

## CHS World Language Department – FAQ's

### Do I need to take a world language to graduate from CHS?

No. No world language credit is not required to receive a high school diploma. But ...

### Do I need to take a world language to get into college?

Currently, four-year universities (such as ASU, U of A and NAU) require a student to have at least two years of a second language in high school. For competitive programs they are usually looking for three or more years (of the same language).

### If I took Spanish 1 in junior high over two years, what class should I go into?

**Do not retake Spanish 1!!!** It is the same curriculum that you just finished. You should enroll in Spanish 2 or start a new language. You have enough basics to be successful in Spanish 2. Your success is as much based on your effort in the class as anything else!

### I have been at ACP and have taken both Spanish 1 and Spanish 2. What should I do now?

The Spanish curriculum applies to all schools in the district. Also, ACP uses the same textbooks as we do here at CHS. A student in this situation should start 9<sup>th</sup> grade in Spanish 3 Honors, or start at level 1 in either French or German.

### What languages are offered at CHS?

We offer Spanish, French and German.

### If I speak Spanish at home, what should I take?

We have a specific set of classes for *native Spanish speakers*. Incoming freshmen should enroll in **Caminos**. This course will help you learn to read and write better in Spanish and the skills you learn will help you be successful in all of your classes.

### Why is taking a foreign language a good idea?

Studies have proven that when you learn a second language you improve your skills in your first language. The skills that you learn in world language classes can help improve your success in your other classes, your state assessment scores, and eventually your SAT scores.

### Can I get college credit in CHS world language classes?

Starting in level 3 you can earn *dual credit* for language classes. This means that you pay for and earn college credit while just doing your regular work in your high school class. Students in level 4 and higher can take the AP or IB exams to earn college credit.

### How do I decide what language to take?

You need to ask yourself a few questions: What do I want to use the language for? Am I looking for something unique and different? Have I had previous experience with a language that I'd like to continue? Is there a specific culture I'm interested in learning more about?

### How is language taught at CHS?

Our curriculum is based on the four main skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. Prepare to be challenged and to open your mind to so many things that you've never done before!

**Come along with us on an adventure through the world!!**

**You have the potential to earn college credit in a second language –  
saving yourself time and money at college.**

**Dual enrollment**

		<u>Spanish</u>	<u>French</u>	<u>German</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> year	=	101, 102 (8 credits)	101, 102 (8 credits)	101, 102 (8 credits)
4 <sup>th</sup> year	=	201, 202 (8 credits)	201, 202 (8 credits)	201, 202 (8 credits)
5 <sup>th</sup> year	=	235, 236 (6 credits)		

No test required; only a 'C' or better in the CHS course.

Cost = approximately \$85 per credit

**AP** – A student can take this exam after level 4, level 5 or level 6. The grade is on a scale of 1 – 5. Most universities give credit for a score of 3 or higher.

**\*On average, a student can increase his/her AP score by staying an extra year in the language\***

Cost = \$100 per exam

**IB** – A student can test Standard Level (SL) Language B after level 4 or level 5 and Higher Level (HL) Language B only after level 5 or 6. The credit given varies by university, but most universities only give credit for HL exam scores of 5 or higher. (IB scale = 1 – 7).

**\*On average, a student who waits to test IB until after level 5 can expect a 1 or 2 point jump in his or her score potential for Language B.\***

Cost = approximately \$125 per exam