



Chambersburg Area Senior High School
International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme
Language Policy



Language Policy

The study of world languages is a valuable skill for many students. The goal is to lead the student to practical control of language skills which reinforce skills in English and facilitate the learning of other languages along with other cultures around the world. Language study will aid the student in developing a flexibility of mind that will enable him/her to meet, more effectively, the demands of life's situations. CASHS strongly recommends that language study be consecutive.

School Language Profile

English is the main language of instruction and the vast majority of students speak English as their first language. The other languages represented at CASHS are Spanish, Russian, Haitian Creole, Kru, French, Italian, Mam, Hilgaynon, Vietnamese, Chinese, Arabic, and Mayan Languages

Foreign Languages and levels offered

Language	Levels
German	German 1 Honors German 1 German 2 Honors German 2 Honors German 3 IB: Language B: German SL - Year 1 IB: Language B: German SL - Year 2 AP German
Latin	Honors Latin 1 Honors Latin 2 IB: Language B: Latin HL - Year 1 IB: Language B: Latin HL - Year 2 Medical/Legal Terminology
Spanish	Spanish 1 Honors Spanish 1 Spanish 2 Honors Spanish 2 Honors Spanish 3 IB: Language B: Spanish SL - Year 1 IB: Language B: Spanish SL - Year 2 AP Spanish IB: Language B: Spanish ab initio - Year 1 IB: Language B: Spanish ab initio - Year 2 Spanish for Native Speakers

Students need to take two years of a language before being admitted into IB Language courses, with the exception of Spanish: ab initio. For any student wishing to complete the Diploma Programme, but having not completed two years of a foreign language offered, Spanish, German or Latin, will be enrolled in the ab initio course.

Language A

English is the only language available for Group 1 language. The Language A teacher's use of translated literature connects to one of the foreign languages offered at the high school level when possible.

All IB content groups, except Group 2, are taught entirely in English.

English Language Learners

Chambersburg Area Senior High School offers support for English Language Learners (ELL). When a student is enrolled in the Chambersburg Area School District, they are screened to see if they need extra English services. First year students to the district from their country of origin are placed in a newcomer class. This class is designed to teach basic conversation and adjusting to the cultural aspects of the United States and a high school. Students transition into self-contained classrooms with instruction in English at a self-guided pace. ELL students are assessed twice a year using World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA). This allows ELL students to be placed appropriately in mainstream classes, special needs classes, ELL or gifted. ELL students receive extra help in Math, Social studies and Science too.

There are currently 176 ESL students within CASHSs including 75 new students this school year, 2021-2022.

Use of foreign language outside the foreign language classroom

-Translation workshop

The IB language teachers have worked together to have a yearly translation workshop for all IB language students. This is intended to show the similarities and differences between the languages and all students learn some basic vocabulary in the other languages.

-German exchange program

As part of incorporating international mindedness into the IB German curriculum, the German department features a German/American student exchange program. Chambersburg Area Senior High School has paired up with the Waldkraiburg Gymnasium an hour east of Munich, Germany; the schools facilitate a visitation for the students from Germany for three weeks during September, and the American students then go to Germany for three weeks the following summer. Because each student involved both hosts and acts as a host, the opportunity for true linguistic and cultural immersion naturally fosters empathy for and understanding of the German way of thinking for our students studying German.

-National Spanish Honors Society

Students who are inducted in the National Spanish Honor Society spend many hours volunteering. In the school, they assist ELL students with conversational and homework help. They also tutor students in Spanish 1 and 2. Many also volunteer at a local organization called the Diaper Depot, which gives diapers and other essentials to families in need. While volunteering with this organization, many students are used as interpreters.

Policy Use, Revision and Access

This policy is a working document to be used by administrators and IB faculty to help guide the placement of students in the correct foreign language class.

This policy has been created by the DP coordinator, IB foreign language teachers, ELL teachers and the ELL supervisor.

The Assessment Policy will be reviewed every two years, at the beginning of the school year. It will be accessible on the Chambersburg Area Senior High School's IB website, along with a hard copy in an IB file, which can be located in the Head of School's office as well as the DP coordinator's classroom.