFL Refreshed Standards for Language Learning as well as the International Baccalaureate Career-Related Program.

The course aims to prepare students for diverse paths after high school. Students who have specific interests will find a language and culture learning experience that better reflects nuances and situations in which the language will be used in specific career clusters.

Prerequisite: C- or better in Level 2 Spanish.

Honors Spanish 2 (1 Credit)

Designed for students who have demonstrated superior motivation and skill level in Spanish 1, emphasis is placed on oral proficiency and in-depth application of language structures and grammar in various types of tasks. The pace is faster than that of CP Spanish 2, incorporating enrichment activities such as projects and active communication requirements. Vocabulary is learned through authentic reading selections and audio-visual exercises. Communication about present and past events are a focus. Honors Spanish 2 prepares students with tools and practice required for Honors Spanish 3.

Honors Spanish 3 (1 Credit)

Language acquisition needs of students who have shown superior achievement and communication skills in Spanish are addressed. Oral and written practice integrate higher-level vocabulary and advanced structures, while developing more natural syntax. Spanish is used each day in spontaneous communications with teacher and peers as well as in conversations, oral reports, and paired activities. Communication centered on future, hypothetical and subjunctive concepts is emphasized.

This course supports proficiency required for Honors Spanish 4 and is a prerequisite for IB Spanish 11. *A grade of "C-" or better in Spanish 2 Honors and teacher approval are strongly recommended for this course.*

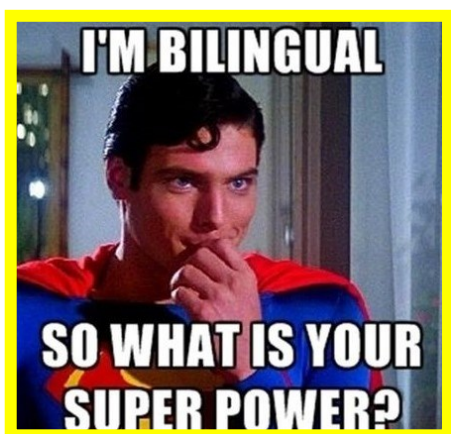
Prerequisites

A "C-" or better in the prior language level is highly recommended for these honors courses.

**Speak a new
language so that
the world will be a
new world.
Rumi**

Honors Spanish 4 (1 Credit)

For students with superior motivation and skills in Spanish, the course emphasis is on spontaneous discussions of current events and core cultural topics in the Spanish-speaking world. Literature, texts and videos are studied and analyzed. Oral presentations and intensive writing practice are part of the course. Semester projects allow students to explore particular areas of personal interest related to the target language and culture and to make connections with their own culture. Students are expected to demonstrate measurable proficiency and accuracy, using grammatical elements and language adapted to various situations.



Hon Spanish for Native Speakers I (1 Credit)

Hon Spanish for Native Speakers II (1 Credit)

Are you a heritage speaker of Spanish? These courses are designed for students from a wide range of backgrounds; minimally functional (comprehend, read and write Spanish with much support) to more proficient in Spanish. The entrance requirement for Spanish for Native Speakers I is the ACTFL Intermediate-Mid proficiency level in listening comprehension. Students do not need to write at the Intermediate level prior to the course. The focus is on communicative competence in all four modes, as well as on understanding Hispanic cultures and identity issues of heritage Spanish speakers in the United States.

Awareness and understanding of Hispanic cultures is explored, including language variation, customs, geography, history, and current events while focusing on diversity and richness of the students' own Spanish/Hispanic culture. Gain confidence using Spanish to express thoughts on social and academic themes, interact with other heritage speakers, understand oral and written messages, make presentations, and critically evaluate media resources and websites. A variety of topics related to contemporary events in Hispanic communities are discussed. ***Students are encouraged to take the Spanish speaker Seal of Biliteracy test.***



IB Spanish ab Initio (Year 1 and Year 2)

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IB Spanish Language B 11 (1 Credit)**IB Spanish Language B 12 (1 Credit)**

Be a part of IB! World Language is central to the international focus of the IB Diploma Program. The IB Language B course is for second language acquisition and based on measurable performance skills with emphasis on speaking and writing in the target language. Productive, receptive and interactive skills are the focus of the oral interview. The overall objective is to learn, appreciate and effectively interact in a culture different from one's own. Course content aligns with IB thematic requirements: Identities, Experiences, Human Ingenuity, Social Organization and Sharing the Planet, all viewed within a global context.

A wide range of linguistic experiences assists students in developing the capacity to communicate in a language other than English. Some brief literary and other texts, online resources, authentic audio-visual materials including films and daily interactive tasks play an important part of this process. *This course is conducted entirely in Spanish.* Final oral and written assessments take place in Year Two, IB12.

A grade of "C+" or better in Spanish 3 Honors and teacher approval are very highly recommended for enrollment in IB Language B courses.

Language
matters.
It shapes
thought.



LATIN

**CP Latin I (1 Credit)**

Latin I exposes students to the language, culture and history of the Romans. An introduction to the language through a variety of texts emphasizes comprehension of the Latin language through reading. As a result, students create an understanding of the social and political history of the Romans, especially during the first century AD. The result of the student's study of Latin is improved knowledge of both English vocabulary and grammar, an expanded understanding of the relationship of the ancient world to his or her own and appreciation of other foreign languages and culture.



CP Latin II (1 Credit)

Students in Latin II further expand their knowledge of the language and culture of the Romans. In this course, students are introduced to the diversity of cultures that influence and became a part of the Roman Empire. In addition, a general survey of the major figures of Roman literature is presented and students begin to read both adapted and original passages from Roman authors. Students will complete a variety of projects and longer assignments in the course.

NEW (replaces Latin III & IV)

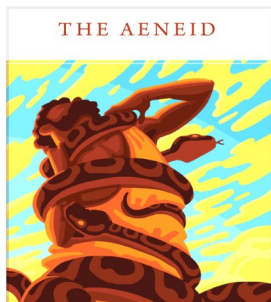
Latin Prose (1 Credit)

This course is available for any student who has successfully completed Latin II. Selections of text from *Caesar's De Bello Galico*, Cicero's *Orationes*, Livy's *Ab Urbe Condita* and Apuleius' *Metamorphoses* are explored. Thematically, the course culturally covers the topics of the expansion of the Roman empire to Gaul and Britain, the political dynamics of the Roman Republic, the mythological versus historical foundations of the Roman people and Roman novels.



Latin Poetry (1 Credit)

This course will be for students who successfully complete Latin II. Selections of text from Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and *Ars Amatoria*, Catullus' *Carmina*, Vergil's *Aeneid*, and Horace's *Epodes* are explored. Thematically, this course will examine poetic devices, meter, mythology, epic poetry and themes, and the cultural significance of poetry in relation to the Roman republic and empire.



IB Classical Studies in Latin (1 Credit)

Be a part of IB! IB Classical Studies in Latin is for students who have completed two years of Latin language study at the high-school level. Students will engage in reading and translating texts from Latin, and will learn to speak and write in Latin. This course is ideal for student interested in continuing Latin studies, and/or who wishing to use Latin as the language of choice to complete the full IB Diploma or to participate in the IB

