

# WORLD LANGUAGES

Effective communication based on knowledge of language and cultures is important to students living in a world that will be dramatically different from that of their parents and grandparents. The opportunity for learning a language other than English is available to all Burlington students with an emphasis on culture and communication. Students may choose to study Latin, French, German, Chinese, or Spanish throughout their high school years.

## **BHS Graduation Requirement**

The BHS graduate understands and communicates at a basic level in at least one language in addition to English.

**To achieve the graduation requirement, generally at the end of Level 2, a student must:**

- *communicate through a series of learned phrases and vocabulary related to self*
- *demonstrate some understanding of social and cultural aspects associated with the language*
- *understand some ideas and familiar details when listening to uncomplicated speech or reading short texts.*

**Students who begin a new language at BHS should expect to take that language for a minimum of two years in order to attain the graduation requirement.**

Students who are interested in attending a four-year college or university, and wish to become more independent users of language, should attain a grade in the B range in Level 2 and plan to take a **three to four year** sequence of language study while at BHS. Students aspiring to a level of proficiency in which they can read and comprehend relatively sophisticated texts, and speak and write with greater confidence and fewer hesitations, are encouraged to continue into Honors and AP classes.

GRADE	COURSES (Level 2 required)
9-12 Courses	French 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 AP French Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 AP Spanish Latin 1, 2, 3, 4 AP Vergil German 1, 2, 3, 4 Chinese 1, 2, 3

## **COURSE OFFERINGS**

*Please note: Some World Language asses may not be offered, or may be combined or offered in a different configuration, depending on enrollment.*

### **FRENCH**

#### **52200 French 1**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 9-12**

An introduction to the French language and culture, this course offers the building blocks of second language acquisition through the alphabet, number system, basic grammar structures and vocabulary. Students learn to communicate about themselves in such areas as family, school, leisure activities, clothes, etc. and their surroundings. They can identify cultural objects, images, and symbols, and contributions of the target culture. Knowledge in other subject areas (math, social studies, art, etc) is reinforced. Students can identify differences in language and cultural patterns and can identify the target language in their daily lives. They will begin to develop the ability to greet and respond to greetings, introduce and respond to introductions, engage in conversations, express likes and dislikes, make requests, obtain information, understand some ideas and begin to provide information. They can expect to speak in short sentences of directed dialogues, to write simple sentences, to read short passages for comprehension and to listen to patterns of conversations. Stage I proficiency is assessed during the year. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

#### **52202 French 2**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 9-12**

This course is designed for students who successfully completed level 1 and/or achieved the necessary scoring on the placement exam. Content topics of French 1 are explored in depth. New vocabulary is introduced through authentic and cultural readings. The focus of the texts is the French-speaking world. Cultural behaviors and practices throughout the French-speaking world are studied and discussed. New grammar is practiced regularly in order to improve sentence structure. Conversational skills and practical vocabulary are used daily in class activities. Progress is assessed throughout the year. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in French 1 and/or recommendation of middle/high school French 1 teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

#### **52203 French 3**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 9-12**

At the third level students continue to acquire skills leading to greater proficiency. Content topics of French 1 and 2 are explored in more depth. Students develop the ability to make requests; express their needs; understand and express important ideas and some detail; describe and compare; and use and understand expressions indicating emotion. They will be able to create simple paragraphs when writing; understand important ideas and some details in highly contextualized authentic texts when reading; and use and understand learned expressions, sentences, and strings of sentences, questions, and polite commands when speaking and listening. Progress is assessed throughout the year. Students may participate in the school's travel/language trip to France. *Prerequisites:* B- or higher in French 2, successful completion of French 2 final exam and/or French 2 teacher

recommendation. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52204 French 4**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 10-12**

