



## Bonjour    Guten Tag    Salvete    Buenos Días

The Languages Program at LHS emphasizes a functional knowledge of the languages and includes courses in French, German, Latin and Spanish. The language courses are designed to help students become articulate citizens in the international world in which we live today.

French, German, Latin and Spanish are demanding courses and success requires good study skills and a strong academic foundation. Language teachers have observed that students with C's or lower in their academic courses in middle school are likely to find language classes extremely difficult.

The learning of a new language requires daily memorization as well as understanding and application of grammar. Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate in all classroom activities. Additional daily review outside of class time is very important for success in a language course.

### *Do I need to take a world language course?*

**LHS requirement:** no language requirement for graduation; one year of a language or one year of Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) will meet LHS graduation requirements.

**Community college:** no language requirement for entrance.

**California State University:** a minimum of two years of the same language.

**University of California:** a minimum of two years of the same language; three or more years of the same language is strongly recommended.

### *What should I do?*

- ✓ **My grades are A's and B's and I have very good study skills:**  
*Yes, consider enrolling in a language course now!*
- ✓ **My grades are C's or lower:**  
*Consider waiting at least a year before enrolling in a language course. Use this time to strengthen your study skills and to adjust to high school.*
- ✓ **I have completed an equivalent of one or two years of language at the middle school:**  
*Your middle school teacher will make a recommendation or you may speak to a LHS language teacher about placement. Also, please keep in mind that a student needs a strong foundation in the first years to succeed in the advanced levels. It is better to repeat a course now than to struggle later.*