

# Course Descriptions

## *Burnaby Central*

---

## MODERN LANGUAGES

### **French 8**

This program explores the rudimentary aspects of the French language through the program *Communiquête*. Topics explored are personality, French cuisine, travel, environmental issues, consumerism, and Canadian phenomena. Students engage in oral, written, and listening activities.

### **French 9**

This program explores more advanced aspects of the French language through the program *Communiquête*. Topics explored are sports, Francophone culture, science, altruism, fashion, and music. Students engage in oral, written, and listening activities.

### **French 10**

This program continues to explore more advanced aspects of the French language with an emphasis on correct use of language through the program *Communiquête*. Topics explored are traveling in non-English speaking parts of the world, art, jobs and careers, news, weather, and folklore. Students engage in oral, written, and listening activities.

### **French 10 Honours**

*Pre-requisite: French 9 with at least 80% and G work habit or teacher recommendation*

In this course, students will continue to build upon their strong foundations from grade 8 and 9. Through various activities, the students will develop their oral and written language comprehension skills as well as oral and written language production skills. In order to succeed in this course, the students are required to have excellent work habits, motivation, and a positive attitude towards learning the French language and culture. Students who successfully complete French 10 Honours and French 11 Honours courses will have the opportunity to enrol in AP French Language and Culture.

### **French 11**

This program explores nuanced aspects of the French language with a large emphasis on correct use of grammar, language structure, and vocabulary through the program *D'accord*. Topics explored are household activities, food, health, and technology. Students engage in oral, written, and listening activities. There is an online component to this course.

## **French 11 Honours**

*Pre-requisite: French 10 Honours or French 10 with at least 80% and G work habit or teacher recommendation*

In this course, students will continue to build upon their strong foundations from French 10 or French 10 Honours. Through various activities, the students will develop their oral and written language comprehension skills as well as oral and written language production skills. In order to succeed in this course, the students are required to have excellent work habits, motivation, and a positive attitude towards learning the French language and culture. Students who successfully complete this course will have the opportunity to enrol in AP French Language and Culture.

## **French 12**

This program continues to explore nuanced aspects of the French language with a heavy emphasis on correct use of grammar, language structure, and vocabulary through the program *Imaginez*. Topics explored are personal relations, city life, media, politics, society, families, science and technology, and leisure. Students engage in oral, written, and listening activities. There is an online component to this course

## **AP French Language and Culture**

*Pre-requisite: French 11 Honours or French 11 with at least 80% and G work habit or teacher recommendation*

### **Course Overview**

The AP French Language and Culture course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP French Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in French.

The AP French Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

### **Course themes**

The AP French Language and Culture course is structured around six themes:

- Beauty and Aesthetics
- Contemporary Life
- Families and Communities
- Global Challenges
- Personal and Public Identities
- Science and Technology

Themes facilitate the integration of language, content, and culture and promote the use of the language in a variety of contexts. The themes may be combined, as they are interrelated.

For more information: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-french-language-and-culture>

### **Spanish 9**

This is an introductory course that focuses on all four aspects of language learning: listening, speaking, reading, and writing; using the En Español 1A program. Basic grammar and vocabulary are studied through topics such as personality and physical descriptions, likes and dislikes, family, birthdays and celebrations, school life and extracurricular activities, and food. Students will learn of the various Spanish-speaking countries in the world and will look in-depth at some of the history and culture of a few. Various aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures will be studied through video, music, stories, etc.

### **Spanish 10**

This course explores intermediate aspects of the Spanish language using the En Español 1B program. The goals are to develop students' skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing and to encourage students' understanding of the values, customs, and contributions of the various Hispanic cultures in the world. Topics explored are personality, activities, travel around the city, shopping at the market, eating in a restaurant, and discussing your daily routine. Various aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures will be studied through video, music, stories, etc.

### **Spanish 11**

Spanish 11 continues to explore more advanced aspects of the Spanish language. The goal is to further improve the student's Spanish language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) so that s/he can communicate in a second language in a variety of situations. Using the En Español 2 program, students will look at various aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures through videos, music, stories, etc. Some themes explored in this program are travel and leisure, art, news mediums, food, childhood experiences, family celebrations, and health and fitness. Spanish 11 meets the entrance requirements for most universities.

### **Spanish 12**

This course is an advanced program that builds upon previous Spanish experience. Using the En Español 2 program, there is an emphasis on written and spoken grammar, language structure, and vocabulary. Students will look at various aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures through videos, music, stories, etc. Topics explored are travel and exploring a city, shopping for clothing, nature and the environment, discussing the future, professions and preparing for an interview. Spanish 12 is recognized at many universities as a university language requirement.

