

World Language Exploratory

Mrs. Costello

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[UMS 2018-19 Student Handbook](#)

You will be taking a full year of World Language Exploratory this year. You will be developing skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing Latin, French, Spanish and German. Additionally, you will be learning about the cultures related to these languages around the world. You will also learn that second language learning is not the simple memorization of vocabulary and grammar, but also the understanding of other people through cultural, historic, and linguistic insights.

Course Description

In this course you will be studying several foreign languages, countries, and cultures. The course is divided into five different units:

Introduction to Language: This includes a brief study of the development of spoken language and a brief study of several unspoken languages (including sign language.)

Latin: A study of how the English language was derived from Latin. You will learn greetings, numbers, and a few basic phrases. Roman numerals will also be covered during this unit.

German, French, and Spanish: Throughout our study of these modern languages, you will learn the alphabet associated with each language, greetings, phrases, and numbers. In addition, we will study different cultures associated with these languages and the different regions where these languages are spoken. Finally, we will compare and contrast these languages to English.

At the completion of this course, you should be able to make an informed decision about pursuing a foreign language in high school. A textbook will not be assigned for this course but we will be using workbooks occasionally to accompany different units.

Units of Study

Term 1 Introduction to Language and Latin

Term 2 French

Term 3 German

Term 4 Spanish and Sign Language

National Standards for World Language Learning:

1. **Communication:** The student will communicate in the target language.
2. **Cultures:** The student will gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures.
3. **Connections:** The student will connect with other disciplines and acquire information.
4. **Comparisons:** The student will develop insight into the nature of language and culture.
5. **Communities:** The student will participate in wider communities of language and culture.

Required Materials for Instruction

- 3 ring Binder with notebook paper OR notebook and folder (You may organize your materials however you'd like, as long as they are ORGANIZED!)
- Pencil or Pen (blue or black ink)

Grading Policy

Note regarding HAC (Home Access Center):

Urbana Middle encourages parents to regularly check grades on HAC. The following list of codes is provided to help parents better understand the HAC grading program.

- *An "E" is issued to excuse work. (This neither hurts nor helps a student's grade.)*
- *A "Z" is used by teachers to let parents know that an assignment has never been turned in. (The "Z" counts as a zero in the student's grade in order to give an accurate reflection of what the grade will be if the assignment is never turned in.)*
- *An actual "0" in a grade book signifies that a student earned a zero on the assignment.*
- *A .1 included with a grade indicates that the assignment was turned in late and that the grade was reduced because of the lateness.*
- *Grades will be entered into HAC weekly.*

Students will be graded on the following criteria:

- **Summative assessments: 50%** (summative assessments includes unit tests, projects, benchmark assessments, etc.) . Students who receive a grade that is less than 70% on a summative assessment may reassess. The maximum grade they can receive on a reassessment is 75%. In the event that a student receives a lower grade on the reassessment, the original grade will apply..
- **Assessments: 50%** (assessments include weekly quizzes and other forms of weekly assessments such as in class assignments, speaking assessments, etc.)
- **Homework:** Any homework a student has will be part of a project (summative grade) or an in class assignment (Assessment grade).

School Wide Late work Policy

Students are expected to meet project and homework deadlines. Any work turned in late will be reduced by no more than one letter grade per day (not to exceed 50% of the grade earned).

Classroom Conduct for your Academic Success

1. Respect Yourself, your Teacher, your Classmates, and the Classroom Environment
 - “Put Downs” will not be tolerated!
 - Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
2. Be Prepared for Class Everyday
 - Bring all necessary supplies *such as* your pencil, pen, notebook with paper, etc.
 - Sharpen your pencil **prior to** the start of class.
3. Be seated & Ready to Start when the Bell Rings.
 - Remember that the teacher dismisses class, not the bell.
4. Raise your Hand and WAIT to be called upon Before you speak.
5. Speak the Target Language even if you are unsure.

UMS’ “Soaring to Success”~ School-Wide Approach to Discipline

Urbana Middle School follows the PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports) program, which is a school-wide approach to discipline. Our goal is to change behaviors that are disruptive to the learning environment. In accordance with the PBIS program, students will be rewarded with “wings” for positive behavior and there will be consequences for failure to follow behavior guidelines and expectations.

1. Redirect and reteach
2. Redirect and parent contact
3. Classroom Reflection/Parent Contact
4. Lunch detention/Parent Contact
5. Lunch Detention/Parent Contact
6. After School Detention/Parent Contact
7. After School Detention/Parent Contact
8. Administrative conference with student
9. Referral to the Office/Parent Contact

Google Classroom Codes for World Language Exploratory

Period 7 6kvm7ix

