



# **St. Bernard's High School**

## **Foreign Languages Department**

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## 4 Year Foreign Language Progression by Level

Level	Level 2 <i>College entrance</i>	Level 1 <i>Accelerated</i>	Honors
<b>Freshmen</b>	Spanish 1	Spanish 1 OR Latin 1 (Students with extensive experience may be able to start in 2 <sup>nd</sup> year class – placement test available upon request)	Latin 1 with Spanish 1 option (Students with extensive experience may be able to start in 2 <sup>nd</sup> year class – placement test available upon request) Level 1 credit
<b>Sophomore</b>	Spanish 2 (ie. Continue with same language as freshman year)	Spanish 2 OR Latin 2 (ie. Continue with same language as freshman year. 3rd year class available to those who started in a 2 <sup>nd</sup> year class)	Latin 2 AND Spanish upon request (ie. Continue with same language as freshman year or drop 1 language. 3rd year class available to those who started in a 2 <sup>nd</sup> year class) Level 1 credit
<b>Junior</b>	Switch to elective Spanish 1 (Spanish 3 elective available at level 2 when there is sufficient demand)	Spanish 3 or Latin 3 ( Spanish and Latin electives available to those who wish to switch or ADD a language. 4 <sup>th</sup> year classes available to those who started in 2 <sup>nd</sup> year class) <b>Honors.</b>	Latin 3 AND Spanish upon request (ie. Continue with same language(s) as sophomore year or drop 1 language. 4th year class available to those who started in 2 <sup>nd</sup> year class) Honors credit
<b>Senior</b>	Spanish 2 elective	Spanish 4/5, or	Latin 4/5 AND

		Latin 4/5 electives. Honors	Spanish upon request
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## Foreign Languages

Learning a foreign language is the door to other cultures and the key to understanding people around the world. It is said that world peace can never be achieved if we cannot talk to one another or understand one another's cultural background.

To that end, St Bernard's High School requires ALL its students to successfully complete a minimum of 2 consecutive years of one of the languages offered, but encourages all of its students to broaden their horizons by studying multiple languages for a longer period of time. Most colleges have 2 or 3 years of foreign language-learning as an entrance requirement, and we have 4 years of each language available to those who display ongoing proficiency from year to year. For those students who find language-learning especially difficult, we encourage them to take 2 years of one language, and then switch to take 2 years of a second foreign language: in this way they demonstrate a willingness to take up the challenge of becoming adept in the basics of multiple languages and more able to fulfill their role as global citizens. Colleges also frequently look favorably upon those who do not 'opt out' of language-learning altogether.

We encourage those who have previously studied a language to continue with the same language, although this is by no means a requirement.

Honors-English freshmen are required to take Latin but encouraged to study a modern foreign language also. They will be offered the opportunity in subsequent years to continue with both, pick one of the 2 or add a second to continue.

Incoming freshmen who have taken multiple years of one foreign language prior to high school are encouraged to take an assessment test during the summer months before entering St. Bernard's to see if their knowledge qualifies them to begin in year 2 (sophomore language class) in high school. There are several students who do this each year.

Incoming freshmen are generally leveled in language classes initially according to their level in English, since this usually reflects their language-acquisition skill in foreign languages also. However subsequent adjustment is possible if it is deemed advisable by their language teacher. This is always done with input from parents and the guidance department.

### **Requirements for Graduation:**

2 consecutive years of success in the same language. However it is recommended that all students continue their chosen language(s) for as long as they can maintain the pre-requisite grades to continue, and thus fulfill the entrance requirement of many colleges that require/prefer more than 2 years. Those who cannot are encouraged to take a different language rather than opt out of foreign language completely.

