

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

P I O N E E R H I G H S C H O O L

RECOMMENDED COURSE SEQUENCES



PLAN 3: Preparation for Humanities Majors and for Highly Selected Colleges

The majority of Pioneer's successful applicants to highly selective colleges, such as Stanford and Berkeley, take four years of high school foreign language, regardless of their intended major.

Spanish 1-2
Spanish 3-4
Honors Spanish 5-6
AP Spanish Language

PLAN 2: Preparation for Four-Year College

The UC system and most selective private colleges strongly recommend students take three years of a foreign language while in high school.

Spanish 1-2
Spanish 3-4
Spanish 5-6 or Honors Spanish 5-6

PLAN 1: San Jose Unified School District Minimal Graduation Requirements

Students not planning to enter college immediately are still required to take two years of foreign language.

Spanish 1-2 Spanish 3-4

CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Spanish 1-2 introduces the student to the sounds, ideas, structure, and meaning of Spanish. As all other levels, Spanish 1-2 address the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In the first year course, the major areas targeted are relevant vocabulary, introduction to verb conjugations and tenses, and initial grammatical and cultural concepts. This course is often taken in the freshman year. If a student is not linguistically ready, or has difficulties in math or other cumulative disciplines, he/she may choose to begin taking Spanish in as a sophomore.

Spanish 3-4 expands upon the vocabulary and grammar addressed in the first year. The second year course is heavily laden with exposure to various verb tenses and more complex grammatical concepts, vocabulary and cultural ideas, including idiomatic expressions.

Spanish 5-6 reviews, reinforces, and expands grammar and communication skills acquired in Spanish 1-2 and 3-4. Through reading and discussion of literature, history, customs, and geography, students enhance their understanding of the cultures of Spanish-speaking peoples. Virtually all class work and communication are in Spanish.

Spanish 5-6 Honors emphasizes the use of the Spanish language for active communication and prepares the student to take AP Spanish. Fluency in the four modalities of language is developed throughout the course, encouraging bilingualism and biliteracy. The course is conducted in Spanish.

AP Spanish Language endeavors to prepare the highly qualified student for success on the AP exam, thus affording him/her college credit for the course.

DEPARTMENT FACULTY 2011-2012

Ms. Lisa Butler, UC Davis
Spanish 1-2

Ms. Jennifer Levine, Eastern Illinois Univ
Spanish 5-6, Honors Spanish 5-6

Ms. Dona Martin (dept chair),
Univ of Pennsylvania at California, National U (MA)
Spanish 3-4, AP Spanish Language

Ms. Wiebke Michels, Univ of Hamburg
Spanish 1-2

Mr. Ricardo Chavarria, Northeastern Illinois Univ
Spanish 1-2, Spanish 3-4