

SHELBY COUNTY SCHOOLS MODERN LANGUAGES

Secondary Language Program Level IV

Course: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, Spanish

Level: One

Grades: 8th – 11th

Course Description:

The world language program in SCS focuses on using languages in real-world situations. Students learn language that prepares them to communicate with others through oral language, print, and media. Although students will need to know vocabulary, grammar, and cultural information, they learn them in order to use them purposefully for communication with others. This emphasis on communication aligns the SCS curriculum with state and national standards.

At each level of world language instruction, students expand the topics on which they are able to communicate, the ways in which they are able to express themselves and understand others, and the sophistication with which they can express ideas. Student understanding of other cultures, ability to behave in culturally acceptable ways, and to recognize the relationships between language and culture grow with each unit, year, and level of world language study.

Each level of the SCS language curriculum is guided by clear statements of what students will know and be able to do. Realistic expectations for how well students will be able to use their language and cultural skills are also clearly stated. These objectives determine what teachers teach, what practice activities are provided to students, and how student progress is evaluated. Ultimately, because the goal of learning language is to be able to use it, SCS teachers are expected to test and evaluate their students on what students can do with what they have learned.

SCS world language course descriptions include: 1) a series of 'can do' statements that indicate what students are expected to demonstrate their ability to do by the end of each academic year of instruction, and 2) a description of how well students can use the language they have learned at the end of the year.

National Standards: Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, Communities

<http://www.actfl.org/files/public/execsumm.pdf>

State Standards: Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, Communities

http://www.tn.gov/education/ci/foreign_lang/elem.shtml

Technology Standards: <http://www.iste.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=NETS>

Essential Knowledge and Skills:

At the end of a sequential Third Academic Year of a World Language class you will be able to...

- Communicate in the present and past tenses about: daily routines, school life, leisure activities, special events and art
- Express likes/dislikes
- Express feelings and emotions
- Talk about what people are like
- Recognize and understand patterns of past and future tenses
- Maintain short conversations about music and dance
- Exchange information about jobs and volunteer work
- Give practice presentations about well-known people and historical events
- Express needs and desires
- Compare and contrast the view points of the target culture with their own
- Compare essential structures of the target language with their own
- Utilize internet resources in the target language to discover more about the target culture such as jobs, technology, architecture, music and dance
- Demonstrate level-appropriate understanding of listening, reading, and viewing of culturally authentic materials.
- Develop a deeper understanding the cultural similarities and differences