

## World Languages at Byrd



**As you consider taking a world language, you should consider the following information:**

1. Languages provide a usable job skill in all fields. Just choose a language on [careerbuilder.com](http://careerbuilder.com) and you will be



amazed. **Jobs** in Roanoke and throughout Virginia require modern languages taught at Byrd: **French, German and Spanish. Latin** continues to reinforce English skills and provide background knowledge and terminology for many jobs.

**2.** Frequently someone who knows a second language is **hired** before someone who does not even if the language is not used on a daily basis. The ability to speak a second language often earns more money for the same position.

**3.** Interested in the military? An Air Force linguist is one of the highest paying positions.



4. So **what is required for graduation?** Technically, no language is required for a standard diploma, but it is one option for the two years of technical or fine arts requirement. However, most colleges like to see 2-3 years of language study. Students may start language study in the eighth grade. The Advanced Studies Diploma requires 2 levels of 2 different languages or 3 levels of one language. Competitive colleges often use advanced language study as a dividing point for applicants. Many of these institutions like to see four or five years of language study. **AP** level classes earn a weighted grade and successful completion of the AP exam may earn you

college credit. The 5<sup>th</sup> year of study is AP Language in French, Spanish and German. Latin has AP Virgil.

**5. What is required in language classes?** We ask students to make a **daily** commitment to learn-to speak, read, write and listen in your language of study and to consider another's



culture. In addition, students should frequently practice what is worked on in class. Homework is assigned almost every night. A **C** or higher is required to progress to the next level of study. Language courses are college prep or advanced courses.

**6. Which language should I study?** Check out the following link and click on the individual languages (French, Spanish, German) if you would like to see why to study a particular modern language. <http://www.vistawide.com>

Click on the following link to see more reasons to study Latin. <http://www.promotelatin.org/>

Please ask a language teacher if you have more questions before registration.