

Modern Languages

The courses in modern languages aim to develop all the basic skills—aural comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing—and to provide students with an understanding and appreciation of a culture other than their own. The foreign language being studied is used in the classroom from the beginning. Students acquire a working knowledge of essential grammatical structures and learn to speak and understand the language; at the higher levels, they develop their ability to read, analyze, and discuss literary works, contemporary texts, and films.

Entering students may wish to continue studying a language begun at their previous schools. Placement will be done by evaluating previous experience in the language and may include a test and/or interview. On the other hand, many students begin a new foreign language at this point in their education. Because daily assignments in all classes are limited to a fixed time scheme, no language entails more work than another, and the range of grades which students receive is the same in all languages offered by the department. Consequently, students should choose the language that interests them the most.

The study of Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, or Spanish may be begun in any year. A two-term accelerated sequence beginning in the winter term may be offered in French, German, and Russian; these courses cover the work of the first year in two terms. The accelerated two-term sequence in Italian is for Seniors only. College-level accelerated courses offered in German and Russian cover the material of two years in one. They are especially appropriate for incoming Uppers and Seniors who seek a solid preparation in a foreign language before going to college.

As technology plays a greater role at the Academy, the Modern Language Department has integrated computer-based material into its curricula. Several language classes make use of multimedia software developed by faculty members in the department; other classes use commercially produced programs that supplement the department's teaching approach. E-mail and computerized assignments are a regular part of the learning experience in the Modern Language computer laboratory.

All students are encouraged to consider the study of more than one foreign language while at Exeter. Seniors who have exhausted all the offerings in a particular language may petition the department for a field course after having secured the willingness of an instructor to serve as teacher of the course. The department reserves the right to approve or reject any field course proposal. Staffing constraints may override the worthiness of a particular proposal. Written permission from the department chair is required to register for a field course.

Note: All modern language courses through Language 230, with the exception of the accelerated Italian course, meet five class periods per week.

► Arabic

ARA111/121/131: ARABIC

This intensive three-term sequence introduces students to the phonology script and syntax of Modern Standard Arabic. Students will concentrate on developing the four skills of reading, speaking, listening, and writing. Texts will be supplemented with cultural materials representative of contemporary Arabic media and will include newspapers, magazines, and videos. This course is open only to seniors, and will be limited to one section. Students will be selected on the basis of proven linguistic abilities. *Prerequisite: Permission of the department.*

► Chinese

CHI110/120/130: ELEMENTARY CHINESE

This sequence is an introduction to spoken Mandarin Chinese using the Pinyin system of Roman letters. Students learn to converse simply and are introduced to the writing of Chinese in traditional characters. Considerable oral practice and frequent written exercises lead students to a mastery of the gram-

mar and the tones of Chinese. By the end of the second term, students have mastered about 300 characters and are reading simple Chinese character texts. Consideration is given to Chinese brush pen writing, art, history, and other cultural aspects of modern China.

CHI210/220/230: INTERMEDIATE CHINESE

This sequence continues the study of written and oral Chinese from the first year. The students are introduced to the writing of simplified as well as traditional characters, and progress to more difficult readings and a broadening of vocabulary. Students read advanced beginner's texts written in both simplified and traditional characters. By the end of the first term, students have learned to use a Chinese dictionary; by the end of the third term, they can recognize 600 characters.

CHI310/320: ADVANCED CHINESE

This sequence of two courses carries out a systematic review of grammar. Exercises are supplemented with extensive written work and reading. Active vocabulary is expanded by a variety of stories and poems in Chinese. *Offered: Fall and Winter Terms.*

CHI330: ADVANCED CHINESE LITERATURE

In this course, literary topics are explored according to the interests of the students and instructor. *Prerequisite: Chinese 320. Offered: Spring Term.*

CHI415: THE EXILE IN CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES

This course explores the loss of home and the anguish of displacement through contemporary short stories. Some of the writers might include: Xingjian Gao, Hua Yu, Tong Su and Pingua Jia. This trimester begins a fourth-year sequence for those students who wish to continue their writing, speaking and reading skills to a more advanced level. *Prerequisite: Chinese 330 or permission of the department. Offered: Fall Term.*

