

Subject Philosophy for Foreign Language

The study of foreign language is included in the curriculum at St. John's Lutheran School because it enhances understanding of the culture, history, and everyday life of other people. As a result, students are enabled to live a life of Christian citizenship in a global society. In order to connect, appreciate, empathize with, and witness to people of other cultures, this knowledge is essential as we are instructed in Scripture: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..." Matthew 28:19

Exit Goals

From a Christ-Centered Perspective, Students Will:

- A. Communicate in written and verbal language other than in English.**
- B. Grow in knowledge, understanding and appreciation of other cultures.**
- C. Use language to witness faith through various activities.**

By the end of Grade Eight, students will:

A.1 Use the target language to express likes, dislikes, and personal preferences.

A.2 Understand written and oral descriptions of people and objects in the environment.

A.3 Ask and answer questions in the target language.

A.4 Understand common phrase groupings and voice inflection in simple spoken sentences and that languages have critical sound distinctions that convey meaning.

A.5 Understand the basic ideas of oral or written messages and short conversations based on simple or familiar topics.

A.6 Give and follow instructions in target language to share or explain information about general events.

A.7 Use and respond to cultural cues, appropriate nonverbal and verbal cues, and body language through vocabulary, gestures, and oral expressions for greetings, introductions, leave takings, and other common or familiar interactions.

A.8 Uses context clues to decode unfamiliar words and phrases in complex messages or texts (i.e.) already known language, diagrams, text features, and/or graphs.

B.1 Know cultural traditions, beliefs, perspectives, and celebrations that exist in the target culture and how those traditions and celebrations compare with their native culture.

B.2 Identify significant, historical, and contemporary people and influences from the target culture and how they have impacted their native culture.

B.3 Know familiar contemporary trends of the target culture (i.e.) foods, toys, dress, currency; and how they compare to those in one's native culture.

B.4 Read, view, listen to, and talk about subjects contained in popular media from other countries in order to gain a perspective on other cultures.

B.5 Understand main ideas and significant details of cultural songs, folk tales, comedy, and anecdotes in the target culture.

B.6 Understand and use nonverbal and verbal cues when listening to or observing a user of the target language.

B.7 Understand how idiomatic expressions and dialect have an impact on communication and reflect culture (i.e.) anticipates larger units of meaning rather than individual word equivalents.

B.8 Know patterns of behavior or interaction typical of one's age group in various settings in the target culture.

B.9 Students observe and imitate appropriate patterns or behavior used with friends and family in the cultures studied.

B.10 Know basic geographical aspects of the county where the target language is spoken.

C.1 Recite hymns and Bible verses in the target language.

C.2 Create bi-lingual posters in the target language to display based on key Bible verses and truths.

C.3 Create presentations about their faith in the target language.

C.4 Connect and explain cultural traditions and heritages of target language to a Christian viewpoint.