

## Placement Tests for Rising Freshmen: The Class of 2027

The faculty of the Department of International Languages has designed placement assessments in **Chinese, French, German, Latin, and Spanish** to determine incoming freshmen's skills and content knowledge in the target language so that we may make our best recommendation to help you maximize your success at MLWGS. **Any rising freshman wishing to register for a level higher than Level I in any of these five languages must take a placement test.** A strong foundation will give you the best chance to achieve linguistic fluency and cultural understanding at the highest possible levels of your chosen language.

As future Dragons, you are expected to abide by our standards of honor when taking these placement tests— and any future assessments— which **prohibit the use of outside resources, including online translators, dictionaries, or another person.** The work you submit should be yours and yours alone. Remember: the goal of these placement tests is to make an authentic assessment of your content-knowledge and skill in the target language so that we may place you appropriately. If you use outside resources, you are likely to find yourself placed in a level for which you are not prepared. This can have negative ripple effects that impair your chances of success for the rest of your high-school career. **If you cheat, you're only cheating yourself.**

Below you'll find information for each language and its placement test. All online assessment tests must be completed by **Sunday, April 9**, though details vary (see below for your language). For the Chinese placement test, please contact Ms. Sharon Meng directly (see details below). The French, German, Latin, and Spanish placement tests are accessible at **mlwgs.com**. Click on the link for **Academics**; then click on **International Languages**, under the **Academic Overview** tab on the left side of the page to find a.) the appropriate placement test, or b.) information on how to obtain the test. Be sure to click on the correct level to **take the test for the course you want to take in the 2023-24 academic year.**

The tests for French, German and Spanish have a time limit of 60 minutes. All tests must be taken in one sitting, and you will not be given a second attempt.

Placement testing must be completed **no later than Sunday, April 9th. (For Chinese, however, testing must be completed no later than Wednesday, March 29.**

**Freshman Registration will be held on Wednesday, April 12, at Maggie Walker.**

The tests will have been assessed by that time, and you should have been informed via email of your placement. (Teachers will be available in person on the 12th with your placement information in case you didn't receive notification.) Parents choosing to override the department's recommendation should follow the instructions received in the email containing the placement results.

**Any student who does not take the placement test will be required to enroll in their most recent language level and will not be permitted to register for the next sequential course for the 2023-24 academic year.**

Please be advised that 1a and 1b are valued as one Carnegie credit. As an example for German, if you took 1a as a 6<sup>th</sup> grader and 1b as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, then German II as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, then you will be entering German III at MLWGS.

**Chinese:**

- For all levels other than Chinese I, contact Ms. Meng at [smeng@gsgjis.k12.va.us](mailto:smeng@gsgjis.k12.va.us) immediately, but no later than Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, to arrange for your placement test. Chinese placement tests will be conducted in person at Maggie Walker on **Monday-Wednesday, March 27-29, from 2-3 PM.**
- Please note that, while MLWGS offers AP Chinese most years, the availability of this course depends partly on enrollment numbers. For that reason, the Department cannot guarantee that, if you choose Chinese as your four-year language **and** enter at a level higher than Chinese I, AP Chinese will be available during your senior year. Only if you enter at Chinese I can we guarantee that four years of study will be available to make Chinese your four-year language.

**French:**

- Incoming freshmen wishing to enter at level 2, 3, or 4 are required to take the placement assessment. (In the Fall of 2022, French 4 and pre-AP French were combined into a single course, under the title of French 4. There is no longer a course called pre-AP French.) Students interested in taking AP French in their sophomore year are strongly encouraged to consider taking the prerequisite French 4 as freshmen.
- The test is administered through Quia.com. Links are available on the school webpage, as indicated above.
- The French placement tests will be available between Monday, March 27, and 11:59 PM on Sunday, April 9. Students will be notified via email of their recommended placement before Incoming-Freshman Registration on April 12.
- Testing to place into French 2: <https://www.quia.com/quiz/8360502.html>
- Testing to place into French 3: <https://www.quia.com/quiz/8360504.html>
- Testing to place into French 4: <https://www.quia.com/quiz/8360505.html>

**German:**

- Incoming freshmen wishing to enter at level 3 or 4 are required to take the placement assessment. (In the Fall of 2022, German 4 and pre-AP German were combined into a single course, under the title of German 4. There is no longer a course called pre-AP German.) Students interested in taking AP German in their sophomore year are strongly encouraged to take the prerequisite German 4 as freshmen.

- The test is administered through Quia.com. Links are available on the school webpage, as indicated above.
- The German placement tests will be available between Monday, March 27, and 11:59 PM on Sunday, April 9. Students will be notified via email of their recommended placement before Incoming-Freshman Registration on April 12.
- Testing to place into German 3: <http://www.quia.com/quiz/7216512.html>
- Testing to place into German 4: <http://www.quia.com/quiz/7216513.html>

#### Latin:

- For incoming freshmen wishing to enter level 2 Latin, the placement assessment is recommended but not required.
- All incoming freshmen wishing to enter level 3, 4, or Pre-AP are required to take the placement test. Latin 4 and Pre-AP are both level 4 courses, but Pre-AP is a prerequisite for AP Latin: Caesar & Vergil.
- The test is administered through Quia.com. Links are available on the school webpage, as indicated above.
- The Latin placement tests will be available between Monday, March 27, and 11:59 PM on Sunday, April 9. Students will be notified of their recommended placement before Incoming-Freshman Registration on April 12.
- Testing for Latin: <https://www.quia.com/quiz/6797427.html>

#### Spanish:

- Incoming freshmen wishing to enter Spanish 2, 3, 4, or Pre-AP are required to take the placement assessment. Spanish 4 and Pre-AP are both level 4 courses. However, students interested in taking AP Spanish during their sophomore year should take Pre-AP Spanish as freshmen. Spanish 4 students can still end up taking AP Spanish, but we recommend that those students enroll in Pre-AP during their sophomore year, followed by AP during their junior year. Students taking the placement test will be given the opportunity to indicate on the test which level they wish to be considered for.
- The test is administered through Quia.com. Links are available on the school webpage. **Take the placement test for what you expect to be your next sequential course; i.e., if you are currently in Spanish 2, please take the Spanish 3 placement test.**
- The Spanish placement tests will be available between Monday, March 27, and 11:59 PM on Sunday, April 9. Students will be notified of their recommended placement before Incoming-Freshman Registration on April 12.
- Testing to place into Spanish 2: <http://www.quia.com/quiz/7216514.html>
- Testing to place into Spanish 3: <http://www.quia.com/quiz/7216515.html>
- Testing to place into Spanish 4/pre-AP: <http://www.quia.com/quiz/7216529.html>

If you have questions or experience testing irregularities, please email Mr. [Michael White](#), Chair of the Department of International Languages

The MLWGS International Language program is a college preparatory program with language proficiency and cultural understanding integrated throughout. The International Language faculty believes that language is culture, for it is through language that thoughts, attitudes, and ideas are expressed. Authentic international language experiences form an integral part of our program. The language program meets the individual needs of gifted students through a wide variety of teaching techniques that combine oral, aural, and written language. The emphasis is on successful communication. Opportunities to develop and expand learning are present not only in the classroom but also through various department-sponsored programs and extracurricular activities.

Each student completes four years of one international language and two years of a second. Students may elect to complete additional years of study, either in the languages or in elective interdisciplinary courses offered by the faculty of the International Language Department.

Languages offered include:

- American Sign Language
- Arabic
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Latin
- Russian
- Spanish