CHI425: NEW CHINA OLD CHINA

With a variety of media, including newspapers, magazines and short novels, this course examines the tensions inherent in the many changes from a traditional China to a modern one. *Prerequisite: Chinese 330 or permission of the department. Offered: Winter Term.*

CHI435: CONTEMPORARY FILM AND DRAMA

This course explores the rich offerings of a vibrant cinema and theater life in China. Xingjian Gao, Yimou Zhang, Xiaoshuai Wang and Weike Jia might be among the directors and writers studied. *Prerequisite: Chinese 330 or permission of the department. Offered: Spring Term.*

CHI450/460/470: CONTEMPORARY CHINESE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

This course is designed for the advanced student who possesses sufficient oral and writing skills to analyze and discuss contemporary Chinese short stories and novels. Students also learn to read Chinese newspapers. This sequence explores a variety of topics, including advanced conversation, film, and contemporary short stories. Course work is designed to increase skills in reading, analyzing, and discussion. These three courses prepare students for the Advanced Placement Exam in Chinese. *Prerequisite: Chinese 330 or permission of the department.*

CHINESE 490: SPECIAL TOPICS

When staffing permits, students who have demonstrated the necessary interest and competence may pursue an area of study that goes beyond the regular offerings. Approval of the instructor and the head of the Modern Language Department are required. Courses might concentrate on a literary or historical period, a particular author, genre or literary theme, e.g. Tang Dynasty poetry; readings from post-Cultural Revolution China. *Prerequisite: students must have finished the 450-460-470 sequence.*

► French

FRE110/120/130: ELEMENTARY FRENCH

This sequence of three courses introduces students to spoken and written French. Considerable oral practice and frequent written exercises lead students to familiarity with the grammar. Reading is discussed in class, broadening vocabulary and perfecting oral ability. Texts include *Contes dramatiques*, *Un billet pour le commissaire*, and other short readings.

FRE121/122: ACCELERATED ELEMENTARY FRENCH

This course covers the basic skills and grammar of the elementary course at a faster pace. It is for students who would like to start a second or third foreign language before college, recommended particularly to Uppers and Seniors. *Offered: Winter and Spring Terms.*

FRETR1: TRANSITION FRENCH 1

For students who have had one or two years of French in junior high school and/or one year in high school, this course rapidly reviews pronunciation and basic grammar and accelerates students in the speaking, reading and writing programs. The course normally promotes to French TR2 or French 210 in winter term. *Offered: Fall Term.*

FRETR2: TRANSITION FRENCH 2

This course completes the review of basic structures and broadens the speaking, reading and writing programs. This course normally promotes to French 210 or 220 in the spring term. *Offered: Winter Term.*

FRE210/220/230: INTERMEDIATE FRENCH

This sequence continues the study of spoken and written French begun in French 110/120/130. The fundamental forms and structures are reviewed. The study of grammar is complemented by a program of modern readings: *Maigret et le clochard*, by Simenon, *L'oeil du loup* by Pénac, and *Le Petit Prince*, by Saint-Exupéry.

FRE310/320: ADVANCED FRENCH

This sequence provides a systematic review of French. Exercises are supplemented with extensive written work. Vocabulary and grammatical structures are developed through reading, discussion, and writing about literary works by such authors as Anouilh, Camus, Roblès, and Roch Carrier.

Note: The following two courses may be taken in any order after the completion of French 320 and both prepare students for the SAT II test.

FRE341: CONTES DE DIVERSITÉ: FRANCOPHONE SHORT STORIES

This course is designed to immerse students in the rich genre of the conte, with a thematic focus on self-affirmation in a variety of cultural contexts. French and Francophone authors will include writers from France, Africa, the Caribbean and Quebec. *Prerequisite: French 320.*

FRE349: ADVANCED LINGUISTIC SKILLS I

This course is designed to increase vocabulary and develop linguistic skills while studying topics presented in different media and genres. Materials may include essays, short stories, radio programs, films, newspapers, magazine articles, and comic strips. This course, along with French 449, provides a special review for the AP French Language Exam.

Note: The following courses may be taken in any order after the completion of of at least one 300-level course above 320 or with departmental permission. Prerequisite: French 320.

