

Albert Einstein High School Language Policy



The foundation for all learning is language. As the primary means of communication, language is the foundation of life-long learning. Language enables students to acquire knowledge, become inquirers, improve critical thinking skills and develop social skills. To this end, all teachers are language teachers.

English is the language of instruction (LOI) at Albert Einstein High School for all classes except Language A Spanish and Language B courses.

English for Speakers of Other Languages

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) is offered for students whose second language is English. Potential ESOL students are evaluated both orally and in writing to determine placement. Students placed in ESOL classes move fluidly through the classes based on their rate of progress, not the number of years in the program. ESOL classes are taught in math, science, and social studies as well as specifically in English language, with support from both a content area instructor and an ESOL teacher. As students progress through the ESOL continuum, they are increasingly placed in LOI classes until they obtain a full LOI schedule. ESOL students receive classroom and testing accommodations to help them as language learners. Professional development is provided for staff to learn instructional strategies to assist ESOL students in their classes.

Language A

In the diploma program, Language A English Literature HL and Language A Spanish Language and Literature SL are offered. In addition to English language instruction, reading and writing is supported across the curriculum since it is the responsibility of all teachers to improve our students' ability to communicate both orally and in writing. The option of Language A self-taught is available to support students in their mother tongue.

Language B

Language B courses are offered are: Spanish, French, Japanese and Spanish for Spanish Speakers. Students entering AEHS have a variety of world language experience depending on the MCPS feeder school they attended or if they came from outside of MCPS. Students entering the school are evaluated both orally and in writing to determine appropriate placement in the world language sequence. Most students enter AEHS at level 2 or 3 and continue through level 5 or 6. A few students with a world language immersion background begin at level 4 at AEHS and progress through level 7. Students entering AEHS with no world language experience study language *ab initio*.

Support of the Mother Tongue

AEHS students come from a variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds and have different mother tongues. AEHS offers opportunities to develop cultural understandings of their own and other cultures through experiences such as units of instruction, field trips to embassies and cultural centers and ethnic heritage celebrations.

To enrich experiences in mother-tongue languages, second languages or additional languages, the following clubs are available to all of our students: Asian Club, Ethiopian/Eritrean Club, French Club, Girls Learn International, Jaime Escalante Latino Honor Society, Latin American Students United, Japanese student partnership