# Freshman Year

## Spanish 1

*Level 1 is the first year of a 4-year course leading to the SAT 2 subject test in Spanish*

*Level 2 is the first year of a 2-year basic college entrance Spanish course.*

***Students who MAY wish to take more than 2 years of Spanish should start in level 1 if possible – it is NOT possible to switch from level 2 to level 1 after the first 6 weeks of classes. A switch from level 1 to level 2 can be made within the first 6 weeks, at the end of the first year, or as a result of parent-teacher-guidance consultation***

This is the first year of a 4-year multi-media program of study of the Spanish language. The course stresses vocabulary acquisition, grammar, listening comprehension, reading and writing skills. All vocabulary is introduced by means of overhead transparencies and PowerPoint presentations, said before it is read and heard before it is spoken. Tapes, videos, flashcards, online practice and a wide variety of realia are used to enhance learning. Students are graded on speaking via daily participation, listening comprehension via taped tests and quizzes, reading comprehension by way of authentic cultural excerpts, and writing via homework in their workbook and portfolio assignments. Particular emphasis is placed on written accuracy in level 1 and active participation is 25% of the grade.

**TEXT**                      Realidades 1 – e-textbook

### **Prerequisite:**

This class is open to anyone who wishes to take Spanish. Leveling is achieved by means of placement test scores, their level in English, and input from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher when available.

## Latin 1

*This is the first year in a course of study of up to four years*

This course is offered to any level 1 student who wishes to take Latin, and is a requirement for all freshmen in honors English. As an introductory course, students will be introduced to the basics of Latin grammar, usage and syntax through elementary, continuous reading passages. Connections between English and Latin vocabulary are emphasized as is the heritage of the Roman world in Western history. Students will also be introduced to the fundamentals of both ancient history/culture, with a focus on family life and values. The primary text book used will be *Ecce Romani I*, along with supplemental readings which provide a more in depth look at Rome's regal to early republican history. Students will also be introduced to common derivatives of Latin and learn how Latin has influenced English. The course will aim to introduce students to the fascinating world of the ancients and prepare them for the more complex level of translation encountered in Latin II.

**TEXT**                      Prentice Hall's *Ecce Romani I* Chapters 1-16

### **Prerequisite:**

This class is open to students in level 1 and honors only

# Sophomore Year

## Spanish 2

*Spanish 2 levels 1 and 2 are taught simultaneously*

This course is offered to any student who has successfully completed Spanish 1 Level 1 freshman who demonstrate that they have reached a sufficiently high level of proficiency in Spanish can also be accepted into this class.

It provides ample study of basic modes of communication both in speech and the written language. Grammar is taught through structured drills and reading comprehension is taught through narratives and realia. Tapes, videos and overhead transparencies reinforce study and broaden the student's knowledge of Spanish and Latin American culture. Students will frequently work in groups to enhance speaking and listening skills. Basic structures from Spanish 1 are reinforced and more complex patterns and tenses are introduced.

There is a wide range of teaching and assessment tools that are conducive to differentiating between the levels and facilitating maximum individual progress by each student in the 4 areas of language-learning (listening, speaking, reading and writing). The relative weight of the 4 areas varies according to the level at which the student is taking the class, with greater emphasis on accuracy in writing required of level 1 students.

**TEXT**                      Realidades 1 e-textbook

### **Prerequisite:**

80% cumulative average in Spanish 1 level 1 (or teacher recommendation) to continue at level 1

Pass at Spanish 1 level 1 or 2 to continue at level 2

## **Latin 2**

This course is open to any students who have successfully passed Latin I and/or who have the teacher's recommendation. In Latin II, students will continue their study of Latin by increasing their knowledge of grammar, vocabulary and Roman history/culture. By the end of the year, students will finish the *Ecce Romani I* text and will be able to read intermediate-level passages and compose short passages of their own work. The course will begin with a thorough review of Latin I materials, focusing mainly on the parts of speech, noun declensions and verb conjugations. Students will then continue in the *Ecce Romani* series and begin working with more vocabulary and advanced grammatical forms. The focus of our cultural studies will be the stories of Roman heroes and political figures. We will also take an in depth look at Roman and Greek mythology, better acquainting students with the classical gods and heroes, including readings of Homer's epic *The Odyssey* and Vergil's *Aeneid*.

