Curriculum handbook
Secondary courses
COURSE INFORMATION

All School of Languages lessons are held once a week after school hours. Most lessons for students in Years 8 and 9 are 2.5 hours long, while senior classes (Years 10-12) are held for 3 hours.

Each class has an e-learning space, Edmodo, which provides a platform for students to receive support from their teachers and each other. Lesson materials and other relevant resources, such as useful links, audio and visual resources, are shared through Edmodo in order to provide opportunities for students to engage with the language learning in-between lessons.

Courses for students in years 8-10

Students in years 8-10 can choose between courses offered in 25 languages. Courses in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Spanish and Vietnamese languages follow the Australian Curriculum requirements.

Afrikaans, Bosnian, Croatian, Dari, Dinka, Khmer, Kirundi, Nepali, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Serbian and Swahili languages are based on the South Australian Curriculum, Standards and Accountability Framework (SACSAF).

Courses are developed with the knowledge and skills required at SACE level in mind, in order to better prepare students to be successful in their SACE years. Students’ background knowledge, learning needs and interests also play an important role in the development of these programs.

Students are assessed through both formative and summative work, and feedback on their progress is provided on a regular basis.

For each course taught at the school, comprehensive curriculum planning is undertaken and documented at three main levels:

- Course Overview – outlines the themes, topics and concepts as well as the main grammar and linguistic elements and cultural understandings to be covered in the course. This document can be found on the school website

- Semester teaching and learning plan – translates the Course Overview into a comprehensive statement of student learning. The
plan includes concepts, skills and abilities that will be taught, various teaching methodologies that will be used, and a description of the major assessments. A copy of the plan is given to students at the start of each semester. It can also be found on the class Edmodo space.

- **Weekly lesson plan** – a detailed lesson plan that contains information about learning intentions, lesson content covered in class, tasks set for homework, information about upcoming assessments and teacher contact details. This document can also be found on the class Edmodo space.

Student learning is assessed and reviewed on an ongoing basis, both in a formal and informal manner, and their progress reported to parents through the reporting process.

**Courses for students in years 11-12**

Year 11 and 12 courses follow either the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) Subject Outline approved by the SACE Board of South Australia or the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma requirements.

**SACE courses**

At Stage 1 level, a one-semester course is worth 10 credits. A full-year course is worth 20 credits.

At Stage 2, most courses run for the full year and are worth 20 credits. However, students may choose to do a semester of 10 credits or a full year of 20 credits in Australian Languages, Integrated Learning and Language and Culture.

Students must receive a C or above in order for the language course to count towards the compulsory requirements at Stage 2 level.

SACE courses are offered at Beginners, Continuers and Background speakers levels. In addition, some languages are offered through the Integrated Learning or the Language and Culture frameworks. Australian Indigenous languages are offered as part of the Australian Languages Subject Outline.

For program overviews for all languages and levels please visit www.schooloflanguages.sa.edu.au
SACE – Beginners Level (Stages 1 & 2)
These courses, worth 20 credits, are designed for secondary school students who:
  • are in years 10, 11 or 12
  • have little or no knowledge of the language
  • wish to sit for an exam at Stage 2 for an ATAR.

The languages available are: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean and Spanish.

Students must do Stage 1 before entering Stage 2 for examination purposes. Neither stage can be repeated. SACE Board eligibility criteria apply.

*Stage 2 Beginners Korean will be offered in 2017.

Other languages – Beginners level (Stage 1)
School of Languages-designed Beginners level courses at Stage 1 are also available in Hungarian and Vietnamese. For the SACE, these subjects are worth 10 credits for one semester or 20 credits for two semesters, provided students achieve a C grade or better. These courses are not available at Stage 2 level. Students who wish to continue studying these languages at Stage 2 level and receive an ATAR score may do so through the Integrated Learning course.

SACE – Continuers level (Stages 1 & 2)
These courses are designed for students who have:
  • achieved Year 10 level or equivalent for entry into SACE Stage 1
  • achieved SACE Stage 1 or equivalent for entry into SACE Stage 2.