FRE405: SETTING THE STAGE: FRENCH THEATER

This course examines a variety of plays from Molière to Sartre, focusing on character interaction against the backdrop of playwright and the period. Possible authors might also include Racine, Giraudoux, Beckett or Ionesco. *Offered: Fall Term.*

FRE406: FROM FOLLY TO REASON

Giants, misers, hypochondriacs, lovesick poets, eternal optimists—these are but a few of the characters that abound in this literature course that begins with Rabelais' *Gargantua* and ends with Voltaire's *Candide*. *Offered: Winter Term.*

FRE407: GREAT NOVELS

For those students who want to spend a term with great French fiction as a mirror of its era; possible great choices might include Hugo's *Les misérables*, Camus' *La peste*, Flaubert's *Madame Bovary*, Duras' *Moderato Cantabile*. *Offered: Spring Term.*

FRE441: FRENCH HUMANISM

This course studies selected works by great French writers of the past and present, such as Rabelais, Montaigne, Molière, Voltaire, Gide, Sartre, and Camus, whose reaffirmation and defense of human dignity, or questioning of it, give them lasting significance. *Offered: Fall Term.*

FRE444: CONTEMPORARY FRANCE

This course studies current affairs in France. Feature films, magazines, newspapers, songs, video newsreels, etc. are the basis for an examination of what is going on in contemporary France. Students choose topics of personal interest for oral and written reports. *Offered: Fall Term.*

FRE446: STUDIES IN FRENCH CINEMA

The readings, discussions, and writing in this course will center on a series of French films chosen for their cultural, historical, and artistic value. Students will read scenarios, source material, or summaries of the films and will discuss and write about characterization, plot, themes, geographical and cultural aspects. *Offered: Spring Term.*

FRE447: REBELS AND REVOLT

This course explores some of the major movements of the modern era, among which may be existentialism, the literature of the absurd, and the end of colonialism. Writers like Camus, Sartre, Beckett and Oyono might be included in the reading. *Offered: Winter and Spring Terms.*

FRE449: ADVANCED LINGUISTIC SKILLS II

In this course students expand their cultural understanding through a variety of media, among which might be short stories, newspapers, TV and film, while increasing their vocabulary and accuracy of grammatical structures. Specific attention is given to the types of skills tested by the French Language Advanced Placement Exam in May. *Offered: Winter Term.*

► German

GER110/120/130: ELEMENTARY GERMAN

This sequence presents the fundamental structures of German with emphasis on acquisition of the basic skills: speaking and communicating in everyday situations, listening comprehension, reading and writing. Students are introduced to the language, society and cultures of the German-speaking countries: Austria, Germany and Switzerland. Resources include texts, video, audio, computer-based and Internet materials.

GER121/122: ACCELERATED ELEMENTARY GERMAN

This course presents the basic grammar and skills of the elementary course in two trimesters. It is especially designed to accommodate students desiring to start an additional foreign language before college. This sequence promotes to German 210 in the fall. *Offered: Winter and Spring Terms.*

GER210/220/230: INTERMEDIATE GERMAN

Language proficiency, reading, writing, vocabulary building and continued investigation of German-speaking societies are among aims of this sequence. Grammatical, speaking and writing exercises are coordinated with a reading program that includes literary and nonliterary texts from a variety of media—short novels, stories, news articles, music, video, etc. German 230 includes an examination of the German presence in the United States, and presents a history of immigration from the German-speaking countries from colonial days to the present, and considers the contributions of German-Americans and German-American communities.

GER123/222/223: TWO YEARS IN ONE

This three-term sequence presents the material of the first two years of the German program. It is recommended for students who are already familiar with grammatical systems or who have had some exposure to German. The course includes the reading program of the elementary and intermediate courses. This sequence promotes to German 310 in the fall.

GER310/320: ADVANCED GERMAN

This sequence provides a systematic grammar review, and continued work on speaking, reading and writing skills. Literary texts from German-speaking countries and material from other media provide the basis for discussion of social, cultural and ethical issues. *Offered: Fall and Winter Terms.*

GER330: OTHER GERMAN VOICES

The readings in this course focus on multicultural aspects in the German-speaking countries and examine the writings of several recognized minority authors, e.g. Alev Tekinay, Yoko Tawada, Emine Özdamar, Jakob Arjoun, etc. There is continued development of speaking and listening skills, as well as writing exercises, which help prepare for the SAT II Exam in German.

