

## **WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT**

The world languages program at Walter Johnson is designed to enable students to use oral and written language for meaningful and culturally appropriate communications. The program helps students appreciate linguistic and cultural diversity and the contributions of other peoples to world civilization. Students will begin to acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for effective participation in an economically, socially, and politically interdependent world. **The prerequisite for all courses, except 1A, is successful completion of the preceding course or permission from the World Languages Resource Teacher, Mrs. Amanda McAndrew.**

In order to attain proficiency, students are encouraged to continue their study of world languages through their senior year. Students may expect their teachers to speak in the target language during class. Honors courses are offered at level 3 and above. Preparation for AP® courses and exams in world languages begins in level 4. All level 5 world languages courses count as honors classes in calculating the student's GPA. In choosing a world language, students should be aware that there is no easiest language. If a student has a strong interest in languages, it is possible to enroll in two world languages at the same time. Students who do so should look into the department's [LEAD! program of study.](#)

### **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE**

Students use American Sign Language to communicate about daily life. They learn the basics, such as the ASL alphabet, numbers, and commonly used signs for everyday communication. The course emphasizes learning a broad range of signs for various topics (e.g., family, school, hobbies) and understanding ASL's unique grammatical structure, which is distinct from English. The class often incorporates lessons on Deaf culture, including its history, community norms, and contributions to society, fostering respect and appreciation for the Deaf community. Activities include practicing expressive skills (signing clearly and accurately in front of class, with the teacher, and with other students) and receptive skills (understanding others' signs). Students participate in hands-on activities like signing dialogues, storytelling, and group exercises to build fluency and confidence.

Grade Level: **ASL 1: 10 -11**      **ASL 2: 10, 11, 12**      **ASL 3: 10, 11, 12**

<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 1</b>	<b>WLG2001A and WLG2001B</b>
<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 2</b>	<b>WLG2002A and WLG2002B</b>
<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 3</b>	<b>WLG2003A and WLG2003B</b>

### **CHINESE**

China is the most populous nation in the world; 25% of the world population speaks Chinese. For historical, economic, and cultural reasons, it is important to study China's language, people, and customs to prepare the way for global understanding.

Grade Level: **9-10-11-12**

<b>CHINESE 1</b>	<b>WLG2021A and WLG2021B</b>
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<b>CHINESE 2</b>	<b>WLG2022A and WLG2022B</b>
<b>HONORS CHINESE 3</b>	<b>WLG2028A and WLG2028B</b>
<b>HONORS CHINESE 4</b>	<b>WLG2029A and WLG2029B</b>
<b>Chinese 5</b>	<b>WLG2025A and WLG2025B</b>
<b>AP® CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE</b>	<b>WLG2038A and WLG2038B</b>

**AP® CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE:** This course is for world language students interested in college-level work or credit. It links the language and the culture while developing students' proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students read, discuss, and react to a variety of texts orally and in writing in preparation for the Advanced Placement examination. In addition, this course not only focuses on the students' linguistic competence, but also emphasizes the students' awareness of Chinese culture.

## FRENCH

Traditionally, French has been a second language for educated people the world over and has enjoyed the status of being the language of monumental literary works, as well as the language of international diplomacy. Not only is French spoken in France, but it is also spoken in Canada, Belgium, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Haiti, and in many African nations.

Grade Level: **9-10-11-12**

<b>FRENCH 1</b>	<b>WLG2041A and WLG2041B</b>
<b>FRENCH 2</b>	<b>WLG2042A and WLG2042B</b>
<b>FRENCH 3</b>	<b>WLG2043A and WLG2043B</b>
<b>HONORS FRENCH 3</b>	<b>WLG2048A and WLG2048B</b>
<b>HONORS FRENCH 4</b>	<b>WLG2049A and WLG2049B</b>
<b>FRENCH 5</b>	<b>WLG2045A and WLG2045B</b>
<b>AP® FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE</b> <i>Prerequisite: French 5</i>	<b>WLG2057A and WLG2057B</b>
<b>FRENCH 6</b> <i>Prerequisite: AP® French Language</i>	<b>WLG 2046A and WLG2046B</b>

### **AP® FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

AP French is a year-long course that follows the curriculum defined by the College Board. This course is for world language students interested in college level courses or gaining advanced college credit. Students concentrate on developing proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in

preparation for the Advanced Placement® language examination. In addition, this course will emphasize mastery of linguistic competencies at a very high level of proficiency in accord with the curriculum defined by the College Board.

