

Hayfield Secondary School

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

7630 Telegraph Road Alexandria, Virginia 22315

Academic Expectations for AP Classes – World Languages AP Courses

AP courses provide students with the factual knowledge and critical thinking skills expected in a college level course. Teachers of AP courses follow a required course outline and prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful on the Advanced Placement examination that takes place in May. The below chart provides an approximation of the time and assignments for each AP course offered in the World Language Department. In order to make appropriate and informed choices at Hayfield Secondary, it is to your advantage to understand the rigor of each course.

Area of Study	Number of pages to read to prepare for each class	Number of hours to study	Tests/Quizzes	Major Projects	Summer Assignments	Comments
AP French (often a combined level 4/AP course)	 We do readings within the textbooks, articles from the internet, short stories, and one novel. Plan on reading in French a little each night. 	• Including practice of listening and reading, you should be spending 30 minutes a day working on French – this will include practice as well as study of grammar and vocabulary.	 Plan on weekly quizzes and 1-2 unit tests per marking period. We will also do at least one speaking and one writing task per marking period (formerly known as PALS in the lower language levels). 	 Projects relate to culture and literature. We will do 2-3 major projects a year and several shorter presentations. The primary goal is to learn culture; the secondary goal is to practice presentational speaking in preparation of the exam. 	 The summer assignment for AP French encourages the student to practice the 4 major language skills: reading, listening, writing and speaking. There is also a grammar component. This assignment takes (on average) 3 hours to complete but should be spread out over the course of the summer to encourage consistent practice of the French language. 	 Language is a skill and requires practice, similar to sport or music. You will only succeed at this level if you are willing and able to put in the time to improve your skills.
AP Japanese	 We read a lot of different format of reading materials such as essays, articles, blog entries, travel brochures, etc. A lot of them are authentic materials that has no furiganas, so kanji reading is another important skill to have. 	• Students spend 30 minutes per day. However, some students needs to spend more hours to review the materials, grammar, or kanji. This depends on the strength for each student.	 Plan on a weekly kanji quiz. There will also be 2-3 vocabulary and grammar quizzes per unit. At least one reading and one listening assessment per unit. At least one writing and speaking assessment per quarter. 	 2-3 major projects for deeper understanding about Japanese culture They will use the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills of communication in order to complete the projects. 	2 major assignments. Kanji packet (This is the same as kanji quiz.) Students will learn how to use kanji in context. In addition, students need to learn how to pronounce each kanji so that they can have correct kanji when they type. Cultural information packet (reading of the cultural information is in English) Students need to look up some important vocabulary.	You will be successful if you are highly motivated and have strong personal goal(s).

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AP Latin (and 4)	 (AP) We start with 15 lines of Latin per block and progress to about 30 lines per block. Students need to prepare vocabulary and grammar notes at minimum before class. Students will eventually start translating on their own as homework. (4) We start with 10 lines of Latin per block and progress to about 20. Students need to prepare vocabulary and grammar notes at minimum before class. Students will eventually start translating on their own as homework. 	 (AP) Approximately 30-40 minutes to prepare for class readings; 10 minutes to review previous day's materials. (4) Approximately 20-30 minutes to prepare for class readings; 10 minutes to review previous day's materials. 	 (AP & 4) Quizzes on translation, scansion, and rhetorical devices. Tests include sections: translation, scansion, and essay outlines We do graded inclass essays and essay outlines. We do some sight translation (graded towards end of the year). Latin 4s will do substantially less (if any) sight translation. 	 (AP) No major projects (4) They will have a final translation project and will have the opportunity to work on this project extensively during class. 	 (AP) Reading 6 books of Vergil's Aeneid. Each book takes about 45 min-1 hour to read carefully. (4) Reading 4 books of the Aeneid. Each book takes about 45 minute – 1 hour to read carefully. 	 Latin 4s will be doing a "pre-AP" style class, and will not be required to complete as much work as the APs. The Latin 4s will both be reading selections from the AP syllabus and from the non-AP syllabus.
AP Spanish	About 20-30 minutes per night should be used to complete reading selections on culture and grammar and to practice listening at least 10 minutes per day.	• Students generally spend about 30 minutes per night working on homework. Some students need to spend more time depending on their language level.	 Daily assessments (lasting about 10 min) on vocabulary, listening, reading, culture, and grammar 1-2 recorded oral tests per quarter At least 2 writing assessments per quarter (essay and shorter writing assessments) Two grammar tests per quarter 	 1-2 oral presentations per quarter 2 assignments per quarter working with Conjuguemos website – review of grammar, vocab, and culture Final Exam Project 	 The summer assignment is designed to give you practice in the 4 areas of learning language (listening, speaking, reading, writing). The summer assignment should take less than 8 hours to complete and should be done throughout the summer break. 	 Learning Spanish is a skill that requires daily practice (much like you would do for a sport). Consistency is the key to improving your language skills. You will only succeed at this level if you are willing and able to put in the time to improve your skills.