

Course Descriptions

Burnaby Central

MODERN LANGUAGES

French 8

French 8 brings together a concept-based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. It introduces French with an emphasis on communication rather than language accuracy. Topics explored range from describing oneself and others, to discussing the world around us. Cultural content is integrated and explored throughout. Students engage in reading, writing, speaking and listening activities.

French 9

French 9 brings together a concept-based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. It develops language skills with an emphasis on communication rather than language accuracy. Topics explored range from La Francophonie to sports, music and pop culture. Cultural content is integrated and explored throughout. Students engage in reading, writing, speaking and listening activities.

French 10

French 10 brings together a concept-based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. It further develops language skills with a greater emphasis on language accuracy. Topics explored range from traveling in a French speaking country to art, folklore, career interests and the environment. Cultural content is integrated and explored throughout. Students engage in reading, writing, speaking and listening activities.

French 11

French 11 brings together a concept-based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. It advances language skills through greater emphasis on language accuracy and critical thinking. Topics range from household activities to health and nutrition, and technology. Cultural content is integrated and explored throughout. Students engage in reading, writing, speaking and listening activities. This course meets the entrance requirements for university.

French 12

French 12 brings together a concept-based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. It continues to extend language skills through a deeper emphasis on language accuracy and critical thinking. Topics explored range from personal relations to city life, media influences, science and technology. Cultural content is integrated and explored throughout. Students engage in reading, writing, speaking and listening activities.

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Pre-requisite: French 11 with at least 80% and G work habit or teacher recommendation

Course Overview:

The AP French Language and Culture course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP French Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in French.

The AP French Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

Course themes:

The AP French Language and Culture course is structured around six themes:

Beauty and Aesthetics

Contemporary Life

Families and Communities

Global Challenges

Personal and Public Identities

Science and Technology

Themes facilitate the integration of language, content, and culture and promote the use of the language in a variety of contexts. The themes may be combined, as they are interrelated.

For more information: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-french-language-and-culture>

Spanish 9

Spanish 9 brings together a concept-based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. This is an introductory course that focuses on all four aspects of language learning: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Topics range from describing oneself and others, to expressing likes and dislikes, and sharing personal information related to one's place in the world. Cultural content is integrated and explored through video, music, stories, etc.

Spanish 10

Spanish 10 brings together a concept-based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. This course explores intermediate aspects of the Spanish language to further develop students' skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Topics explored range from daily activities, to city life, and discussing pastimes and sports. Cultural content is integrated and explored through video, music, stories, etc.

Introductory Spanish 11

Introductory Spanish 11 is an accelerated course that covers Spanish 9 and Spanish 10. Although this course is for beginners, students are expected to gain proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing within a short period of time. Topics range from describing people and places to expressing personal preferences and discussing hobbies and interests. Cultural content is integrated and explored through video, music, stories, etc. This course meets the entrance requirements for some universities.

Spanish 11

Spanish 11 brings together a concept-based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. This course continues to advance students' skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Some themes explored in this program are travel and leisure, art, news mediums, food, childhood experiences, family celebrations, and health and fitness. Cultural content is integrated and explored through video, music, stories, etc. This course meets the entrance requirements for university.

Spanish 12

Spanish 12 brings together a concept-based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. This course builds upon previous knowledge of Spanish, extending listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Topics explored range from travel and shopping, to nature and the environment, as well as discussing future plans. Cultural content is integrated and explored through video, music, stories, etc.

Japanese 9

Japanese 9 is an introductory course designed to help students with little to no Japanese knowledge develop basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in Japanese. Students will be introduced to the main phonetic script, *hiragana*. Students will be able to have basic conversations and write simple sentences. Japanese culture and social dynamics will be emphasized through topics such as social niceties and talking about personal information such as family, hobbies, likes and dislikes, and daily activities.

Japanese 10

Japanese 10 is designed to help students develop basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in Japanese. Students will be introduced to the two phonetic scripts, hiragana and katakana, and to elementary kanji, which are Chinese characters imported by the Japanese over 1500 years ago. Japanese culture and social dynamics will be emphasized through topics such as social niceties, getting around, ordering and talking about food, and talking about personal information such as family, hobbies, likes and dislikes, and daily activities.

