World Language Information Sheet

As students select a language for next year, please keep in mind that Fontbonne requires three years of the same language in order to graduate. Fontbonne strongly encourages students to take a language placement test to determine eligibility for higher levels. Below is an overview of our program.



French: French is offered at the College Preparatory and Honors levels beyond the first year. The French program offers an AP French Language course as well as an advanced French Literature course for those students who attain this level. French classes tend to be small by comparison to Spanish and make extensive use of the digital language lab for developing speaking and listening

skills. Students who have previously studied Spanish are able to apply the grammar skills to French, as the grammar of these languages is very similar. Fontbonne is proud of its French heritage which began in Le Puy-en-Vélay, France in 1650, when the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph was founded. Why study French? French is spoken in 55 countries across five continents and by over 200 million people. As well as being one of the principal languages of diplomacy, French is the third most common language on the Internet. The French program offers a **France Exchange Program** open to 10th and 11th graders. Students spend two weeks in a town in France in late June, living with families of students at a high school. Fontbonne students typically host the French students in October.



Latin: Latin courses are offered at the Honors level only, and therefore Latin is offered to students who have previously studied Latin and demonstrate proficiency on the placement test, and to students who qualify based on strong entrance exam scores. All Latin students take the National Latin Exam each year and qualify for awards based on the results of the

exam. Fontbonne students typically do exceptionally well on this exam. The study of Latin promotes strong verbal skills in English and a strong foundation in grammar. Students who choose Latin must maintain an honors average in order to continue into the second year. Failure to maintain this average will result in enrollment in French or Spanish for the following year.



Spanish: As is the case with French, Spanish is offered at the College Preparatory and Honors levels beyond the first year. The Spanish program offers an AP Spanish Language course for those students who attain this level. Spanish classes make extensive use of the digital language lab for developing speaking and listening skills. The Spanish

program offers an **Argentina Exchange Program** open to 10th and 11th graders. Students spend three weeks in Buenos Aires, Argentina in June and July, living with families of students at a Catholic girls' school. Fontbonne students typically host the Argentine students in April.

For any questions, contact Mrs. Anke Herbert, Chair of the World Languages Department via email at <u>aherbert@fontbonneboston.org</u>.