

# WORLD LANGUAGES CERTIFICATE PROGRAM



## Purpose

To recognize students who concentrate their academic program in World Languages and who go above and beyond the graduation requirement in this subject area.

To encourage students to consider the benefits of studying two world languages simultaneously during Upper School.

## Certificate Components

There are three required components to the World Languages Certificate program:

- 1) The **formal study of two world languages** beyond the beginning level.
- 2) An **experience or study that extends the formal language study** to other areas of the student's life in order to demonstrate a commitment to becoming a citizen of the world.
- 3) A culminating **oral presentation in both languages**.

## PART 1: Formal Language Study

Two of the following languages may be chosen: Ancient Greek, Arabic, Chinese, French, Latin, Russian or Spanish

| Certificate Levels     | Total Credits | Language 1 | Language 2 |
|------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| <i>summa cum laude</i> | 8             | 4 credits  | 4 credits  |
| <i>magna cum laude</i> | 7             | 4 credits  | 3 credits  |
| <i>cum laude</i>       | 6             | 4 credits  | 2 credits  |
|                        | 6             | 3 credits  | 3 credits  |

Requirements:

- Language classes may be regular, honors or AP level.
- A student must be enrolled in a tri-school class to earn credit for the Certificate. Other course work in a world language may be eligible for credit, pending approval of the Department.
- Language levels prior to Upper School do not count towards the Certificate.
- A student must achieve a minimum overall average of 80 in all world language courses; year-end grades are used in the calculation.
- A student may not repeat a level of a language, and no credit will be awarded if a year-end average is below 72.

## PART 2: Extension of Language Study

To demonstrate a commitment to becoming a citizen of the world and to extend her knowledge of world languages, a student must accomplish at least **one** of the following during her Upper School years:

- participate in a tri-school exchange or other approved exchange program that includes a home-stay;
- travel to a foreign country of one of the languages studied that has some educational component;

- complete a related elective course in a tri-school class; qualifying courses include: AP Art History, literature in translation, cultural history, or other elective, upon approval;
- attend a summer camp or study abroad in a world language;
- pursue community service directly related to one of the languages of study with a supervisor;
- serve as a host-family to a foreign visitor for an extended period of time (e.g. semester exchange); or,
- conduct a qualifying independent study as a senior elective or an independent research project.

A student may select any member of the World Languages Department to serve as a mentor in fulfillment of this component.

### **PART 3: Oral Presentation**

To demonstrate proficiency in both languages, candidates will display their mastery of the languages in an oral presentation:

- topic of presentation must be approved; it is likely that the topic will relate to the student's extension experience
- students must speak naturally and without reading during the presentation (students may use notecards but no written scripts);
- presentation must include both languages in proportion to the length of study, and the whole presentation must be a minimum of six minutes in length; visual components, like PowerPoint, are optional;
- presentations will be made to teachers of both languages, members of the World Languages Department; and, invited guests (parents, friends, advisors, etc.).

All members of the World Languages Department will monitor the progress of candidates and support the Certificate Program. The Department Head, in collaboration with the Upper School Coordinator, will serve as the administrator of the program.

Students earning the World Languages Certificate will receive recognition on Class Day.