Students may elect to continue their study of French language and French culture through this course, which continues to foster the enhancement of communication skills through expanding upon the foundations for verbal, listening and writing skills laid in previous French courses. The curriculum focuses on reading, writing, listening and speaking French in class with peers/teacher and understanding the culture. This will be done by incorporating different strategies in which you will be expected to participate: writing activities, creating projects, and engaging in the target language through music and videos/film. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in French 3 and/or recommendation of French 3 teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52205 French 5 Honors**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 11-12**

In French 5 students increase their knowledge and improve their proficiency engaging in meaningful communication. Pronunciation, expressions, vocabulary and grammar topics are reviewed and practiced using a variety of authentic resources including music, recordings, films, literature excerpts, newspapers and magazines. Skills developed include ability to clarify understanding, express and understand opinions, narrate and understand narration, and identify, state, and understand feelings and emotions. Students read, analyze and engage in class debates, write essays, reflections and reactions, give and critique presentations, present skits and role-play activities, and complete written and oral projects. The course is conducted entirely in French. Students may participate in the school's travel and language trip to France. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in French 4 and/or recommendation of French 4 teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52206 AP French**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grade 12**

This course is designed for students who wish to develop proficiency and to perfect their language skills. The emphasis of the course is on the development of the four basic skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. The content of the course reflects a wide variety of academic and cultural topics (the arts, history, current events, literature). The materials include authentic resources designed for native speakers throughout the French speaking world and take the form of recordings, films, newspapers and magazines. In this course, students are preparing for the Advanced Placement French language examination and carry out a variety of assignments. They are asked to read articles or excerpts from texts, report and present key ideas and themes, and discuss points of view on a variety of topics. Students write essays, reflections and reactions to newspaper articles, literature, debates or class discussions. Students are exposed to views of native speakers from the French speaking world on various issues and are asked to listen, interpret, and summarize information and ideas. The course is entirely conducted in French. Students may participate in the school's travel and language trip to France. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in French 5 and/or recommendation of French 5 teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**SPANISH**

**52220 Spanish 1**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grade 9-12**

Students in this introductory course begin to develop the ability to greet and respond to greetings; introduce and respond to introductions, engage in conversations, express likes and dislikes; make requests; obtain information; understand some ideas and familiar details, and provide information about topics pertaining to the self and others: family, friends, home, school and schedules, and leisure activities. They can identify Hispanic cultural perspectives and practices beyond the school setting, make connections between Spanish and other disciplines they study, and identify similarities and differences between Hispanic and English language and behaviors. Spanish I students begin to speak in short sentences of directed dialogues, write simple sentences, read short passages enhanced with visual clues and understand some ideas and familiar details presented in clear, uncomplicated speech when listening. Progress is assessed throughout the year. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52222 Spanish 2**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 9-12**

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Spanish 1 and/or achieved the necessary standard on the placement exam. Content topics of Spanish I are explored in more depth. Cultural behaviors are studied and practiced. Authentic materials, intended for native speakers, are introduced. Students are able to participate in school-wide multicultural activities in Spanish. Proficiency is assessed throughout the year. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in Spanish 1 and/or recommendation of middle/high school Spanish teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52223 Spanish 3**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 9-12**

In Spanish 3, students continue to acquire skills leading to proficiency at Stage II. Content topics of Spanish 1 and 2 are explored in more depth. Students develop the ability to make requests; express their needs; understand and express important ideas and some detail; describe and compare; and use and understand expressions indicating emotion. They will be able to create simple paragraphs when writing; understand important ideas and some details in highly contextualized authentic texts when reading; and use and understand learned expressions, sentences, and strings of sentences, questions, and polite commands when speaking and listening. Progress is assessed throughout the year. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in Spanish 2 and

successful completion of Spanish 2 final exam and/or recommendation of Spanish 2 teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52224 Spanish 4**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 10-12**

