

WORLD LANGUAGES

Colleges require a minimum of two years of a world language with three or four years strongly preferred prior to graduation. Colleges and universities also prefer that the student complete three or four years of one world language rather than two years each of different world languages. At least three years of formal study is needed to achieve even basic mastery to meet the New Jersey State Core Curriculum Content Standards. Proficiency in the skills of language in general is assuming increasing importance in today's labor market. Current studies indicate that Americans must improve their language skills in order to compete successfully in such careers as business, banking, social work and sales. These are all examples of occupational areas in which proficiency in language skills is a requirement for success. In addition, there is a steadily increasing demand for applicants who have mastered second language skills along with English language, business, math and/or science skills. The emphasis in the World Languages Program is placed upon the students' use of the language as a tool for communication. The program is designed to enable students to attain a measurable degree of communicative competency and proficiency in each of the following areas: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural awareness. There is also an ongoing emphasis on the significance of World Languages as they relate to the global workplace.

Spanish Language and Culture

CP-C

This course introduces students to basic fundamentals of the language and increases their cultural awareness. The language emphasis of the course is on the development of oral and aural communication skills. The course is designed to integrate a variety of topics to provide students with a functional proficiency in dealing with real life situations. Through this study of the Spanish language, students also gain a better understanding of the grammar structures in the English language. The cultural topics presented, including immigration and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries, help students deepen their understanding of where and how people live and why events occur. The course also provides students with a background in language and culture that will enable them to advance to Spanish 1 CP-B the following year if so desired. This course satisfies the state graduation requirement for completing one year of language study and meets community college requirements but does not meet most other college language requirements. This course is only offered in Spanish.

Grade 9-12

5 Credits

Spanish 1

CP-B

High Point Regional offers a first year Spanish 1 course designed specifically for College Prep B level students. This course presents the same language and culture topics as the first

semester of our College Prep A Spanish 1 course but at a pace designed to provide more opportunities for practicing new vocabulary and structures to set a solid foundation for learning the language. This course satisfies the state graduation requirement for language study and qualifies as one year of language study for college admission. Upon successful completion of this course, students may continue their study of Spanish by taking the Spanish 2 College Prep B course.

Grade 9-12

5 Credits

Spanish 2

CP-B

Successful completion of the Spanish 1 College Prep B course is a pre-requisite for taking the Spanish 2 College Prep B course. The Spanish 2 College Prep B course presents the same language and culture topics as the second semester of our College Prep A Spanish 1 course but at a pace designed to provide more opportunities for practicing new vocabulary and structures to set a solid foundation for learning the language. This course qualifies as a second year of language study for college admission. Upon successful completion of this course, students may continue their study of Spanish by taking the Spanish 2 College Prep A course.

Grade 10-12

5 Credits

English as a Second Language (ESL)

CP-C

High Point offers this course for students whose first language is other than English and whose test scores indicate they have limited proficiency in English. While the course curriculum (which may span more than one year) addresses cultural topics, vocabulary, grammar, and interdisciplinary topics; it is also personalized to meet individual students' needs. The ESL instructor also assists as a liaison between the students and their teachers and other school staff. The goal of the course is to develop students' proficiency in English to a level at which they no longer need ESL support.

Grade 9-12

5 Credits

First Year Courses

CP-A

High Point Regional offers instructional programs at the College Prep level in German, Italian and Spanish. The question of which language to schedule is a matter of personal interest and preference; for the most part, the languages offered at High Point are of equal difficulty. The objectives for the first two years in all four programs are similar, with each year leading to greater fluency and cultural awareness. The primary emphasis in the total World Language Program is on achieving proficiency in oral communication. The skills of reading and writing are taught in a manner designed to complement and enhance the students' ability to speak the target language. The content of each course is structured around "topical" units, such as food, school, taking a trip, writing a letter, parts of the body, holidays, etc., that provide a basis for functional communication.

Second Year Courses

CP-A

A second year of college prep courses is offered in German, Italian, and Spanish. The courses are designed to continue the topical approach and to provide more emphasis on communication and functional activities with new and more complex situations. The introduction of complex grammar structures and increased vocabulary enhance the students' reading and writing skills. Since communication is still the goal of the language program, students are expected to answer questions and demonstrate comprehension based on the topics taught leading to increased competency and proficiency in functional and communicative activities. Students will also continue to explore the interrelationship between the language and culture of various countries where the target language is spoken.

Grades 9 through 12

5 Credits

Third Year Courses

CP-A

The third year of college prep courses is offered in French, German, Italian, and Spanish. The courses are designed to stress the sequential development of the students' ability to understand, speak, read and write in the target language. The courses are geared to meet the needs of the students who have fulfilled the state and college minimum requirements and are interested in communicating more effectively. The courses provide the opportunity to appreciate the cultural and economic diversities of the countries where the target language is spoken. A variety of advanced activities are designed to promote both learning and application of the target language, leading to increased competency and proficiency in new and more complex situations.

Grades 9 through 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: In order to advance to the third year course, students must have completed the second year course with a 72 average or better and have passed the final exam for Level 2.

Fourth Year Courses

Honors

The fourth course of world languages is considered an Honors program and is offered in French, German, Spanish, and Italian. The course is designed to increase the student's proficiency through intense and varied approaches to the basic language skills. There is a strong emphasis on functional and communicative activities, which call for personal reaction so that speaking practice is the essence. Reading and writing become more sophisticated and more challenging utilizing more complicated grammatical concepts and advanced vocabulary. The behavior, beliefs and values of the people speaking the language are an integral part of the program. An appreciation of historical references and achievements in the arts and literature, science and performing arts is implemented at this level.

Grades 11 and 12

(Grades 9 and 10 with Supervisor approval and successful achievement on pretest)

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Students with an 82 average or better in the third year course will be automatically eligible to advance to the fourth year course. Enrolled students who do not meet this requirement may become eligible with a passing score on a pretest, and/or a strong teacher recommendation endorsed by the World Languages teacher.

Spanish V

Honors

The fifth year course in Spanish is considered an Honors Program. It is designed for students who have excelled in world language study and are interested in pursuing Spanish at a higher level. This course provides a college-level curriculum and offers the students the opportunity to refine their language skills. In addition to an intense, total immersion approach to the language, there will be an extensive focus on the art, history, literature and music of the Spanish speaking world.

Grades 11-12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Spanish IV