

WORLD LANGUAGES AT TJ

OVERVIEW AND FAQ'S



OVERVIEW



TJ has a history of academic excellence.

The Interdisciplinary curriculum challenges students to think, to be creative and to be innovative.

TJ standards go beyond the county curriculum.

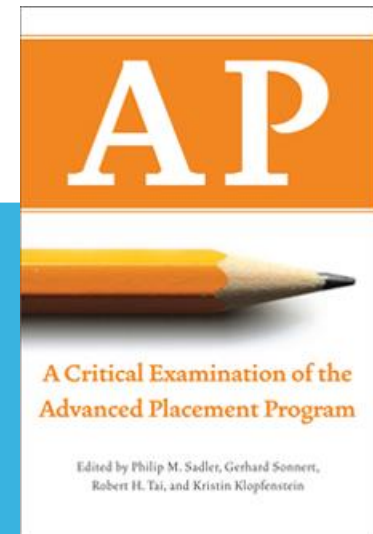
Our required world languages courses are challenging, interdisciplinary, promote innovation, ethics and discovery through a focus on research and independent learning.

REQUIREMENTS

The minimum graduation requirement is three years of a single language.

All students are encouraged to take at least 4 years to remain competitive and achieve fluency.

The majority of TJ students go on to complete four or more years of study, with many taking advanced placement exams in language and/or literature.

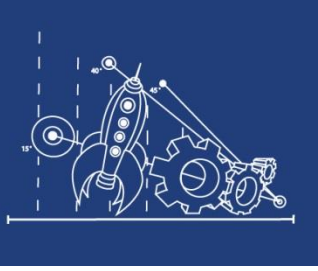


TJ WORLD LANGUAGES P.O.S.



- Is unique to TJ
- focuses on communicative proficiency based on national standards.
- Incorporates the school's mission and philosophy into our program.
- Provides students with the knowledge and the skills needed to use the language in STEM-related careers, in solving global problems, in travel and community service.





TJ WORLD LANGUAGE CLASSES

Appropriate STEM and global based problems inspire our curriculum and influence resource choices.

Modern Languages are taught through immersion based strategies.

Classes are student centered, interactive and collaborative.

Students are provided many opportunities to be challenged to think creatively and develop problem-solving skills.



TJ WORLD LANGUAGE CLASSES

- Students must complete a research project in the target language at every level of language.
- Every language offers a variety of opportunities for students to use their language skills through community service, travel, school exchanges, competitions, and National Honor Societies.



COURSE OFFERINGS BY LANGUAGE

Chinese: Level 1, 2 ,3, AP Lang & Semester Level 5

French: Level 1, 2, 3, AP Lang, & Semester Level 5

German: Level 1, 2, 3, AP Lang & Semester Level 5

Japanese: Level 1, 2, 3, 4, AP Lang & Semester
Level 5

Latin: Level 1, 2, 3, AP Latin: Caesar & Virgil, & Semester Level 5

Russian: Level 1, 2, 3, 4, AP Lang & Semester
Level 5

Spanish: Level 1, 2, 3, 4, AP Lang, AP Literature and Semester
Level 5



FRESHMEN NEED TO TAKE A READINESS ASSESSMENT

Due to the unique nature of our courses, it is essential that all incoming Freshmen wishing to enroll in Level 2 or above take a readiness assessment in order to ensure that they are placed in the appropriate level. Rising Freshmen come from a wide variety of Middle school backgrounds where standards and performance objectives differ greatly and grades have different meanings. It is of fundamental importance that students begin their study at TJ in a level that ensures their ability to grow and achieve success in their language study.



READINESS ASSESSMENTS

Be sure to pick up a flyer detailing the readiness assessment guidelines and instructions for each of the languages. World Language teachers and current students are here to help you choose the language which best aligns with your personal interests and needs.



HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT LANGUAGE FOR ME?

DO NOT CHOOSE the language you speak at home.

Colleges notice these things and assume you are taking the “easy way out”. If you do want to perfect a native language, talk to us about how to best achieve this.

DO choose a language that interests you, that you would truly like to learn.

Choose a language that will help you achieve your goals.



NEW! WEIGHTED WL LEVEL 5



TJ offers a Semester Level 5 class for all World Languages.

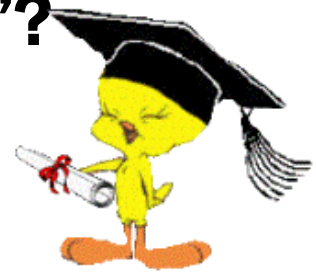
At the request of TJ, FCPS approved .5 weighted credit for ALL Level V classes.

This gives a lot more flexibility to upper classmen wishing to continue their world language study, ensuring a smooth transition to college level language.

Semesters are non-sequential and students can take either one or both in any order.

NEW!!! “DIPLOMA SEAL OF BI-LITERACY”?

Sponsored by: The Virginia State Department of Education



What is it?: A seal on the graduate's advanced diploma which says that the student is literate in both English and another World Language

How does a student achieve it?: By completing the 4th level of a World Language and achieving 3, 4 or 5 on an AP exam or getting a “Meets” or “Exceeds” on a 4th level Summative PALS, both oral and written.

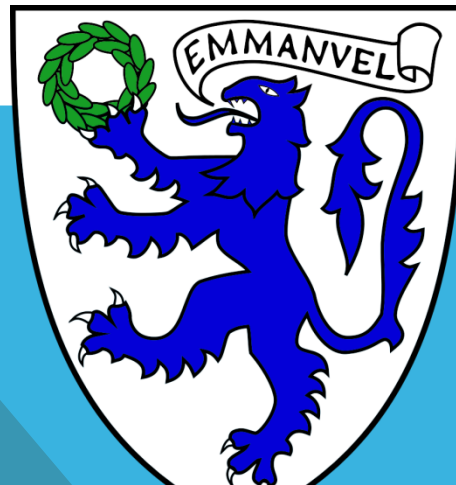
WHAT DO COLLEGES SAY?

Most highly respected colleges & universities either require or strongly encourage students to study language through a 4th year.

A well-rounded portfolio is essential to be competitive.

The advanced level courses increase students' cognitive abilities and ensure that students reach a much higher level of proficiency that will be useful in their adult life.

Students who reach this advanced level have better communication skills, both on a verbal and a personal level. They are much more desirable in the job market.



WHAT THE RESEARCH SAYS....

“Bilinguals are smarter”

“Learning a language makes the brain bigger.”

Potential benefits include improved cognitive ability, achievement gains, college and career readiness.

The lack of emphasis on foreign language study is having a negative affect on U.S. 's economic competitiveness.

Copies of articles pertaining to this research are available on the entrance table or upon request.



ALL TJ WL STUDENTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO

Adopt a new language and make it their own.

Listen or read the news in the second language.

Spend time watching movies or videos in the language.

Find a buddy to practice with outside of class.

**Always use the language to communicate with
classmates and students in the classroom.**

**Take advantage of opportunities to use the language in
the real world.**



NEVER STOP USING YOUR NEW LANGUAGE!

The rewards are limitless!











