

WORLD LANGUAGE CURRICULUM SUMMARY

The purpose of the World Language Curriculum Summary is to present an overview of the World Language Honors Seminar – A / Advance Placement curriculum. Parents are the intended audience of the World Curriculum Summary.

Listening

- Function with ease in an advanced language classroom setting in which all activities and communication are conducted in the target language.
- Derive meaning in oral communication pertaining to unfamiliar topics using contextual clues.
- Demonstrate comprehension by identifying main ideas and specific information presented in authentic oral media, i.e. television, radio, video, on-line sources, or live performances.
- Discern and differentiate vocabulary which is similar but not identical in meaning.
- Identify and interpret dialects and regional variations of the formal target language, recorded or live.
- Demonstrate comprehension of idiomatic expressions, colloquialisms, and proverbs which are commonly and less commonly verbalized in the target language.
- Perform at Advanced Mid - Superior level, based on ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines

Writing

- Demonstrate increased control of a constantly expanding bank of vocabulary words, phrases and idiomatic expressions.
- Supplement core vocabulary with synonyms, antonyms, and more refined definitions.
- Write more complex sentences using present, past, and future tenses as well as present and past subjunctive and conditional sentences/tenses while demonstrating a higher level of mastery of all basic and advanced language mechanics concepts.
- Use writing as a tool to express thoughts and ideas and to convey information via creative writing samples, e-mail messages, classroom notes, and opinion essays.
- Apply self-editing skills.
- Perform at the Advanced Low level, based on the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines

Speaking

- Verbalize ideas about increasingly complex topics and situations in sentences and paragraph-length discourse when interacting with the members of the class.
- Increase oral production of all tenses, including subjunctive forms and if clauses.
- Can communicate effectively with native speakers unaccustomed to dealing with non-natives, achieved through repetition and restatement.
- Improve pronunciation and intonation patterns to more closely approximate those of a native.
- Maintain communication through consistent use of questions, circumlocution and paraphrasing.
- Employ self-correction regularly.
- Perform at the level of Advanced Low (ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines)

Reading

- Comprehend an ever-increasing range of vocabulary terms, idioms, and frequently derived meaning of unknown words by using increasingly sophisticated contexts
- Design individualized strategies for on-going vocabulary development and
- develop the products of these strategies, i.e. word journals which present new vocabulary terms and their explanations in the target language
- Develop skills of skimming and scanning to enhance reading comprehension and speed of reading
- Recognize parallels between new and familiar structures in the target language
- Understand main ideas and details in advanced-level readings and authentic texts, including unedited poems, short stories, and excerpts of larger literary works representative of the classical and contemporary repertoire, as well as current magazines, newspapers, and on-line texts.
- Identify and interpret implied meaning and text intention in advanced-level readings, including unedited poems, short stories and excerpts of larger literary works representative of the classical and contemporary repertoire, as well as current magazines, newspapers, and on-line texts.
- Perform at the Advanced Mid - Superior level, based on ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines

Culture

- Explore target culture(s) through authentic media productions: e.g., videos, DVD's, films, magazine articles, television programs, music.
- Compare and contrast cultures of countries sharing the same language as pertains to customs, political structure, education, daily life, music, arts, science.
- Analyze how these various cultures have influenced our own culture in the past and how they continue to do so currently.
- Trace the origins of the languages as they were influenced by socio-political events
- Recognize differences in speech patterns, grammatical usage and vocabulary items which have been influenced by cultural components in the countries sharing the same language.