

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE CERTIFICATE

## Purpose

The Foreign Language Certificate recognizes students who demonstrate a commitment to becoming citizens of the world by concentrating their academic program in Foreign Language. These students go above and beyond the graduation requirements in this subject area by studying two languages simultaneously during their Upper School years.

There are two required components to the Foreign Language Certificate program. Students must formally study two languages beyond the beginning level. Students may earn *Cum Laude*, *Magna Cum Laude*, and *Summa Cum Laude* certificates depending on the number of foreign language credits. Additionally, students must complete an experience that extends the language study to other areas of the student's life in order to demonstrate the relevance of language acquisition in today's global society.

## Formal Language Study

Two of the following languages may be chosen: Ancient Greek, Arabic, Chinese, French, Latin, Russian or Spanish.

## Extension of Language Study

To demonstrate a commitment to becoming a citizen of the world and to extend her knowledge of foreign language with a member of the foreign language department serving as a mentor, a student must accomplish at least one of the following during her Upper School years:

- Participate in a tri-school exchange or other approved exchange program that includes a home-stay.
- Travel to a foreign country (e.g. family trip or school trip) and produce either an essay or a visual presentation to members of the Department in one of the languages of study.
- Complete a related elective course in a tri-school class. Qualifying courses include: AP Art History, literature in translation, cultural history, archaeology or other elective, upon approval.
- Attend a summer camp or study abroad in a foreign language.
- Design a senior project with a focus on one of the languages of study.
- Pursue community service directly related to one of the languages of study.
- Serve as a host-family to a foreign visitor for an extended period of time (e.g. semester exchange).
- Conduct a qualifying independent study as a senior elective.

## Requirements

- Language classes may be regular, honors or AP level.
- A student must be enrolled in a tri-school class to earn credit for the Certificate. Other course work in a foreign language may be eligible for credit, pending approval of the Department.
- Language levels prior to Upper School do not count towards the Certificate.
- A student must achieve a minimum overall average of 80 in all foreign language courses; year-end grades are used in the calculation.
- A student may not repeat a level of a language, and no credit will be awarded if a year-end average is below 72.