GER450: POST-HOLOCAUST WRITING

GER460: BERLIN AND VIENNA

GER470: FEMALE PROTAGONISTS AND WOMEN WRITERS

This sequence of courses focuses on recognized masterpieces of German writing, with both classical and contemporary authors represented. Social, ethical and artistic issues are explored in each. 450 explores Germany and Austria's coming to grips with the Nazi past and the horrors committed during that era. Readings include works by Grass, Schlink, Bernhard, etc. 460 takes up the role of the two great German-speaking capitals, and their place in literature, science and the arts. Readings include Freud, Schnitzler, Brecht, Roth, etc. 470 examines contemporary women writers, e.g., Anna Seghers, Doris Dörrie, Stefanie Zweig, Elfried Jelinek, etc. and some of the heroines in German literature. Films, sound recordings and Internet resources complement the courses.

► Italian

ITA121/122: ACCELERATED ITALIAN FOR SENIORS

This sequence of two accelerated courses in Italian covers all the basic skills with emphasis on a reading program leading to the study of a work of contemporary Italian literature. The course is for Seniors with strong preparation in a first foreign language. *Offered: Winter and Spring Terms.*

► Japanese

JPN110/120/130: ELEMENTARY JAPANESE

This sequence is an introduction to spoken and written Japanese. During the first term, students learn to read and write both syllabaries and are exposed to *kanji* (Japanese characters). Considerable oral practice and frequent written exercises lead students to a mastery of the grammar. Consideration is given to Japanese cultures, such as Japanese calligraphy, art, history, movies, TV shows, and games, in addition to the text, *Nakama 1* and regular classwork.

JPN210/220/230: INTERMEDIATE JAPANESE

This sequence continues the study of spoken and written Japanese using the text *Nakama 2*, as well as the Japanese cultures. Students are introduced to more complex grammar and reading passages as well as to more difficult vocabulary and *kanji*.

JPN310/320/330: ADVANCED JAPANESE

Reading comprehension and oral expression are the major focus of this sequence, although students continue to study advanced grammar patterns. In 320 students will make a video. In 330 students will discuss environmental issues and be introduced to what Japan is doing to protect the environment, such as their rigorous recycling program.

JPN450/460/470: ADVANCED READINGS IN JAPANESE

This sequence explores a variety of topics, including advanced conversation, film and contemporary short stories. Course work is designed to increase skills in reading, analyzing, and discussion. *These three courses prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination in Japanese. Prerequisite: JPN330 or permission of the department.*

► Russian

RUS110/120/130: ELEMENTARY RUSSIAN

This sequence of three courses brings students to a level of proficiency permitting them to carry on an everyday conversation and to read simple Russian texts with the aid of a dictionary. The basic text is *Golosa* with supplementary materials.

RUS210/220/230: INTERMEDIATE RUSSIAN

This sequence of three courses continues the study of oral and written Russian. Students continue to use the series *Golosa* with supplementary materials.

RUS123/222/223: BASIC RUSSIAN—ACCELERATED

This three-term sequence of accelerated courses covers the material of the first two years of Russian in one year, preparing students for Russian 310.

RUS310/320/330: ADVANCED RUSSIAN

This sequence of courses undertakes a thorough review and broadening of grammatical structures as well as a significant enrichment of vocabulary. This basic text is *Vputi*.

RUS410/420/430: ADVANCED READINGS IN RUSSIAN

The subject matter of this fourth-level sequence of courses is dictated largely by the interests of the students and instructor. While continued grammatical review and intensive writing are integral parts of the course, the vehicle may be classic and contemporary Russian literature, newspaper and magazine articles, or videotapes. *Prerequisite: Russian 330 or permission of the department.*

► Spanish

SPA110/120/130: ELEMENTARY SPANISH

This sequence introduces students to spoken and written Spanish. Considerable oral practice and written exercises lead students to a mastery of grammar. Students begin reading short stories in the first month to broaden vocabulary and develop the skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

SPATR1: TRANSITION SPANISH I

For students who have had one or two years of Spanish in junior high and/or one year in high school, this course rapidly reviews pronunciation and basic grammar and accelerates students in the speaking, reading, and writing programs. This course normally promotes to Spanish Transition 2 in the winter term. *Offered: Fall Term.*

SPATR2: TRANSITION SPANISH 2

A continuation of Transition 1, this course completes the review of the basic structures and broadens the speaking, reading and writing programs. This course normally promotes to Spanish 210 or 220 in the spring. *Offered: Winter Term.*

SPA210/220/230: INTERMEDIATE SPANISH

This sequence continues the study of spoken and written Spanish begun in the sequence of Spanish 110/120/130. It completes the study of fundamental forms and structures and includes a program of readings such as *Misterio en Altamira* by Meix and Hernandez, Pavón's *El carnaval, El sombrero de tres picos* by Alarcón.

