



News from World Languages at Essex High School

March 2011



2011-2012 Course Offerings in World Languages

- ❖ French, levels I through Advanced Placement
 - ❖ Spanish, levels I through Advanced Placement
 - ❖ Japanese, levels I and II
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Enrichment Opportunities

- ❖ **Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica**
The Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, was formally organized in 1953 as the Spanish National Honor Society, and became the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica in 1959.

The purpose of the honorary organization is to recognize high school achievement in Spanish and Portuguese and to promote a continuity of interest in Hispanic Studies. Students who have distinguished themselves through high academic achievement in the study of Spanish at EHS at level III and above are eligible for induction. Students whose average in Spanish is 92% and



above and study at level III and above received a letter of invitation this week. Congratulations! Felicitaciones!

The first meeting of the EHS chapter of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica will be on **March 24, 2010, at 2:15 p.m. in room 128** to discuss the honor society, the election of officers, chapter bylaws, and activities in which students are interested. These include submission of poetry, prose or graphics pertaining to the Hispanic world for publication in the society's literary magazine, ¡Albricias! Students may also be interested in participation in contests for scholarships and travel. Other activities could include tutoring, or planning an event focused on the language and culture.

- ❖ **Kimball Union Academy**
KUA partners with Dartmouth College's Rassias Center to offer intensive language study in French, Spanish and Mandarin Chinese.

www.kua.org/alps

❖ **American Field Service**

Intercultural Exchange Programs, offering the opportunity to live and study abroad as an exchange student.

www.afs.org

❖ **Japanese Matsuri Festival**

Japanese students will perform at the Ross Sports Center at Saint Michaels College March 27, 2011. Students have been rehearsing Japanese dance, songs, and skits for the annual festival.

❖ **Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy**

MMLA offers foreign language immersion programs for high school students. Spanish IV student Emily McGinty was recently accepted to this summer's Spanish language immersion program at the Green Mountain College campus of the Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy! ¡Felicitaciones, Emily!

<http://mmla.middlebury.edu>



❖ **Youth for Understanding**
EHS senior, Kayla Kalineen, will be living and studying in Japan from this semester until August with Youth For Understanding USA. She leaves for Japan this week. Kayla studied Japanese I and II and has served as a Teaching Assistant in Japanese II during the 2010-11 school year.

Here's Kayla, in her own words:

The program I am going through is Youth For Understanding USA (YFU USA). It works internationally in 64 countries across the Americas, Europe, Asia, and Africa and is a wonderful organization for students. I did not receive any kind of scholarship, because, unfortunately, there are no scholarships offered to Japan spring semester students. However, if there are other students looking to study abroad and can't afford to pay full tuition, YFU does offer scholarships for Japan full-year, fall-semester, and summer in addition to scholarships for Germany, France, Spain and many others. The program itself is not very competitive - they are just looking for motivated and ambitious students. Scholarships tend to be much more competitive,

depending on who is offering it.

I will be staying in Japan from March 15th (living with my host family beginning March 19th) until August 5th. I will be living in Japan for five months, total.

I will be attending school, as well. YFU USA is a home-stay and high school exchange program so I will be expected to attend school and perform to the best of my abilities while learning the Japanese language and culture. The high school I will attend is called "Chubu University Daiichi High School" (中部大学第一高等学校), a private high school in Nisshin City.

I will live with a host family in Miyoshi City, Aichi Prefecture (愛知県みよし市), located in central-western Japan near Nagoya, Toyota, and Nisshin. The city is larger than Burlington but has about the same population density (so not that much different there!). As for my host family (the Hori (堀) family), I will have a host father and mother, and two siblings - a brother (age 17) and sister (age 15).

I got the idea to study abroad (in general) in 8th grade or so. I've always been fairly interested in other cultures and thought studying abroad would prove fun and useful. My freshman year I took Japanese 1 because I didn't want to take the standard French or Spanish, and also because I was interested in Japanese

comics. I found that I really enjoyed the language and culture and when I brought the idea of studying abroad up to Yukari-sensei, she recommended the YFU program to me. For me, doing an exchange to Japan is simply the next step in my study of the language and culture and to prepare me for my college studies (I am thinking of doing something with language, foreign language education, or international business).

My experience with the Japanese language yet so far has been Japanese 1 and 2 through the high school and studying on my own time this year via online tools and a very helpful Japanese vocabulary iPod app. The Japanese language is by no means easy -- just the writing system could deter someone away (Japanese has three writing systems, one for native Japanese words, one for foreign words, and one is the well-known Sino-Japanese characters)! However, it's a pleasant language to listen and speak, and I've found it easier for me to pick up Japanese vocabulary than any European language.

I'm currently a junior, and when I return from Japan I will complete my senior year as planned.

I will also keep a blog while in Japan and anyone interested about my exchange can check it out at:

<http://destinationjapan.tumblr.com/>

- Kayla

❖ **College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) EXAMS**

Two CLEP testing sessions will take place later this spring at SUNY Plattsburgh for EHS advanced French language students (both French V and Advanced Placement French Language). Each session can accommodate up to 12 students. If you have questions about the CLEP French Language Exam, contact French teacher Tom Jiamachello at tjiamachello@ccsuvt.org.

❖ **Thinking Ahead: College Admissions Requirements and Recommendations**

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College Admission Requirements and Recommendations

- ✦ Most colleges and universities include a multi-year **same-language** requirement –often limited to modern languages

School	Required/Recommended Years of Study
University of Vermont	2 Required; 4 Recommended
University of New Hampshire	2 Required; 3 Recommended
St. Michael's College	2 Required; 3-4 Recommended
Castleton State College	2 Recommended
Champlain College	2 Recommended minimum
Boston University	2 Required; 4 Recommended
St. Lawrence University	3 Required
Norwich University	2 Required
Middlebury College	4 Required
Stanford University	3 to 4 Recommended