**TEXT**                      Prentice Hall's *Ecce Romani I* Chapters 17-27  
*The Odyssey* by Homer (in translation)

*The Aeneid* by Vergil (in translation)

**Prerequisite:**

Latin I and/or teacher approval

## Junior Year

### Spanish 3

### HONORS

This course is offered to any student who has satisfactorily completed Spanish 2 level 1. Tapes, videos, overhead transparencies and outside materials will be used (in addition to the textbook) to reinforce language study and broaden the student's knowledge of Spanish cultures and civilizations. The progressive development of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills is continued. The study of literature will be introduced. In years when sufficient interest is expressed, this course can sometimes be offered at level 2.

**TEXT**

Realidades e-text

### Advanced Latin

### HONORS

In this course, students will ultimately develop the ability to understand and translate texts in unadulterated Latin. We will continue our grammatical studies using the *Ecce Romani* series, along with supplementary texts to enrich cultural studies. Students will be introduced to key grammatical formations, like the subjunctive, the relative clause and the ablative absolute. Students will have the chance to read real Latin poetry and *fabulae*, as well as read primary sources from Roman authors about key cultural events (like the gladiatorial games). Our historical study will look specifically to Julius Caesar, his demise and the origination of the empire. We will read passages of Caesar's own writing on the Gallic Wars, as well as source material from Plutarch, Shakespeare's historical play *Julius Caesar*, and selections from George Bernard Shaw's *Caesar and Cleopatra*. We will close out the year with an analysis of Rome's earliest emperors and the state of society following the reign of Marcus Aurelius.

**Prerequisite:**

Latin I, II, and/or teacher approval

**TEXT**

Prentice Hall's *Ecce Romani II*  
*Julius Caesar*, by William Shakespeare  
*Caesar and Cleopatra*, by George Bernard Shaw

**READERS**

*Poems* by Catullus  
*De bello gallico*, by Julius Caesar

## Senior Year

### Spanish 4/5

### HONORS

*Students in this class may take the SAT 2 subject test in Spanish.*

This course reviews and reinforces the foundation already acquired in Spanish 1-3. Quite a lot of emphasis is placed on reading and translation to increase the vocabulary. Selections will be taken from many literary genres, such as: short stories, excerpts from novels and plays, poems, songs and magazine articles. There will also be many opportunities to develop the listening, speaking and writing skills. The readings and vocabulary content will rotate from year to year to enable students in Spanish 5 to enhance their skills (ie those who began as freshmen in Spanish 2).

#### **Prerequisite:**

80% cumulative average in Spanish 3 or teacher recommendation.

### Latin 4

### HONORS

In this course, students will read the works of selected Roman authors and refine those skills introduced in previous levels. An emphasis will be placed on students' awareness of the relationships between the modern and classical worlds, as well as the similarities and differences between English and Latin. We will read sections of *Harrius Potter et Philosophi Lapis* in conjunction with its English prose version, to better explore the similarities and differences between the languages as well as improve translating abilities. We will read the Plautine comedy *The Menaechmi* and compare it to modern comedies in its plot, characterization and style. We will read selections of Ovid's *Heroides*, Pliny's *Letters* and the poetry of Catullus and Lucretius in search of modern tones and themes. Ultimately, the course will provide students the opportunity to read aloud Latin verse and poetry in meter, to analyze stylistic techniques and find common ground between the ancient world and our own.

#### **Prerequisite:**

Latin I, II and Advanced, and/or teacher approval

#### **READERS**

*Harrius Potter et Philosophi Lapis*, J. K. Rowling  
*Menaechmi*, Plautus  
*Heroides*, Ovid  
*Letters*, Pliny the Younger  
*Poems*, Catullus  
*De Rerum Natura*, Lucretius