

Foreign Language

Spanish

Hablo español...

The United States has the fourth largest Spanish-speaking population in the world, and it continues to grow by leaps and bounds! It is



the second most frequently spoken language in the U.S. Spanish is important in any field of work. Spanish is also spo-

ken in Spain, 19 Latin American countries, parts of Africa, and the Philippines.

Courses Available:
Spanish I, II, III, III Pre AP,
IV AP & 5 ADV
French I, II, III Pre AP,
IV AP, V ADV, & VI ADV
German I, II, III Pre AP,
& IV AP
Latin I, II, III Pre AP, IV AP
ASL I & II

French

Parlez-vous français?

French is the world's language of cuisine, fashion, beauty products, architecture, theatre, arts, and dance. Thousands of English words are derived from French. French is spoken on five continents by over 200 million people.

France is the crossroads of Europe and is the #1 tourist destination in the world.



AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

FMHS offers ASL I & II
ASL III & IV may be offered
through the district

Students will be asked to
double block and take Level
1 and 2 in the same year.



ASL is a non-oral and non-
written language. Its
structure is visually based,
unlike that of the English
Language.

ASL is one of the most used
languages in the United
States, and is a gateway
into the deaf community.

GERMAN !!!!

Why German? Knowing German will improve your understanding of English, improve your job opportunities, and make you a better educated, more versatile person.

TOP TEN REASONS TO TAKE GERMAN:

- Who wouldn't want to learn about the language that is most similar to English?
- Learning German helps students get better SAT and ACT scores.
- So when you get to be President of the U.S., you won't identify yourself as the local pastry.
- One Word: Fahrvergnügen.
 - So that you can read Albert Einstein's Theory of General Relativity in its original form.
- So you'll feel more comfortable next time you're talking to Heidi Klum or Dirk Nowitzki.
 - To learn about your ancestors' language and customs.
 - German class and speaking German is fun!
 - So you can impress people by knowing what *Donaudampfschiffahrtsgesellschaftskapitänsmütze* means.
- Finally, German is an international language in the fields of technology, chemistry, medicine, music, philosophy, and art.



Got Latin?

- Who Takes Latin, Anyhow???
- Students Who...
 - Like Mythology
 - Like English or Math
 - Might become lawyers, doctors, scientists, bankers, teachers, astronomers, and even businessmen and women!
- Want to know about old times
- Want to communicate better with others
- Pay attention to details
- Want to have fun and learn at the same time

Did you know both Presidents Garfield and Jefferson could write Latin with one hand and Greek with the other?



Did you know...

- Latin students consistently score higher than other students on the Verbal section of the SAT. (While the average student typically scores 505, Latin students average 665!)
- The College GPA of a Latin student on average has been proven higher than students with no foreign language. (Latin: 2.89, Other: 2.58)

Choosing a Language: Which Language Is Best For My Student?

SPANISH:

Is EASY because:

- Students have more prior exposure
- Spanish is more phonetic than English (easier to spell)
- Students have more opportunities to become fluent

SPANISH:

Is DIFFICULT because:

- Students must know all 14 verb tenses for everyday conversation
- Adjectives follow the noun, and must agree with its gender
- Spanish grammar and word order are not like those of English
- Everyone thinks it's easy

FRENCH:

Is EASY because:

- Students don't have to know all the verb tenses for everyday conversation.
- One-third of English words come from the French language.
- Most French grammar and word order are like those of English

FRENCH:

Is DIFFICULT because:

- Spelling in French is not usually phonetic
- Nuances in pronunciation can be difficult and unpronounced letters abound
- Adjectives come after the noun, which has a gender, and must agree with it

GERMAN:

Is EASY because:

- Most of the common daily life words in English come from German
- German grammar and word order are most like English grammar and word order
- Pronunciation is very phonetic with only very few unpronounced letters

GERMAN:

Is DIFFICULT because:

- Nouns can be in 4 cases instead of in 2 for English
- Nouns have gender
- Adjectives take an ending based on the noun case
- Some letter pronunciations are strange for English speakers

LATIN:

Is EASY because:

- Emphasis on reading, not speaking
- Nouns require no articles
- Pronunciation is phonetic

LATIN:

Is DIFFICULT because:

- Many important word endings
- Strong reading skills necessary
- Latin word order is not like English word order

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE:

Is EASY because:

- It is a non-oral language
- Very little written work; activities are kinesthetic
- Evaluations are based on individual performance

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE:

Is DIFFICULT because:

- It is a non-oral, non-written language
- Facial expressions and body language play an important role in communication
- Its grammar, punctuation & word order are not derived from any other language
- Non-universal language—it only works in America

Frequently Asked Questions

Remember, although a foreign language course is an elective for current High School students, it is a rigorous academic elective. We suggest that students have an average of 80 or above in their most recent English course before taking a foreign language. In order to continue to the next level of a language without undue difficulty, we suggest that students have an average of 80 or above in the previous level. Language learning requires a commitment to completing nightly homework, reviewing nightly, and to participating actively in class.

One or two semesters have passed since my child took Level 1. Will he have forgotten everything?

No, he will not be the only one in this situation and the classes all begin with intense review. If your child was weak in level 1, he should limit the gap as much as possible.

Why take Level 3?

Most universities require at least 2 years of a language. Level 3 allows students the opportunity to really pull together the grammar and syntax learned in previous levels through increased time spent on reading, writing compositions, and conversation. Students who take level 3 will probably be able to use their foreign language with

greater ease than those who stop after level 2. Also, many students take a third year to complete the DAP.



My student is taking Level 2 as a freshman. What should he do between his sophomore year and college to keep his skills strong?

Your student would be wise to take Level 3. During

the summer of his junior or senior year, he might consider going to one of the many wonderful language camps which are available.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR SPANISH 3 VS 3PAP Questions?

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JOIN THE CLUB!

- Food
- Friends
- Festivals
- Dancing
- Service
- Fun!

Spanish Club: Mr. Moore ext. 3520, moorej@lisd.net

French Club: Mme Denton, dentonm@lisd.net, ext. 3514

Russell, russellak@lisd.net, ext. 3512

German Club: Ms Erdman, eardmanae@lisd.net, ext. 3516

Junior Classical League: Mr. Sales, salesa@lisd.net, ext. 3519

National Honor Societies

Spanish Honor Society: Sr. Mangus

French Honor Society: Mme Denton or

SPANISH 3 REGULAR VS 3 PRE-AP

If you made a solid B in level 2 without too much stress, you should be fine in 3PAP. If you didn't, review as much as you can before class starts, and stay on top of the work.

3 PRE-AP:

Get the GPA benefit of a Pre-AP course!

Great for the fast learner, as the pace is faster (9 full chapters)

Does not have much more HW, but HW may consist of more concepts per night.

There is less time spent on review, and we cover new concepts more quickly.

We read more stories, learn authentic songs,...

We begin doing AP practice (if you are going on to AP, please take PAP!)

If you are not going on to AP, and want to challenge yourself and learn as much as you can, you are still welcome to take PAP. (PAP will help prepare you for the Spanish SAT or the CLEP)

3 REGULAR

Great for those who want to continue but learn best with a slower pace (7 chapters covered)

Great for those who learn best with lots of practice before moving on to new concepts.

Ask your level 2 teacher what he/she recommends for you!