

World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages

(actfl.org)



Communication

Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes.

Cultures

Interact with cultural competence and understanding

Connections

Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations

Comparisons

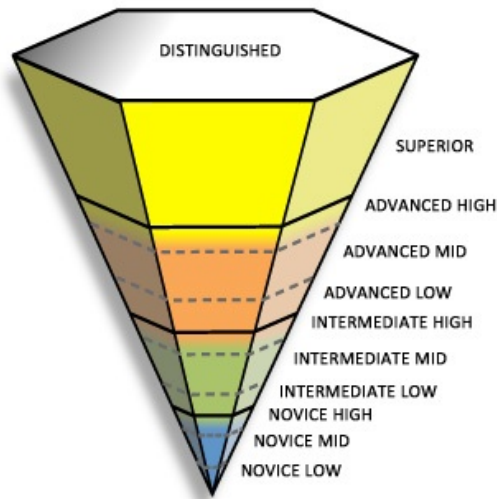
Develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence

Communities

Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world

What is proficiency?

Proficiency is about what you can do with a language you are learning and to what degree. Levels of proficiency begin with novice and then progress to intermediate, advanced, superior and distinguished as described by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).



HCPSS Middle School World Language Program



Office of World Languages
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[http://www.hcpss.org/academics/
world-language-program/](http://www.hcpss.org/academics/world-language-program/)

BMMS, CMS, DMS, EMMS, ELMS, FQMS, GMS,
HMS, HCMS, LKMS, MWMS, PVMS 1617

Why take a world language?

- It increases your global understanding.
- Proficiency in a world language gives you a competitive edge for college admissions and for careers.
- It increases your understanding of your native language and culture.
- It sharpens your cognitive skills.
- It expands your study abroad options.

What will my world language class be like?

The world language curriculum is a proficiency-based curriculum based on the ACTFL World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages which means that the focus of the course is to build skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in the language. World Language teachers strive to conduct the classes in the target language 90-100% of the time.

What are my choices?

In middle school, students may choose to study French or Spanish in grades 7-8. World language classes meet every day in seventh and eighth grades.

Why study French?

French is one of six official languages of the United Nations. French is the official or co-official language in 26 countries. It is spoken in 53 countries, making it the most widespread language in the world. There are 77 million native speakers, plus an additional 50 million second-language speakers of French.

Why study Spanish?

Spanish is the official language of 22 countries with about 352 million native speakers and 417 million second language speakers, primarily in Spain and Latin America.

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What choices will I have for high school?

You may choose to continue your study of French or Spanish in high school to higher levels, or you may choose from other languages such as: American Sign Language, Chinese, German, Italian, Latin or Russian. Which languages are offered at each high school is dependent on student interest.



HCPSS Goal for World Languages:

Every student will graduate with intermediate proficiency in at least one world language.