ADVANCEMENT PLACEMENT COURSES

The AP courses offer you another opportunity to continue studying the language & culture of your choice.

To best facilitate the study of the language & culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in the language of the course chosen.

The AP Language & Culture courses emphasize communication (understanding & being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, & presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, & cultural awareness. These courses strive not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication.

Students enrolled in one of the AP courses may take the Advanced Placement exam, which grants them one semester of language credit at many major universities. Only students writing the Advanced Placement exam will receive the AP designation in addition to their language 12 course on their transcript. **Next year, we are offering AP French, AP Japanese & AP Chinese.**

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE & CULTURE

The AP French Language & Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness & appreciation of cultural products (e.g. tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

AP JAPANESE LANGUAGE & CULTURE

The AP Japanese Language & Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary & historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of social, political, and educational issues (e.g., the role of religion in society, traditional versus modern gender roles), as well as more traditional topics (e.g., arts, customs, festivals, geography, and history). Throughout the course, students develop interpersonal skills & develop more cognitively challenging functional language skills, including the ability to compare phenomena, express opinions & preferences, & discuss life experiences. Additionally, students develop a command of a significant number of the most prevalent kanji characters used in Japanese writing.

AP CHINESE LANGUAGE & CULTURE

The AP Chinese Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

Reasons to Study a Foreign Language

To Travel Abroad

Speaking the foreign language of the country you are visiting enables you to participate more effectively in day-to-day life.

To Enhance Job Prospects

Foreign language ability looks attractive to prospective employers. International job applicants who are proficient in at least two languages will be at a distinct advantage in the global market.

To Better Understand Other Cultures

Knowledge of another language gives insight into another culture and enables you to experience life from a different point of view.

To Experience Foreign Literature, Movies and Music

You can enjoy the works of Dante, Fellini and Puccini by learning Italian. Or you can read Tolstoy in his native language if you choose to learn Russian.

To Better Understand Your Own Culture

Exposure to another language and culture gives you the ability to observe your own culture. Value systems and norms that you previously thought of as universal look very different when viewed more objectively.

To Improve Cognitive Ability

Foreign language study increases problem-solving skills, memory and self- discipline. Also, children who study a second language often score higher in subjects such as math and reading.

To Make Learning Another Foreign Language Easier

Studying a foreign language helps you develop metalinguistic awareness—a knowledge of how languages work.

To Study Abroad

It's much easier to study abroad when you can already speak a little of the country's language. Not only does it reduce culture shock, but it lets you concentrate on your course of study, rather than learning the language.

To Increase Ability in Your Own Language

Through a process of compare and contrast, you will develop a better understanding of and ability in your own language.



LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

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Learning a New Language

In today's world, language skills are more important than ever. Grade 11 second language is an entrance requirement for many post-secondary institutions. If you are planning to study in the Faculty of Arts, one should seriously consider studying a Grade 12 second language. This way, you will not need to take a first year post-secondary language course, which is required by many institutions in order to fulfill program requirements.

As the economy becomes more globalized, knowing a second or third language is a necessity, and provides you a competitive edge. Employers want workers who can communicate in different languages and understand other cultures. Learning languages broadens world perspectives and makes traveling abroad more enjoyable. When you learn a new language, you develop a greater understanding of your first language. So come on board, begin your journey, and sign up for one or more of the four languages offered at Burnaby Mountain.

FRENCH 8

The Core French 8 curriculum provides students an opportunity to engage in learning experiences through which they can become proficient users of French, gain new perspectives. & engage with Francophone communities. All levels of French will incorporate the four essential skills of listening, speaking, reading & writing at steadily increasing levels of complexity. Students will begin to communicate with purpose & confidence in French & understand the educational & travel opportunities that learning an additional language offers.

FRENCH 9

The French 9 builds on the language competencies from French 8. Students continue to incorporate the four essential skills of listening, speaking, reading, & writing at steadily increasing levels of complexity. Students continue to communicate with purpose & confidence in French, appreciate the interconnectedness of language & culture, & understand the travel, & career opportunities that learning another language offers.

FRENCH 10

In this course students will develop their ability in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading & writing. The French 10 course gives students the opportunity to use a range of useful vocabulary in oral & written form. Students continue to learn how to use grammar concepts as a tool to help them communicate in an effective & more sophisticated manner. Emphasis will be on further developing communication skills in both present & past tenses through the exploration of Francophone cultures from around the world.

FRENCH 11

The main goal of the French language program is to develop communication skills so that students will have the ability to express themselves in real-life situations. Students will interact with growing confidence in French & will be able to navigate & use French resources for research. Grammar increases in complexity & continues to be used as a tool to help students communicate in an effective & more sophisticated manner. Written skills are emphasized through informal written reflection & formal compositions. Reading skills are emphasized through authentic documents in print & online.

Note: Students should be aware that a grade 11 language course is a prerequisite for many universities. Most college programs do not require a second language.

INTRODUCTORY FRENCH 11

Intro French 11 offers an opportunity for students who did not begin Core French in the elementary grades to enter Core French at the secondary level. This is an intensive course, designed to cover essential learning standards from Grades 5-10 in an accelerated time frame in order to prepare students for French 11. It is assumed that students would have limited to no background in French prior to enrolment. Enrolment in this course is notlimited to Grade 11 students. Although there are no prerequisites for this course, it is helpful to have prior French learning.

