

Dear Parents of Students Considering Spanish 1A for the 7th grade,

Your child has the opportunity to take a high school level Spanish 1 Language class beginning in the 7th grade. Students choosing to take Spanish will take the first half of the Spanish course in 7th grade and second half of the course in 8th grade. The first half of the Spanish I course is not available to 8th grade students. Students who wish to take Spanish 1 will need to meet the criteria listed below.

Together, 7th and 8th grade Spanish is equivalent to the first year of a high school course. Students who successfully complete two years in the middle school with a grade C or above will receive one high school credit for the foreign language requirement from our Upper School. They will qualify to be placed in the Spanish 2 course in ninth grade. Successful completion of Spanish 1 is contingent on grade/exam performance and speaking and listening skills.

The middle school Spanish course is ideal for the highly motivated student who can meet the academic challenge that foreign language study brings. Please be aware that taking Spanish in middle school will add to your child's academic load. The class meets three times a week and students will have to keep up with homework, quizzes, tests, and occasional projects. The students will also take semester and final exams in both of 7th and 8th grades. Students that struggle with the normal academic load may find adding a foreign language to be too challenging. However, if a child is highly motivated they will usually adapt to the extra academic workload.

Completing Spanish 1 in middle school will potentially allow students to complete the Advanced Placement (AP) level of Spanish in high school. AP classes are college-level classes taught in high school. Many colleges accept a good score on the AP exam for college credit and allow students to begin at a higher level of the language their freshman year of college.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at the school's main number, or by email at cmole@aacsonline.org

Criteria for Entry into 7th grade Spanish.

1. Minimum GPA of 3.0 no Language Arts grade lower than a B.
2. Acceptance by Language teacher.
3. Permission of parents.
4. If participating in the Directed Studies or Resource program, acceptance from their DS or Resource teacher.