

**ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA**  
**SECONDARY SCHOOL SYSTEM**  
**CLASSICAL WORLD LANGUAGES STANDARDS**

**The Catholic school community** strives to make its faith commitment a complement to academic excellence by developing a curriculum that leads all students to Christ as it prepares them for a successful life in the twenty-first century. It is a curriculum that recognizes the sanctity of each human life while affirming the dignity of each person as a unique creation of God. It is a curriculum that is intended to offer all students the opportunity to study the world at many levels of complexity, through a variety of courses.

**Vision Statement**

World Language Education meets the needs of the whole person and helps to build society. A satisfying awareness of intellectual achievement comes with learning to speak and understand another language. Social growth develops from communication and shared activities. Spiritual growth is nurtured by an understanding of the common Fatherhood of God and the common bonds shared with other peoples.

The study of a world language develops knowledge, proficiencies, and attitudes that cannot be acquired through the study of any other discipline.

## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Those who study a classical language try less to communicate orally with each other ,and more with the ancient authors primarily through reading. Therefore, the *Communication* section of the standards for classical languages will be different from those for modern languages which are used for communication. Vocabulary and grammar for reading are more important that vocabulary for conversation.

The standard for *Cultures* must be primarily focused on the historical perspectives of ancient cultures and less on current events and activities.

The *Comparisons* standards will be primarily focused on the application of classical roots in the vocabulary of English as well as in various professions rather than on the community interactions which are studied in modern languages.

While the emphasis in instruction in classical languages will be on reading, recitation and reading aloud should be considered as important aides to learning.

The following standards are formulated for Novice Level which would represent two years of instruction in Latin.

## 1. COMMUNICATES IS A CLASSICAL WORLD LANGUAGE

### Content Standard

1.1 Students will read, comprehend, and pronounce Latin.

### NOVICE LEVEL

1.1.1 Students will know the basic sound system and spelling patterns of classical Latin.

1.1.2 Students will read passages appropriate for an introductory Latin course.

1.1.3 Students will provide accurate written translations of appropriate passages.

1.1.4 Students will write simple phrases in Latin.

1.1.5 Students will read passages aloud with proper pronunciation.

## 2. CULTURE

### Content Standard

2.1 Students will develop a cultural awareness of the Ancient Roman world.

### NOVICE LEVEL

2.1.1 Students will identify the products and customs of the Ancient Roman world such as famous people and cities, basic classical mythology, Roman marketplace, clothing, etc.

### 3. COMPARISONS

#### Content Standard

3.1 Students will recognize the influence of Roman civilization on the modern world.

#### NOVICE LEVEL

3.1.1 Students will recognize common Latin roots and apply this knowledge to English.

3.1.2 Students will understand some Latin phrases, abbreviations, and mottoes used in English.

3.1.3 Students will investigate the influence of Latin on various professions such as medicine and law.

3.1.4 Students will recognize and use Roman numerals in association with counting.