FRENCH 12

This course is the culmination of the study of French language and culture at the secondary level. Students continue to learn about the topics themselves as well as learning the French needed for practical communication about the topic. Students will be expected to reflect on authentic Francophone works that they have read, viewed or heard. & work on improving writing skills through informal written reflection & formal compositions.

SPANISH 9

speaking communities. All Spanish courses focus on the four essential skills of reading, writing, listening, & speaking, Students will learn to communicate with purpose & confidence in Spanish & understand the educational & travel opportunities that learning an additional language offers.

SPANISH 10

Spanish 10 builds on the basic language skills acquired in Spanish 9. Students continue to incorporate the four essential skills of listening, speaking, reading & writing at steadily increasing levels of complexity. Students will continue to communicate with purpose & confidence in Spanish, appreciate the interconnectedness of language & culture, & understand the travel & career opportunities that learning another language offers.

SPANISH 11

Spanish 11 continues to explore more advanced aspects of the Spanish language. By the end of the course, students will be able to use Spanish to complete a variety of written & performance-based tasks. Grammar & vocabulary are taught more extensively, in order to clarify & enhance communication skills. Students will examine Spanishspeaking culture around the world.

INTRODUCTORY SPANISH 11

Intro to Spanish 11 is an intensive introductory course, covering two years in one (Spanish 9 & Spanish 10). The focus of this course is communication through listening, speaking, reading & writing activities, in order to develop the necessary language structures & vocabulary. The cultures, customs & traditions of Spanish-speaking countries will also be explored enriching the authentic language-learning experience. Please consult with chosen post-secondary institutions to see if this course satisfies the language pre-requisite for program admission.

SPANISH 12

Spanish 12 is the culmination of the study of Spanish language & culture at the secondary level. Students will have the opportunity to learn about Spanish culture through the arts. Grammar continues to be used as a tool to help students communicate in speaking & writing in an effective & more sophisticated manner. Students will be expected to reflect on authentic Hispanic works that they have read, viewed/heard, & work on improving writing skills through informal written reflection & formal compositions.

JAPANESE 9

Japanese 9 is an introductory course where students will begin to recognize Japanese characters, sounds, & meanings. Through Comprehensible Input (CI), students will process language structures naturally & recognize the importance of stories orally & in writing. Students will explore culture, community, & personal identity in a new language context.

JAPANESE 10

Japanese 10 is a continuation of the skills & goals of Japanese 9. Students will increase confidence through listening & more Comprehensible Input (CI). As a result, language output will emerge, & students will start to create their responses to daily life & experiences. They will learn to write in hiragana & katakana & read kanji in the context of stories & cultural activities. The focus will be put on past & present tense descriptions.

JAPANESE 11

Spanish 9 allows students to engage in learning experiences through which they can In Japanese 11, students will deepen the relationship between Japanese characters. become proficient users of Spanish, gain new perspectives, & engage with Spanish- sounds, & meanings through Comprehensible Input (CI) & reading. Stories will include polite & short forms of Japanese. Students should have a good grasp of hiragana & katakana & read more kanji. They will explore complex sentence structures & conjugations & focus on technical aspects of grammar. Students will examine Japanese culture around the world.

INTRODUCTORY JAPANESE 11

Intro to Japanese 11 is an intensive introductory course, covering two years in one (Japanese 9 & 10). Students will learn to write in hiragana & katakana at an accelerated pace in order to clarify & enhance their communication skills. The cultures, customs & traditions of Japanese communities will also be explored enriching the authentic language-learning experience. Students who complete this course typically enroll in Japanese 11 if they choose to continue their studies in the language.

JAPANESE 12

Japanese 12 is the culmination of the study of Japanese language & culture at the secondary level. Students will use the language to explore cultural & societal connections in greater detail. Students will gain a deeper relationship with the language structures & writing & increase vocabulary in a situational context. Some real-world connections & skills will be a focus.

MANDARIN 9

Mandarin 9 allows students to engage in learning experiences so they can become proficient users of Mandarin & engage with Mandarin-speaking communities. The core skills of reading, writing, listening, & speaking will be developed with a focus on communication in real-life contexts. Simplified/Traditional characters & the phonetic system Hanyu Pinyin will be introduced. Students will explore culture, community & personal identity in a new language context.

MANDARIN 10

Mandarin 10 is a continuation of the skills & goals of Mandarin 9. Students will strengthen & expand their communication skills as they continue to learn vocabulary in Pin Yin. Reading, writing, listening, & speaking skills in Mandarin will continue to be developed, as well as an appreciation of Chinese culture through the arts & stories.

MANDARIN 11

In Mandarin 11, students will continue to develop communication skills at a more advanced level as they expand their vocabulary in Pin Yin. Students will examine Chinese culture around the world to gain a better understanding of customs & traditions.

INTRODUCTORY MANDARIN 11

Intro to Mandarin 11 is an intensive course, covering two years in one (Mandarin 9 & 10). Students will develop their reading, writing, listening, & speaking skills at an accelerated pace. The cultures, customs & traditions of Mandarin communities will also be explored enriching the authentic language-learning experience. Students who complete this course typically enroll in Mandarin 11 if they choose to continue their studies in the language.

MANDARIN 12

Mandarin 12 is the culmination of the study of Mandarin language & culture at the secondary level. Students will be expected to reflect on authentic Chinese works that they have read, viewed or heard, & work on improving writing skills through informal written reflection & formal compositions.