SPA310/320: ADVANCED SPANISH

This sequence completes a review of the more complex aspects of Spanish grammar and is based on the reading of fiction. Active vocabulary and proficiency in listening, speaking, and writing are developed through frequent discussion, oral presentations, and compositions. Readings include plays by Cantón, Buero Vallejo, and Delibes, and novels such as Sender's *Réquiem por un campesino español* and Denevi's *Rosaura a las diez*. *Prerequisite: Spanish 230.*

Note: The following 300-level courses may be taken in any order after completion of Spanish 320.

SPA340: READINGS IN SPANISH

Choosing from contemporary and classical authors, students discover the rich literary traditions of Spain and Latin-America. Different genres, styles and themes are studied and analyzed. *Prerequisite: Spanish 320.*

SPA349: ADVANCED LINGUISTIC SKILLS I

This course is designed to increase vocabulary and develop linguistic skills while studying topics presented in different media and genres. Materials may include essays, short stories, radio programs, films, newspapers, magazine articles and comic strips. This course, along with Spanish 449, provides a special review for the SAT II subject test and AP Spanish Language Exam in May. *Prerequisite: Spanish 320.*

Note: The following courses may be taken in any order after the completion of at least one 300-level course above 320 or with departmental permission.

SPA405: CONTEMPORARY HISPANIC THEATER

The rich offerings of the theater of Spain and Latin America over the past century are explored in this course. Authors may include Buero Vallejo, Roberto Cosa, and Ariel Dorfman. *Offered: Fall Term.*

SPA406: MAGICAL REALISM AND REALITY IN THE SHORT STORY

Ranging from historic tales to works of fantasy, this course explores a variety of writing styles through the medium of short stories and novellas. Representative works are chosen from authors such as Allende, Borges, Bosch, Cortázar, Esquivel, Garcia Márquez and Rulfo. *Offered: Winter Term.*

SPA407: "SUPERNOVEL"

This in-depth study of a single Hispanic masterpiece gives special attention to the historical, cultural and social context in which the work was written. Possible "superchoices" include García Márquez's *Cien años de soledad*, Allende's *La casa de los espíritus* and Vargas Llosa's *La fiesta del chivo*. *Offered: Spring Term.*

SPA415: THE CONTEMPORARY SPANISH-SPEAKING WORLD

This course concentrates on current cultural issues in Spain and/or Latin America. Readings could include fiction, drama, poetry, and newspapers. Film, television and radio broadcasts, and music may be incorporated as well. Students choose topics of personal interest for oral and written reports. *Offered: Fall Term.*

SPA446: HISPANIC FILMS

The readings, discussions and writing in this course will center on a series of Hispanic films chosen for their cultural, historical and artistic value. Students will read scenarios, source material, or summaries of the films and will discuss and write about characterization, plot, themes, geographical and cultural aspects. *Offered: Winter and Spring Terms.*

SPA449: ADVANCED LINGUISTIC SKILLS II

In this course students expand their cultural understanding through a variety of media, among which might be short stories, newspapers, TV, and film, while increasing their vocabulary and accuracy of grammatical structures. Specific attention is given to the types of skills tested by the SAT II subject test and the Spanish Language Advanced Placement Exam in May. *Offered: Winter Term.*

SPA450/460/470: SPANISH AND SPANISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE

The sequence of courses prepares students for the Advanced Placement Exam in Spanish literature. The authors whose works are studied include Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Cervantes, Rubén Darío, Nicolás Guillén, Unamuno, García Lorca, García Márquez, and Borges. Students may enter this sequence in any term and are not required to take the terms consecutively.

Note: These three courses below prepare students for the Advanced Placement Exam in Spanish literature. Prerequisite: at least one 400-level Spanish course or permission of department.