



Adventist Education

A JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

Foreign Languages

2010

**SECONDARY FOREIGN LANGUAGE STANDARDS
IN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SCHOOLS**

OFFICE OF EDUCATION | North American Division Seventh-day Adventist Church

Foreign Language Standards

OUR GOAL

The goal of Seventh-day Adventist education is about more than quality teachers providing innovative instruction. Adventist education aims to provide student learning infused with Christian faith and an Adventist worldview. To achieve this goal Seventh-day Adventist standards for grades 9-12 subjects have been carefully developed to embody Seventh-day Adventist beliefs and to prepare students for life-long learning, equipping them for earthly service and heavenly citizenship. An education of this kind imparts strong academic knowledge and a clear picture of Christ and His love for mankind.

These standards focus on what students should know, understand and be able to do. They will be a useful tool for teachers in developing lessons and ensure a thorough preparation for college or university when fully implemented across the curriculum.

Seventh-day Adventist Secondary Standards:

1. Provide clear expectations for student learning and accountability.
2. Provide an essential user-friendly tool for developing instruction.
3. Transform textbooks from curriculum guide to a resource for instruction.
4. Provide for a complete and uniform Adventist secondary curriculum.
5. Have been developed exclusively by Seventh-day Adventist educators.
6. Have been aligned with the goals of Journey to Excellence
7. Have been developed using national and state standards, Adventist curriculum guides, and standards compendiums from McRel and Ten Sigma.

RATIONALE

Secondary Foreign Language Standards for Seventh-day Adventist Schools seeks to ensure that the beliefs and values of our Adventist Christian faith are integrated into the curriculum. Instruction in a foreign language should help students learn to reflect God's image while developing proficiency in the content areas of foreign language studies—communication, cultures and communities, comparisons, and global connections. This kind of education imparts more than academic knowledge. It fosters the balanced development of the whole person to prepare them for earthly service and heavenly citizenship.

These carefully developed foreign language standards are a practical tool to assist teachers in focusing their instruction so that students achieve competence and are engaged successfully in understanding written and oral communication in a foreign language. These standards reflect an appreciation for God's gift of language, the connection between language and culture, and the enrichment in human expression of information, ideas and emotions in other languages. These standards create meaningful connections within foreign language study, as well as connections with other fields of learning. The intent is to focus on the essence of what students should learn, retain and apply to their lives.

Seventh-day Adventist secondary schools differ in size and resources which impacts the size and scope of the foreign language program. In all schools instruction should incorporate as many authentic experiences as possible. Further, learning a foreign language is a new experience for most students and teachers must create a safe, nurturing classroom environment that promotes a positive language-learning experience, recognizing that errors are an inherent and essential part of the process for learning a foreign language.

CREDITS

The following resources were referenced in developing *Secondary Foreign Language Standards for Seventh-day Adventist Schools*: a sampling of state (California, Florida, Maryland, Texas) and Canadian provincial standards (Alberta, Ontario, Quebec), the Montgomery County (Maryland) Public Schools Foreign Language Curriculum Blueprint, National Standards in Foreign Language Education, NAD Curriculum Guide for Foreign Languages, McREL Compendium of Standards, Ten Sigma Standards, and Journey to Excellence.

STANDARDS CODING

The standards and essential learnings have been coded so that educators can easily refer to them in their curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional development activities. The coding system begins with the course abbreviation in letters, all are identified with FL—Foreign Language. The first numeral (FL.2.1) refers to the standard and the second numeral (FL.2.1) refers to the subcategory under the standard.

JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

When the standards on the next page have been met the instruction in this course will have also met some of the Goals and Essential Core Elements for the curriculum in Seventh-day Adventist schools listed in *Journey to Excellence*. The number (1.A) refers to the Goal and the letter (1.A) refers to the Essential Core Element that is met.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

1.A,B,F; 2.C,F; 3.B; 4.A,B,C,D;
6.A,B,C,D,E; 7.A,C,D,E; 8.C,E; 9.A,B;
10.A,C,D,E

COURSE FOCUS [Apply the following for each content standard.]

- FL.1 Identify SDA Christian principles and values in correlation with foreign languages.**
- FL.1.1 Acknowledge God as the designer and creator of all languages.
 - FL.1.2 Utilize biblical principles as the basis for understanding and appreciating cultural diversity.
 - FL.1.3 Recognize the role foreign language learning plays in the fulfillment of the gospel commission.
 - FL.1.4 Develop a personal SDA Christian perspective of service and responsibility in a global society.

COURSE ABILITIES [Apply the following to each content standard.]

- FL.2 Develop abilities in foreign languages.**
- FL.2.1 Learn vocabulary (understanding, acquisition, contextual usage, etc.).
 - FL.2.2 Understand linguistic concepts (grammar, syntax, usage, phonetics, phonology, etc.).
 - FL.2.3 Build effective verbal and nonverbal communication skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening, etc.).
 - FL.2.4 Develop cultural awareness (traditions, perspectives, history, geography, etc.).
 - FL.2.5 Utilize critical and creative thinking skills (perceive, compare, compose, assess, refine, etc.).
- FL.3 Be able to apply foreign language knowledge and skills.**
- FL.3.1 Utilize a variety of strategies and technology to learn and communicate in the target language.
 - FL.3.2 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of culture and the nature of language.
 - FL.3.3 Connect foreign language to other subject areas, various careers, and life experiences.
 - FL.3.4 Participate in multilingual communities locally and around the world.

COURSE CONTENT: Communication, Cultures, Comparisons and Connections, Communities [Understand, explore, analyze, apply]

- FL.4 Be able to communicate in the target language.**
- FL.4.1 Understand and apply the target-language pronunciation, intonation, stress patterns, and writing conventions in a variety of contexts.
 - FL.4.2 Engage in conversations, exchange information and opinions, and express feelings and emotions.
 - FL.4.3 Understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.
 - FL.4.4 Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers.
- FL.5 Be able to gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures.**
- FL.5.1 Identify the correlation between the values and perspectives of the culture studied and its practices.
 - FL.5.2 Describe the relationship between the perspectives of the culture and its products (food, art, literature, media, manufactured goods, etc.).
 - FL.5.3 Demonstrate an understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the student's culture and the one being studied.
 - FL.5.4 Develop a cultural perspective within the context of an SDA Christian world view.
- FL.6 Be able to make comparisons and develop connections with the foreign language.**
- FL.6.1 Acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints available through resources in the foreign language.
 - FL.6.2 Reinforce and enhance knowledge of other disciplines and the Bible through the foreign language.
 - FL.6.3 Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the student's primary language and the one being studied.
 - FL.6.4 Connect the importance of learning a foreign language with career opportunities and life experiences.
- FL.7 Be able to use the language to participate in multilingual communities.**
- FL.7.1 Utilize the foreign language both within and beyond the school setting.
 - FL.7.2 Recognize the potential to use foreign language for personal enjoyment, enrichment, and spiritual growth.

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