

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Philosophy:

Whether it is German or Spanish, world languages present communication and cultural understanding as some of God's great gifts to our world. Since God created people unique in their individuality, there is a sense of respect for different cultures and languages. The 21st Century has brought the world to us. Our own neighborhoods have people from all over the world. Our global awareness and the interdependence of the global economy have made the acquisition of world language skills a necessity in many careers. As Christians in an ever-shrinking world, we need a broader and deeper understanding of world missions. Many young people are experiencing an immersion into world cultures through short-term mission trips. World languages have given us the ability to communicate and function effectively in an international community. After completing three years in one of our two languages offered here at PCA, students should be able to demonstrate effective and appropriate communication (both written and oral) in their chosen language. They should also have good understanding of the culture and contributions made by the people of this culture to international society. A side benefit of the study of a world language is that the learner's proficiency in English also improves.

Goals:

1. Students will work toward the development of functional proficiency in the skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking in the target language.
2. Students will participate and collaborate in multilingual communities in the classroom, at home and around the world for the purposes of cooperative communication.
3. Students will develop insight into the target language and culture by reading in English and in the target language.
4. Students will identify, recognize and utilize connections between the target language and culture and other disciplines.
5. Students will demonstrate respect for cultures, languages and viewpoints other than their own, and draw comparisons between their own language and culture and the target culture.

6. Students will demonstrate knowledge of key Scriptures in the target language and be able to articulate their faith in the target language in a culturally sensitive way.
7. Students will recognize and develop their God-given creative abilities and critical thinking skills and enlist these to engage with the target culture and its language.
8. Students will utilize multiple technologies to gather and report information, to construct meaning, and to increase cultural and communicative proficiency in the target language.