Students may elect to continue their study of the Spanish language and Hispanic culture through this course which fosters the enhancement of communication skills through expanding content and higher expectations. The course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish. The content will range from self-related topics (family, friends, home, school, activities, likes and dislikes, shopping, clothes, pets) through less personal concerns (geography, history, directions, weather, cultural/historical figures, places and events, transportation and travel, food and eating customs, and work and professions), to broader topics culturally pertinent to the target language (art, literature, music, current affairs and civilization). Students begin to analyze cultural behaviors, recognize and use idiomatic expressions; and interact appropriately in realistic situations. Proficiency is assessed throughout the year. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in Spanish 3 and/or recommendation of Spanish teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52225 Spanish 5 Honors**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 11-12**

In this course, students have intensive exposure to wide ranging and demanding content where high expectations and demanding standards in all skill areas and in all aspects of scholarship will be the rule. Content will range from that delineated for Spanish 4, through topics of broader cultural significance such as the educational system, the government, and political and social issues. Skills developed include the ability to explain and clarify understanding; express and understand opinions; narrate and understand narration in the present, past, and future; and identify, state, and understand feelings and emotions. When speaking, students use strings of related sentences; when writing, they can create simple paragraphs; when reading, they can acquire knowledge and new information from comprehensive, authentic texts; and when listening, they are able to understand most spoken language when the message is deliberately and carefully conveyed by a speaker accustomed to dealing with learners. Preparation for the Advanced Placement examination in Spanish begins at this level. The course is entirely conducted in Spanish. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in Spanish 4 and/or recommendation of Spanish teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52226 AP Spanish**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grade 12**

In this course preparation for the Advanced Placement Examination becomes a central motivating factor. The course content will include substantial readings at native language levels. Students will develop their skills in the following areas: (1) the ability to comprehend formal and informal spoken Spanish; (2) the acquisition of vocabulary and grasp of structure to allow the easy, accurate reading of newspaper and magazine articles, as well as of modern literature in Spanish; (3) the ability to compose expository passages; and (4) the ability to express ideas orally with accuracy and fluency. Objectives specific to the literature component include: (1) the ability to understand a lecture in Spanish and to participate actively in discussions on literary topics in Spanish; (2) the ability to do a close reading of literary texts of all genres in Spanish; (3) the ability to analyze critically the form and content of literary works (including poetry) orally and in writing using appropriate terminology. The course is entirely conducted in Spanish. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in Spanish 5 and/or recommendation of Spanish teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**LATIN**

The Latin program emphasizes the benefits of studying a classical language as a foundation for other languages. The student will improve vocabulary and grammar in English. Instead of an oral approach, the focus is on the relevancy of studying classics so that a student can integrate other studies of art, history, and mythology with the classical world. The National Latin Exam and the Medusa Mythology Exam are available for all Latin students at all levels. Travel opportunities include spring trips to Italy and Greece (every other year) and excursions to museums in Boston.

**52231 Latin I**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 9-12**

Latin I exposes students to the language, culture and history of the Romans. An introduction to the language through the Cambridge Series emphasizes comprehension of the Latin language by reading it and thus understanding the social and political history of the Romans, especially during the first Century AD. The year will focus on Pompeii, the city buried by Mt. Vesuvius in A.D. 79. A variety of cultural topics are explored including family life, entertainment, education, food, slavery, art and architecture (through slide presentations) and religion. In addition, students become familiar with the geography of the ancient world and study the relationship of Latin vocabulary to English. The historical drama, *I, Claudius*, is shown to give students an overview of the early empire and emperors. The result of the student's study of Latin is improved knowledge of both English vocabulary and grammar, an expanded understanding of the relationship of the ancient world to his or her own, and an appreciation for other foreign languages and cultures. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52232 Latin II**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 10-12**

Students in Latin II further expand their knowledge of the language, culture and history of the Romans. The Cambridge Series continues with Alexandria and Roman Britain, through which students are introduced to the diversity of cultures that comprised the Roman Empire. In addition, a general survey of the major figures of Roman literature is presented and students begin to read adapted passages from Roman authors. Ovid's *Metamorphoses* is read in English providing students with an understanding of the myths of the Greeks and Romans and the relationship of these myths to themes in Western literature and civilization. Independent projects and papers are an integral part of the course. Students who have successfully completed the

course will have met the BHS graduation requirement for Foreign Languages. *Prerequisite:* Completion Latin I. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52233 Latin III**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 11-12**

