

WORLD LANGUAGES AT TJ

Welcome To the World Language Program at TJ! Congratulations on being admitted to TJHSST!

Here at TJ we want to help all our students achieve a **high level of competency** in the language so that they may use it successfully in their professional and personal life. Our **intense immersion** program for the modern spoken languages and a **rigorous** Latin program promote **engaging, vibrant, student-centered** classes that provide many opportunities for students to become proficient in their chosen language.

The **language requirement** in our school is a **minimum of three years** of study of the **same language** in any of the **seven** languages we offer: Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Latin, Russian and Spanish. However, **most students take an additional one or two years of instruction** in the language of their choice. Some take two languages, including advanced placement (**AP**). Colleges prefer to see students gain proficiency in their language through level 4 or 5 and many top universities require 4 years of the same language. Students should **NOT** stop at the bare minimum of 3 years and this is especially true if they finish level 3 after 9th or 10th grade!

Freshmen who wish to begin a new language at TJ will have their choice among Spanish I, Chinese I, French 1, German I, Japanese I, Latin I, and Russian I. You can learn more about those languages by speaking to the respective teachers when you come to TJ to register in April. Should you have a question or concern regarding our foreign language curriculum, please speak with the current Division Manager, Ms. Margaret Gendive or the future Division Manager, Ms. Szilvia Oszko at Freshmen Preview Night or e-mail one of them. Margaret.Gendive@fcps.edu or soszko@fcps.edu

READINESS ASSESSMENTS (Required for all students who plan to **register for Level 2 or Level 3** of a **modern spoken language**.) Any student is welcome to register for Level 1 of any of our 7 languages to begin their language study.

- Since all world language classes at TJ are taught at the **honors level with STEM related extensions**, and TJ students come from a wide variety of schools and programs, we have created a **Readiness Assessment** for most languages to **help students get off to the best possible start** here at TJ.
- **Tests results** will be made available to students on Blackboard by June 30 if at all possible.
- Meanwhile, students **who have previously completed level 1 should register for Level 2** unless there are extenuating circumstances. If the test results indicate a change in schedule, you will receive e-mail notification and should make the change in your schedule immediately.

See details below:

READINESS ASSESSMENTS FOR WORLD LANGUAGE CLASSES

Any student is welcome to begin a language in Level 1. If you wish to enroll in Level 2 or higher, you must take a readiness assessment during the **week of May 15-19**. The dates and requirements **vary slightly by language** so please read carefully! **If there is a need to change your schedule by enrolling in a different level, you will receive an e-mail with instructions by June 30.** If you receive **no** notification, you should assume that you are scheduled to take the correct level. **Register to take your Readiness Assessment asap at the link provided!**

Chinese

- All rising freshmen wishing to enroll in **Chinese 2 or Chinese 3** are required to come to TJ to take a writing assessment on **Tuesday, May 16 at 4:20**. Report to Room 73. The **only** students exempt from taking this exam are those who have passed the FCPS world language credit exam or have received official credits in Chinese 1 and 2. These students may enroll in Chinese 3.
- **Register to take the exam** by going to the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/4F4zLaJTzYeOPweW2>
- Contact person: Maggie Xu at QXu1@fcps.edu.

French

- **All** rising freshmen wishing to enroll in **French 2, 3, or higher** must come to TJ to take the readiness assessment on one of the following dates: **Monday, May 15 at 4:20 or Wednesday, May 17 at 4:20**.
- **Register to take the exam** at the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/9MCohVg6sC2iisJ52>
- E-mail questions or concerns to Genevieve Delfosse at GJDelfosse@fcps.edu

German

- Rising freshmen with an **official German 1 credit** from middle school can enroll in **German 2** and do not need to take an R.A.
- Rising freshmen wishing to enroll in **German 3** must take a readiness assessment on **Tuesday, May 16 at 4:20 or Wednesday, May 17 at 4:20**. Register to take the exam at the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/quDAXocpRKNNhrH43>
- Email questions to Szilvia Oszko at soszko@fcps.edu

Japanese

- Rising freshmen with FCPS language credits can proceed to their respective language courses.
- Rising freshman with **no FCPS language credits** who wish to enroll in **Level 2 or 3** are required to take a readiness assessment on **Monday, May 15 at 4:20 or Wednesday, May 17 at 4:20 P.M.**
- Register to take the test at the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/6q1WIFWvSJcuHAM1>
- E-mail questions or concerns to Mr. Otani at koji.otani@fcps.edu

Latin

- Rising freshmen wishing to **enroll in Latin 2** do **NOT** need to take a readiness assessment under normal circumstances. The beginning of Latin 2 will include a review of Latin 1 material.
- Rising freshmen wishing to enroll in **Latin 3** **MUST** take a readiness assessment on one of the following dates: **Wednesday, May 17th at 4:20 or Thursday, May 18 at 4:20**. Report to Room #62.
- **Register** for the exam by going to the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/mefFhmi7gF5hhZfJ2>
- E-mail **Christine Conklin** **only** if you have special concerns: clconklin@fcps.edu

Russian

- Rising freshmen wishing to enroll in **Russian 2 or 3** must take a readiness assessment at TJ on **May 17** at 4:20 P.M.
- Register at the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/22DMTIEZZdxGsyGV2>
- If you have questions, E-mail Betsy Sandstrom at ecsandstrom@fcps.edu

Spanish

- **All** rising freshmen wishing to enroll in **Spanish 2, 3 or higher**, **MUST** take a readiness assessment at TJ on one of the following dates: **Level 2 on Wednesday, May 17 at 4:20 or Friday, May 19 at 4:20. Level 3 will only be given on Friday, 5/19 at 4:20 p.m.** You must bring a phone to record the speaking component. It does not need to be a SMART phone.
- **Be sure to register for the exam** at the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/P2u6QtRcY4xletJq1>
- E-mail concerns to Peggy Gendive at magendive@fcps.edu

Suggestions for summer skill building for Modern Spoken World Languages

- All modern world language classes at TJ are taught with **an immersion approach**. Therefore it is helpful if incoming students spend some time in the summer developing their skills. We offer the following suggestions **for improving oral communication skills**:
 1. Use the practices on the web site that are provided by your language.
 2. Practice speaking about the themes you have studied with a fluent speaker on a regular basis.
 3. Watch familiar movies/videos changing the language to the one you are studying.
 4. Try to speak a little every day in your chosen language.
 5. Use the Internet to watch the news in the language.
 6. Go to "YouTube" or "Google" and search for interesting video clips to listen to.
 7. Look for shows or movies on Netflix or Amazon Video that you can watch in the language.
 8. Play games with friends or family in the language.
 9. Have fun with the language! Language is a part of our life and our relationships. Communicate whenever and wherever with whomever you can!

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the current Division Manager, Margaret Gendive, Margaret.Gendive@fcps.edu or the future Division Manager, Szilvia Oszko, soszko@fcps.edu .

All of the World Language teachers wish that you have a wonderful four years at TJ, studying your languages of choice throughout those years!