

**ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
SECONDARY SCHOOL SYSTEM
MODERN 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.

1. Communicates in Languages other than English.

Content Standard

- 1.1 Students engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.

Competency Standard

NOVICE LEVEL

- 1.1.1 Students follow simple instructions in order to participate in age-appropriate classroom and/or cultural activities.
- 1.1.2 Students ask and answer questions about topics such as family, school events, and celebrations.
- 1.1.3 Students share likes and dislikes with each other in class.
- 1.1.4 Students exchange essential information such as greetings, leave takings, and common classroom interactions using culturally appropriate gestures.
- 1.1.5 Students exchange information with peers about personal events.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

- 1.1.1 Students discuss current or past events that are of significance.
- 1.1.2 Students are able to use repetition and rephrasing to assist in communicating messages.
- 1.1.3 Students share their analyses and personal reactions to expository or literary texts with peers.
- 1.1.4 Students exchange, support,, and discuss their opinions and individual perspectives on a variety of topics dealing with contemporary or historical issues.

1. Communicates in Languages other than English.

Content Standard

- 1.2 Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of subjects.

Competency Standard

NOVICE LEVEL

- 1.2.1 Students understand the basic ideas of oral messages based on familiar topics.
- 1.2.2 Students comprehend the principal messages contained in various media such as illustrated texts, posters, or advertisements.
- 1.2.3 Students understand short conversations between familiar persons on familiar, everyday activities.
- 1.2.4 Students comprehend the main themes and ideas in selected expository passages.
- 1.2.5 Students understand the main themes and details on topics and products of other cultures.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

- 1.2.1 Students understand the main ideas and themes from diverse and ability-appropriate spoken media (e.g. radio, television) on topics of personal interest to peers in the target culture.
- 1.2.2 Students identify the principal characters and comprehend the main ideas and themes in selected literary texts.
- 1.2.3 Students understand the main themes and significant details on topics from other cultures as found in newspapers, magazines, and other printed sources.
- 1.2.4 Students understand spoken messages from peers and familiar adults on topics of personal interest.

1. Communicates in Languages other than English.

Content Standard

- 1.3 Students present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.

Competency Standard

<u>NOVICE LEVEL</u>	<u>INTERMEDIATE LEVEL</u>
1.3.1 Students present oral reports or presentations about family, everyday living, common home and students activities.	1.3.1 Students present information in the target language on topics of shared personal interest.
1.3.2 Students write short, informal notes or messages that describe or provide information about friends, family, and daily activities.	1.3.2 Students write notes or short letters to peers in the target culture on topics of personal interest.
1.3.3 Students recite poetry, songs, proverbs, or short anecdotes that are commonly known by same-age members of the target culture.	1.3.3 Students summarize the plot and provide brief description of characters in selected literary texts.

2. Culture

Content Standard

- 2.1 Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied.

Competency Standard

NOVICE LEVEL

- 2.1.1 Students observe, identify and/or discuss simple patterns of behavior or interaction in various settings such as school, family, and the community.
- 2.2.1 Students know familiar everyday forms of the culture such as typical foods, types of dress, dwellings, and how they compare to one's native culture.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

- 2.1.1 Students observe, analyze and discuss patterns of behavior typical of their peer group.
- 2.1.2 Students interact in a variety of cultural contexts that reflect both peer-group and adult activities within the culture studied using appropriate verbal and non-verbal cues.

3. Comparisons

Content Standard

- 3.1 Students demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through the comparison of the language studied and their own.

Competency Standard

NOVICE LEVEL

- 3.1.1 Students cite and use examples that are borrowed in the language they are studying and their own.
- 3.1.2 Students realize that cognates enhance comprehension of spoken and written language.
- 3.1.3 Students report differences and similarities between the sound and writing systems of their own language and the language being studied.
- 3.1.4 Students demonstrate an awareness of the various ways of expressing ideas in both their own language and the language being studied.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

- 3.1.1 Students understand how idiomatic expressions have an impact on communication and reflect culture.
- 3.1.2 Students demonstrate an awareness that there are words and phrases that do not translate directly from one language to another.
- 3.1.3 Students demonstrate an awareness of the various ways of expressing ideas in their own language and in the language being learned.