The languages available are: Arabic, Bosnian, Chinese, Croatian, French, German, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Khmer, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Serbian, Spanish and Vietnamese. Students considering studying a language at Continuers level are strongly advised to complete Stage 1 before enrolling in a Stage 2 course.

The SACE Board eligibility criteria apply to Chinese, Japanese and Vietnamese courses.
SACE – Background speakers level (Stages 1 & 2)
These courses are for students who have a strong cultural and linguistic background in the language. The languages available are: Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Persian and Vietnamese.

Students considering studying a language at Background speakers level are strongly advised to complete SACE Stage 1 in the language before enrolling in SACE Stage 2.

SACE – Australian Languages (Stages 1 & 2)
The Kaurna and Pitjantjatjara courses are part of the Australian Languages Subject Outline. These programs can cater for those students who have no background in the language and for those who have some. There are no prerequisites. At SACE Stage 2 level, each can be taken as a 10 or 20-credit sequence.

SACE – Integrated Learning (Stages 1 & 2)
Dari is available through Integrated Learning as a 10 or 20-credit course at both Stages 1 and 2. Integrated Learning is also available in other languages by negotiation with the school.

If studied as a 20-credit course at Stage 2, Integrated Learning may count towards the ATAR. The SACE Board eligibility requirements do not apply.

SACE – Language and Culture (Stages 1 & 2)
Afrikaans, Dinka, Kirundi, Nepali and Swahili are available through Language and Culture as a 10 or 20-credit course at Stages 1 and 2.

The SACE Board eligibility requirements do not apply.

Bonus points for entry to university
With the exception of the Integrated Learning course, and Language and Culture courses, all other language courses successfully completed at Year 12 level attract 2 bonus points for entry into all three South Australian universities. For more information please visit SATAC at www.satac.edu.au or the SACE Board www.sace.sa.edu.au
Learning and Assessment Plan
A SACE Board approved Learning and Assessment Plan (LAP) is distributed to students at the start of the year. This plan outlines assessments to be completed in the course of the year and their due dates.

In addition to the summative assessments described in the plan, several formative assessments are set throughout the year, and regular grammar and vocabulary tests.

Resources
Copies of SACE Stages 1 and 2 Subject Outlines and Stage 2 past exam papers are available at www.sace.sa.edu.au

Dictionaries
The SACE Board has approved the use of:
• bilingual printed dictionaries in all subjects
• monolingual printed dictionaries in all language examinations
• English-English dictionaries in all languages.

The SACE Board does not permit the use of electronic dictionaries for any summative assessment or for external exams.

International Baccalaureate Diploma courses
In some instances we are able to cater for those students who are enrolled in an IB-registered school by offering them the possibility of completing an IB-accredited language course at ab initio or Language B levels. Enrolment is arranged by negotiation between the IB-registered school and the School of Languages.

Assessment requirements for IB Diploma courses
Students enrolled in an IB Diploma language course will complete a number of formative and summative assessments during the year to develop the required skills. The number of assessments per semester will be determined by the teacher. Each IB Diploma language course has an internally assessed oral component moderated externally, and an external exam component.
Resources
Copies of Subject briefs are available at www.lbo.org
The Guide, Language Specific Syllabus and past exams will be made available to students throughout the course.

Dictionaries
IB Diploma students are not permitted to use a dictionary of any kind during summative assessments and examinations, with the exception of the Written Assignment.

Examinations

Mid-year exams
There is no mid-year examination for Year 11 students.

For Year 12 students, there will be a written mid-year examination in Term 2 Week 9, and an oral examination in Term 2 Week 10. For SACE students, part of this may be a summative assessment, which counts towards the school-assessed mark.

End of year examinations
For Year 11 students, an oral exam will be held in Term 4 Week 5, and a written exam in Term 4 Week 6. Exams are returned to students during class in Week 7.

For SACE Stage 2, students of most courses are required to sit for a public examination at the end of the year. All details of these will be given to students as soon as the SACE Board publicises the examination timetable. The exam is worth 30% of the overall mark.

For IB students in their last year, the written exam will be held around Term 4 Week 4. For language B the exam is worth 70% of the overall mark, and 75% for ab initio. Details will be distributed as the examination timetable becomes available.