### **Japanese 9**

Japanese 9 is an introductory course designed to help students with little to no Japanese knowledge develop basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in Japanese. Students will be introduced to the main phonetic script, *hiragana*. Students will be able to have basic conversations and write simple sentences. Japanese culture and social dynamics will be emphasized through topics such as social niceties and talking about personal information such as family, hobbies, likes and dislikes, and daily activities.

### **Introductory Japanese 11**

Introductory Japanese 11 is an intensive course that combines Japanese 9 and Japanese 10. This course is designed to help students develop basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in Japanese. Students will be introduced to the two phonetic scripts, *hiragana* and *katakana*, and to elementary *kanji*, which are Chinese characters imported by the Japanese over 1500 years ago. Japanese culture and social dynamics will be emphasized through topics such as social niceties, getting around, ordering and talking about food, and talking about personal information such as family, hobbies, likes and dislikes, and daily activities.

### **Japanese 11**

In Japanese 11, students will be expected to express themselves using more complex conversational and written skills. They will be introduced in a more methodical way to grammar and vocabulary in the context of overarching topics. These include holidays, shopping, school life, asking and giving directions, food and cooking, the seasons and weather, and describing people and their clothing. Students will engage in a great deal of practical conversation in the classroom. More *kanji* will also be introduced in context, and students will begin to write formal essays in Japanese.

### **Japanese 12**

Japanese 12 puts great emphasis on learning about Japan itself: Japanese houses, geography, festivals, customs, weather, history, and culture. Students will express themselves through advanced conversational and grammatical skills through culturally informative projects, oral presentations and essays. Students will also continue to learn more *kanji*. By the end of the course, students will be able to feel confident traveling in Japan and interacting with Japanese people.

### **Mandarin 9**

This course is intended for students with little or no Chinese language background. Students will be introduced to the basic skills of oral and written communication using simplified Chinese characters and Hanyu Pinyin phonetic spelling system. Students are expected to have a vocabulary base of 150 characters by the end of the course. Students will also gain an exposure of different aspects of Chinese culture through activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

### **Mandarin 10**

Pre-requisite: Mandarin 9 or a placement interview

This course is a continuation of Mandarin 9. Students will further develop communication skills in Mandarin Chinese and are expected to have a vocabulary base of 300 characters by the end of the course. Cultural activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops will be integrated throughout the course. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

### **Introductory Mandarin 11**

This is an intensive introductory course that provides students with the basic knowledge of the Mandarin Chinese language and culture. Students will be introduced to the basic skills of oral and written communication using simplified Chinese characters and Hanyu Pinyin phonetic spelling system. Students are expected to have a vocabulary base of 250 characters by the end of the course. Students will also gain an exposure of different aspects of Chinese culture through activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

### **Mandarin 11**

Pre-requisite: Mandarin 10 or a placement interview

This course is a continuation of Mandarin 10. Students will further develop communication skills in Mandarin Chinese and are expected to have a vocabulary base of 450 characters by the end of the course. Cultural activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops will be integrated throughout the course. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

### **Mandarin 12**

Pre-requisite: Mandarin 11 or a placement interview

This course is a continuation of Mandarin 11. Students will further develop communication skills in Mandarin Chinese and are expected to have a vocabulary base of 600 characters by the end of the course. Students will also be able to write compositions of about 120 characters in length. In addition, students will be introduced to Chinese idiomatic expressions and authentic materials such as Chinese newspapers. Cultural activities such as field trips, guest lectures and workshops will be integrated throughout the course. This course is not suitable for native speaking students.

### **AP Chinese Language and Culture**

Pre-requisites: Mandarin 12 or a placement interview, English 10 or ELL Level 2

This an advanced level Mandarin Chinese course, intended for students who are in their fourth or fifth year of language study, or students with equivalent experience with the Chinese language. Students will develop their Chinese proficiency across the three communicative modes (Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational) and the five goal areas (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities), which align with the *Standards for Foreign Language Learning* by the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages). Chinese culture and social issues are explored in greater depth. Students are expected to write the electronic AP examination held in May.

For more details, please see the official AP College Board web site:

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/>

**Introduction to German**

This is a foundation course for students wishing to learn to communicate in German. Students will be introduced to the culture and civilization of the German-speaking world. Themes and activities focus on family, the weather, food, sport and social activities. Attention will be given to developing reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.

**German 9**

This course will teach words to describe family relationships; words to describe people and things; how to name, identify, and describe people and things, using the verbs heißen and sein; how to classify and categorize nouns according to gender; how to form plurals of nouns; how to write brief descriptions; and some interesting facts about several cities in Germany.