The Cambridge Series pursues readings in philosophy, engineering, the legionary soldier, and religion. The Romans abroad in the West, i.e. Britain, and in the East, i.e. Masada, offers further study of social and historical topics. Students will read about Rome during the reign of Domitian and study the art and architecture of the city of Rome with emphasis on the Roman Forum. Students will also study the role of the legionary soldier in the empire. Vergil's great epic the *Aeneid* is read in English providing students with a knowledge of the mythology connected with Rome's foundation. The student will work on mastery of the language by acquisition and understanding of advanced grammar and reading Latin in the original. *Prerequisite:* Completion Latin II and/or recommendation of Latin teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52234 Latin IV Honors**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grade 12**

Through thematic readings from a selection of Roman authors such as Catullus, Vergil, Ovid, Phaedrus, Martial, and Pliny, the student reads about Roman city planning, Roman expansion in the provinces, and Roman concepts such as friendship. Choices span from letters, poems, and prose to complete their classical background. Students continue to work on mastery of the language by acquisition and understanding of advanced grammar and reading Latin in the original. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in Latin III and/or recommendation of Latin teacher. *This class may be offered depending on sufficient enrollment or on an every other year basis with AP Vergil.* *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52236 AP Vergil**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grade 12**

Some students may choose to prepare for the AP Vergil Examination. In AP Vergil the emphasis is on the reading of Latin poetry in the original by translating the Advanced Placement selections of *The Aeneid*. The entire work of Vergil is also read in English as well as other examples of epic literature such as *The Iliad* of Homer. Basic literary work in figures of speech, scansion, and other stylistic devices are introduced and an intensive grammar review is provided. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in Latin IV and/or recommendation of the Latin teacher. *This class may be offered depending on sufficient enrollment or on an every other year basis with Latin IV Honors.* *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**GERMAN**

**52241 German 1**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 9-12**

Students in this introductory course begin to develop the ability to greet and respond to greetings; introduce and respond to introductions, engage in conversations, express likes and dislikes; make requests; obtain information; understand some ideas and familiar details, and begin to provide information about topics pertaining to the self and others: family, friends, home, school and schedules, leisure activities, etc. They can identify German cultural perspectives and practices beyond the school setting, make connections between German and other disciplines they study, and identify similarities and differences between German and English language and behaviors. German I students begin to speak in short sentences of directed dialogues, to write simple sentences, to read short passages enhanced with visual clues and understand some ideas and familiar details presented in clear, uncomplicated speech when listening. Progress is assessed throughout the year. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52242 German 2**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 10-12**

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed German 1. Content topics of German I are explored in more depth. The topics are designed to steer the student to express opinions, ask questions and participate in simulations of real-life situations, such as searching the newspaper for advertisements on housing and employment, sales in stores, or articles on the weather and world events. Other real-life topics are concerned with everyday life such as shopping for groceries and planning meals, purchasing gifts, discussing free time activities and hobbies, eating in restaurants, and finding one's way in a German city. Short stories, poems, films, and cultural readings all help students to further improve their reading, listening and speaking skills. Authentic materials, intended for native speakers, are introduced. Students are able to participate in school-wide multicultural activities in German. Progress is assessed throughout the year. Students who have successfully completed the course will have met the BHS graduation requirement for World Languages. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in German 1 and recommendation of German teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52243 German 3**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 11-12**

