

**DEPARTMENT OF  
LANGUAGES OTHER  
THAN ENGLISH**

**GRADE SIX  
LANGUAGE SELECTIONS  
2015**

# *Our Middle School LOTE Teachers*

## Spanish

- Mrs. Alexander
- Mrs. Bodien
- Mrs. Daley
- Mrs. Delwiche
- Mrs. Music
- Mrs. Paderon
- Mrs. Swider

## Latin

- Ms. Griswold
- Mrs. Witte

## French

- Ms. Campisi
- Mrs. Cisler
- Mrs. Granai-Martin

## German

- Mr. Whalen

# Grade 7 Program of Studies

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Period 1	Math			
Period 2	Science			
Period 3	Social Studies			
Period 4	English			
Period 5	Lunch			
Period 6	Art (20 weeks)		FACS (20 weeks)	
Period 7	Technology (10 weeks)	Study Hall (30 weeks)		
Period 8	A Days – P.E. B Days – General Music/Band/Chorus/Orchestra			
Period 9	LOTE (Language Other Than English)			

# Middle School LOTE Program

- Latin
- German
- French
- Spanish

# Seventh and Eighth Grade

- Includes a full year of LOTE instruction in Grades 7 and 8
- Students will take a *Checkpoint A Second Language Examination* at the end of Grade 8
- Successful completion of MS LOTE study and a passing grade on the Checkpoint A exam satisfy the minimum LOTE requirement for high school graduation
- Students may continue LOTE study in high school for an Advanced Regents Diploma

# Why Study LOTE?

- To increase academic success in all areas
- To be more competitive in the college application process
- To have better career and employment opportunities

# Why Study LOTE?

- Knowledge of another language provides a competitive edge in the global market (Global Foundries)

- To acquire 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills:

*Work effectively in diverse teams*

- Respect cultural differences and work effectively with people from a range of social and cultural backgrounds
- Respond open-mindedly to different ideas and values
- Leverage social and cultural differences to create new ideas and increase both innovation and quality of work

*Communicate effectively in diverse environments (including multi-lingual)*

# Why Study LOTE?

- LOTE instruction is part of a rigorous, well-rounded academic program
- LOTE study provides numerous opportunities for curricular and extra-curricular enrichment.....clubs, field trips, overseas travel, and more...
- NYS requires LOTE instruction beginning in middle school



# What can you do with LOTE?

- **Latin:** law, medicine, & science
- **German:** business, technology & engineering
- **French:** international business, diplomacy, & charitable and service organizations
- **Spanish:** multiple careers throughout the US and Central and South America

# MS LOTE TOPICS

- Sports/Leisure
- Food/Meals/Restaurants
- School
- Family
- Holidays
- Shopping/Clothing
- Travel
- House/Home
- Health

...and many, many more!

# THE LOTE CLASS EXPERIENCE

- Students engage in speaking, understanding, reading, and writing in another language
- Students acquire language functions such as socializing, sharing information, persuasion, expressing emotions
- Students explore language and cultural topics through games, projects, partner/group work, music, videos and authentic materials
- LOTE curriculum/standards support the Common Core

# Why choose Latin?

- Latin students have been shown to have the highest SAT verbal scores
  - 90% of English words with more than two syllables come from Latin
- Potential career areas include: law, medicine, history, art, literature, drama, teaching, & science
- The study of Latin provides an excellent preparation for college

# Latin at Shen

- Certamen! Regional *Jeopardy-like* contest was hosted by Shen in 2012. Open to all MS & HS Latin students.
- HS trip to Italy
- Field trips
  - Clark Institute of Art in Mass,
  - NYC: Metropolitan Museum, & the Cloisters
- National Latin Exam in 10<sup>th</sup> grade
- College level courses in 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade
- Outstanding Program Award- 2007

# Why choose German?

- To pursue careers in business, technology & engineering
- One in five Americans traces heritage to Germany
- Germany is a world leader in banking/finance and wind/solar production
- 55% of all Europeans speak German as first or second language

# German at Shen

- MS and HS German Clubs
  - Food experiences, cultural festivals
- GAPP Exchange to Germany
- Field trips/cultural excursions
- National German Exam in 11<sup>th</sup> grade
- College level course in 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

# Why choose French?

- Roughly 50% of English words are rooted in French language
- Canada is a major business partner of the U.S.
- French is the language of diplomacy
- More than 40 countries use French as an official or primary language
- France is a leading tourist destination



# French at Shen

- MS and HS French Club
- PEACE Exchange
- Field trips
  - Montréal
  - Museums & cultural excursions
- College level course in 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

# Why choose Spanish?

- More than 20 countries have Spanish as an official or primary language
- Spanish is widely spoken in the US and continues to grow
- Knowledge of Spanish provides multiple career opportunities, e.g. business, communication, education, health care, & law enforcement.

# Spanish at Shen

- MS and HS Spanish Clubs
- High school trips to Spain, Mexico, Costa Rica, Ecuador
- Field trips
  - Cultural excursions
  - Performing arts
  - NYC
- College level courses in 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

# Selection Timeline

- Selection forms sent home: February 5
- Presentations to students: February 5
- Selection forms due in homeroom:  
February 12

REMEMBER... the deadline is Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>!

# First and Second Choice

- Every language is a great “choice.”
- All students will indicate their first and second choices.
- Every attempt will be made to schedule each student into his or her first language choice.
- Limitations in class size and scheduling can occasionally make this impossible.
- Please help your child select a second choice.

# How do I help my child choose?

- Highlight the positive experiences you or other family members have had with LOTE study or experiences.
- Assist your child in the further investigation of the four LOTE languages/culture.
- Point out family, friends and neighbors who have careers or opportunities that involve the knowledge of LOTE.
- Try to avoid categorizing one LOTE as easier or more valuable than another.
- Help steer your child toward something they are interested in studying.

# Important

- This is an important decision, and one that will follow your child to high school.
- Please remember that there is no switching of languages in middle school.

# Contact Information

Please do not hesitate to reach out with additional questions:

[stearach@shenet.org](mailto:stearach@shenet.org)

881-0370, ext. 61697

Rachel Stead

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