

La Salle Academy Language Curriculum & Policies

Jr. High Grades: 6-8

*Teacher: Miss Erin Boylan*

The Language Curriculum for the Junior High Grades at La Salle Academy is in compliance with state and national core curriculum standards, skills-based, progressive, and comprehensive in its scope. In addition to the use of Rosetta Stone, the curriculum was designed and written by teachers in the Diocese of Scranton. In Language class, students learn Languages by doing, giving them hands on experience hands-on experience! We learn through various activities involving pictures to establish meanings of words and phrases, and grammar, syntax, and vocabulary taught through the use of real life examples. Our goal is not to make each student a fluent speaker in the language they take, but to offer each student exposure to the world and all it has to offer. This includes faith formation through the beauty Catholic Church, as the students will learn to pray in their language. Your child will definitely benefit from having a language in the school curriculum!

Grading at the Jr. High level is based on three components:

- Assessments of learning including tests, projects, and writing assignments
- Classroom assignments
- Participation and behavior (conduct) in all classroom activities, (students are NOT graded on ability but on evidence of learning, effort, and participation).

Grading is as follows:

- O Outstanding Performance**, overall class average is 94.5% or above. Student consistently demonstrates above average understanding and application of material covered.
- S Satisfactory**, overall class average is 84.5% - 94%; all work has been satisfactorily completed and student demonstrates adequate understanding of material covered.
- I Improvement Needed**, Student's average of above three components was 74.5% - 84; student needs to improve in comprehension, conduct, and/or participation.
- U Unsatisfactory**. Student's average of above three components is a failing grade (74% - 0%). Student has failed the grading period.

**Classroom Supplies: Students in grades 6-8 need a folder dedicated to Language Class, some loose-leaf paper or a tablet FOR SPANISH, and something to write with for Spanish class.**

**SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES:** The Spanish courses will introduce students to the basics of the language and culture. The learning objectives include familiarizing students with basic vocabulary plus oral and written use of words. Students will study the culture to better understand the Spanish speaking people and their customs. Students will develop an enduring understanding that: Effective communication requires knowing how, when, and why to say something to someone. An ability to communicate in another language fosters an appreciation of cultural similarities and differences and an understanding of one's place in the world. Learning other languages and exploring their cultures enables an individual to interact within our global community and beyond the classroom. Skills acquired in one language support, reinforce, and develop skills in other languages and disciplines

**ALL JR. HIGH GRADES:** Reading comprehension and writing skills are taught in all Jr. High Spanish classes. Writing skills are very important to academic success and are strongly stressed from Elementary grades through college. At La Salle Academy and in the Holy Cross System, we use the Collins Writing System to help students learn the foundations of great writing skills. As part of this, students will be assigned short essays and research projects to help develop these significant skills.

Please remember to check RenWeb for updates on progress, activities, and grades.

It is my honor and pleasure to instruct your child in Spanish Education. Thank you for choosing La Salle Academy and Catholic Education!

*~ Miss Boylan, Language Teacher*