In this course, students continue to acquire proficiency skills, and the content topics of German 1 and 2 are explored in more depth. Subjects such as German restaurants, sports, health care and educational systems are included at this level. Students also begin to read, discuss, and debate topics introduced in contemporary literature, including short stories by such authors as Brecht, Borchert and Bichsel. Units on German children's literature, and issues of the German cultural and current events magazines *Das Rad* and *Schuss*, give the students opportunities to compare and contrast cultures in a more direct and personal way. A unit on Norse mythology offers students the opportunity to synthesize their learning. Students develop the ability to make requests; express their needs; understand and express important ideas in some detail; describe and compare; and use and understand expressions indicating emotion. They will be able to create simple paragraphs when writing; understand

important ideas and some details in highly contextualized authentic texts when reading; and use and understand learned expressions, sentences, and strings of sentences, questions, and polite commands when speaking and listening. Progress is assessed throughout the year. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in German 2 and/or recommendation of German teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52245 German 4 Honors**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grade 12**

This course continues to foster the enhancement of communication skills through expanding content and grammatical knowledge. Students will explore literature, cinema history, and culture, the financial and economic world, environmental concerns and human creativity. Literary works ranging from medieval German epics, the original Brother's Grimm Fairy Tales and their modern interpretations, through poetry and short stories, as well as sections of Goethe's Faust to Rilke's poems and Borchert's post WWII works, generate many opportunities for projects, debates and discussions. A unit on literature, art, and music of the Holocaust, as well as the study of propaganda and its influence on the youth of Germany, is offered during the second semester. This unit includes guest lectures from Holocaust survivors of concentration camps and professors from the UVM departments of Hebrew, German, and Russian. Students begin to analyze cultural behaviors, recognize and use idiomatic expressions; and interact appropriately in realistic situations. Progress is assessed throughout the year. *Prerequisite:* B- or higher in German 3 and recommendation of German teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**CHINESE**

**52251 Chinese 1**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 9-12**

This introductory course is designed for students with no prior knowledge of Chinese. Instructional emphasis is on developing listening and speaking abilities. In learning reading and writing skills, Pinyin (phonetic symbols), rather than Hanzi (characters), is used as the primary means of instruction and learning. Students also learn the fundamentals of sentence structure, word order and other basic grammatical points. Knowledge of Chinese culture, society and history is integrated into the course. At the end of the course, students are able to engage in basic social interactions in content-specific situations with each other in the target language. Progress is assessed throughout the year. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52252 Chinese 2**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 10-12**

This course builds on the skills of students who have successfully completed Chinese 1. A transition from Pinyin (phonetic symbols) to Hanzi (characters) takes place. While continuing to build up listening and speaking skills, students are expected to learn more Hanzi (characters) in reading and writing. Elements of syntax, grammar and other language structures are studied more carefully. Chinese history and society are also studied in more details. Students who successfully complete the course will have met the BHS graduation requirement for World Languages. *Prerequisite:* Chinese 1 or permission of teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52253 Chinese 3**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grades 11-12**

Students in Chinese 3 continue to acquire skills leading to proficiency. Content topics of Chinese 1 and 2 are explored in more depth. Students develop the ability to make requests; express their needs; understand and express important ideas and some details; and describe and compare. Upon successful completion of the course, students can use and understand learned expressions, sentences, strings of sentences, questions, and polite commands when speaking and listening; use and understand important ideas and some details in highly contextualized authentic texts when reading and writing. Progress is assessed throughout the year. *Prerequisite:* Chinese 2 or recommendation of teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.

**52254 Chinese 4 Honors**

**1.0 Credit**

**Grade 12**

Students in Chinese 4 continue to improve skills learned in previous levels. More emphasis is on reading and writing in Chinese characters, along with oral proficiency skills. Content topics of Chinese 1, 2 and 3 are explored in more depth. The main goals of this course are to expand students' language skills while further consolidating the knowledge they have learned in the previous courses. Upon successful completion of the course, students will have learned the fundamentals of Chinese grammar and vocabulary. Cultural behaviors are studied and practiced. Authentic materials, intended for native speakers, are integrated into this course. *Prerequisite:* Chinese 3 or recommendation of the teacher. *Primary Graduate Expectations:* Effective Communication; Cross-Cultural Understanding & Civic Engagement.