Introductory Japanese 11

Introductory Japanese 11 is an accelerated course that covers Japanese 9 and Japanese 10. This course is designed to help students develop basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in Japanese. Students will be introduced to the two phonetic scripts, *hiragana* and *katakana*, and to elementary *kanji*, which are Chinese characters imported by the Japanese over 1500 years ago. Japanese culture and social dynamics will be emphasized through topics such as social niceties, getting around, ordering and talking about food, and talking about personal information such as family, hobbies, likes and dislikes, and daily activities.

Japanese 11

In Japanese 11, students will be expected to express themselves using more complex conversational and written skills. They will be introduced in a more methodical way to grammar and vocabulary in the context of overarching topics. These include holidays, shopping, school life, asking and giving directions, food and cooking, the seasons and weather, and describing people and their clothing. Students will engage in a great deal of practical conversation in the classroom. More *kanji* will also be introduced in context, and students will begin to write formal essays in Japanese.

Japanese 12

Japanese 12 puts great emphasis on learning about Japan itself: Japanese houses, geography, festivals, customs, weather, history, and culture. Students will express themselves through advanced conversational and grammatical skills through culturally informative projects, oral presentations and essays. Students will also continue to learn more *kanji*. By the end of the course, students will be able to feel confident traveling in Japan and interacting with Japanese people.

Mandarin 9

This course is intended for students with little or no Chinese language background. Students will be introduced to the basic skills of oral and written communication using simplified Chinese characters and Hanyu Pinyin phonetic spelling system. Students are expected to have a vocabulary base of 150 characters by the end of the course. Students will also gain an exposure of different aspects of Chinese culture through activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

Mandarin 10

Pre-requisite: Mandarin 9 or a placement interview

This course is a continuation of Mandarin 9. Students will further develop communication skills in Mandarin Chinese and are expected to have a vocabulary base of 300 characters by the end of the course. Cultural activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops will be integrated throughout the course. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

Introductory Mandarin 11

This is an intensive introductory course that provides students with the basic knowledge of the Mandarin Chinese language and culture. Students will be introduced to the basic skills of oral and written communication using simplified Chinese characters and Hanyu Pinyin phonetic spelling system. Students are expected to have a vocabulary base of 250 characters by the end of the course. Students will also gain an exposure of different aspects of Chinese culture through activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

Mandarin 11

Pre-requisite: Mandarin 10 or a placement interview

This course is a continuation of Mandarin 10. Students will further develop communication skills in Mandarin Chinese and are expected to have a vocabulary base of 450 characters by the end of the course. Cultural activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops will be integrated throughout the course. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

Mandarin 12

Pre-requisite: Mandarin 11 or a placement interview

This course is a continuation of Mandarin 11. Students will further develop communication skills in Mandarin Chinese and are expected to have a vocabulary base of 600 characters by the end of the course. Students will also be able to write compositions of about 120 characters in length. In addition, students will be introduced to Chinese idiomatic expressions and authentic materials such as Chinese newspapers. Cultural activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops will be integrated throughout the course. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

AP Chinese Language and Culture

Pre-requisites: Mandarin 12 or a placement interview, English 10 or ELL Level 2

This is an advanced level Mandarin Chinese course, intended for students who are in their fourth or fifth year of language study, or students with equivalent experience with the Chinese language. Students will develop their Chinese proficiency across the three communicative modes (Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational) and the five goal areas (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities), which align with the *Standards for Foreign Language Learning* by the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages). Chinese culture and social issues are explored in greater depth. Students are expected to write the electronic AP examination held in May.

For more details, please see the official AP College Board web site:

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/>

Introductory American Sign Language 11 (ASL)

American Sign Language is a visual-gestural language with its own distinct grammar and syntax. ASL is used by Deaf people across Canada and the United States. This is an intensive introductory course that provides students with some basic knowledge of ASL and Deaf Culture. Students will begin to develop both expressive and receptive skills in ASL as well as some knowledge of the five parameters of the language. They will be introduced to aspects of Deaf Culture and the Deaf Community through a variety of topics, including access to communication, issues in education, and different forms of artistic expression. This course is a pre-requisite for ASL 11.

American Sign Language 11 (ASL)

In this course students will continue to build the skills they acquired in Introductory Sign Language 11. They will develop increasingly complex vocabulary and sentence structure and gain more proficiency with non-manual signals and other aspects of ASL grammar and syntax. They will learn more about different perspectives on Deaf issues, perspectives and worldviews through examining them through a cultural lens. This course meets the second language entrance requirements for post-secondary institutions.