*Prerequisite:* French 5

## **FRENCH 6**

French 6 will consider the breadth of French culture, to include signal achievements in French film, music, art, theater, and literature. Organized thematically, the works will include masterpieces originating both in France and in the wider Francophone world. Students will be expected to apply analytic techniques learned in other literary, art, and music courses as well as to master the uniquely French “explication de texte,” where the reader learns to examine closely the precision and the authorial intent inherent in the written text or the viewed or oral experience provided by the author. This course may be considered the student’s culminating high school experience in French.

*Prerequisite:* AP® French Language

## **ITALIAN**

A vibrant, musical language, Italian is the official or co-official language of Italy, San Marino, Vatican City, and parts of Switzerland. Students will learn about the rich and varied traditions in Italian regions and become familiar with important contributions in history including the evolution of the language and the Renaissance. Italian 1, 2, and 3 emphasize a practical approach to learning the language and speaking, listening, reading and writing skills are progressively developed to encourage an authentic use of the language.

Grade Level: 9-10-11-12

<b>ITALIAN 1</b>	<b>WLG2071A and WLG2071B</b>
<b>ITALIAN 2</b>	<b>WLG2072A and WLG2072B</b>
<b>HONORS ITALIAN 3</b>	<b>WLG2076A and WLG2076B</b>

## **LATIN**

The language of the ancient Romans is alive and well today in our Latin classes. Students who study Latin gain the opportunity to discover the Romans’ influence on language, science, law, art, literature, film, and architecture. Latin classes focus on developing the analytical skills needed for reading the language, examining Latin roots in English, and exploring Classical history, mythology, art, and literature. Statistics show that students of Latin improve their verbal SAT scores.

Grade Level: 9-10-11-12

<b>LATIN 1</b>	<b>WLG2101A and WLG2101B</b>
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<b>LATIN 2</b>	<b>WLG2102A and WLG2102B</b>
<b>HONORS LATIN 3</b>	<b>WLG2106A and WLG2106B</b>
<b>HONORS LATIN 4</b>	<b>WLG2017A and WLG2017B</b>
<b>AP® LATIN</b>	<b>WLG2018A and WLG2018B</b>

AP® Latin is a year-long course that follows the curriculum defined by the College Board. This course is intended for only the most advanced Latin students.

### **SPANISH**

The United States is a highly multilingual country with over 43.4 million native Spanish speakers. This makes the U.S. the second-largest Spanish-speaking country in the world, after Mexico. Spanish is the most studied language in the U.S., with over 50% of college students and more than 70% of K-12 students choosing to learn it. With over 550 million speakers worldwide, Spanish continues to gain influence in global business, technology, and entertainment. This has tremendous implications for education, travel, and careers. Those students who learn Spanish will be able to participate more actively in, and benefit from, this vital cross-cultural phenomenon. Spanish classes at Walter Johnson provide students with many opportunities to read, write, speak and listen to native speakers from all countries of Latin America and Spain.

Grade Level 9-10-11-12

<b>SPANISH 1</b>	<b>WLG2131A and WLG2131B</b>
<b>SPANISH 2</b>	<b>WLG2132A and WLG2132B</b>
<b>HONORS SPANISH 3</b>	<b>WLG2138A and WLG2138B</b>
<b>HONORS SPANISH 4</b>	<b>WLG2139A and WLG2139B</b>
<b>SPANISH 5</b>	<b>WLG2135A and WLG2135B</b>
<b>AP® SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE</b> <i>Prerequisite: Spanish 5</i>	<b>WLG2152A and WLG2152B</b>
<b>AP® SPANISH LITERATURE</b> <i>Prerequisite: Spanish 5</i>	<b>WLG2153A and WLG2153B</b>

### **AP® SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

This course is for world language students interested in college level courses or gaining advanced college credit. Students concentrate on developing proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in preparation for the Advanced Placement® language examination. In addition, this course will emphasize mastery of linguistic competencies at a very high level of proficiency.

*Prerequisite:* Spanish 5

Grade Level: 10-11-12

### **AP® SPANISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE**

This course is open to students who have completed Spanish 5, AP® Spanish Language or who have near-native fluency in speaking, reading, and writing as determined by the instructor or the Resource Teacher.

This course is for world language students interested in college level work or credit. A selection of challenging literary materials helps students deepen their understanding of how literature communicates meaning through form and content. Students read, discuss, and react to representative works of a range of literary genres and themes in preparation for the appropriate AP® exam.

*Prerequisite:* Spanish 5

Grade Level: 10-11-12