

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

### PHILOSOPHY

Acquisition of a foreign language is extremely beneficial to students in many ways. Those who speak a second or third language have a huge advantage over their monolingual counterparts. As our economy becomes more global, the need for bilingual employees will increase exponentially. For students to be effective global citizens, they will need the skills and vision attained through the acquisition of another language.

As students study world languages, they will develop critical thinking skills, which can be used in nearly every area of their lives. Studying another language provides personal benefits in that it helps learners to better understand their native tongue and to use it more effectively. Foreign language learners also have a greater awareness of the intricacies, similarities and differences of other cultures through the study of their art, history, geography and customs, to name a few. By providing students the opportunity to experience a culture different from their own we hope to foster positive Christian attitudes of acceptance for all people.

### OBJECTIVES:

The foreign language department will endeavor to help the student:

1. Communicate in a foreign language other than English.
2. Gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures.
3. Connect with other disciplines and acquire information.
4. Develop insight into the nature of language and culture.
5. Participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

### COURSE OFFERINGS AND DESCRIPTIONS

Due to the cumulative nature of a foreign language, if a student fails Spanish I, II, III or IV for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, he/she will be required to drop that Spanish course for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester and retake it the next year with the teacher approval. It is only to the detriment of a student that he/she continues to the second semester without grasping the essential concepts acquired during the first semester.

#### SPANISH I

(full year – 10 credits)

Grades 9-10-11

In Spanish I a basic foundation of the language is built through the introduction of reading, listening, speaking, writing, vocabulary, grammar and culture. Activities will include listening and speaking exercises, skits, chapter projects, daily assignments, games, movies, music and current events.

Prerequisite: 90% in English or Instructor permission

#### SPANISH II

(full year - 10 credits)

Grades 10 - 11 - 12

The purpose of Spanish II is to build on the language skills acquired in Spanish I. Instruction will be similar to that of Spanish I.

Prerequisite: 80% in Spanish I and instructor approval

#### SPANISH III

(full year - 10 credits)

Grades 11 - 12

This course seeks to reinforce and to build on a grammatical foundation with emphasis placed on vocabulary building, conversational skills and oral presentations as well as additional projects. The study of Spanish literature is introduced through the reading of short stories and poems.

Prerequisite: B average in Spanish 1 & 2 and/or instructor permission

**SPANISH IV**

(full year - 10 credits)

Grade 12

The emphasis of this class will be to strengthen the language skills acquired in the previous three years of Spanish study. Greater stress will be given to the development of language fluency. Students will be required to produce such things as research papers, oral presentations and books, all in Spanish. The Hispanic culture and literature will also be given major attention. Weighted

Prerequisite: B average in Spanish 1, 2, & 3 and/or instructor permission