



through continued study, much can be gained beyond what any transcript will ever show. However, here are the thoughts of college admissions personnel when they review the language section of a candidate's high school transcript.

"While most colleges do not require four years of a language or a science for admission, dropping a discipline can be detrimental to a student's chances of being admitted. Admission Officers are looking for students who have challenged themselves in many areas. At the most competitive colleges in the country, Admission Officers are making distinctions between thousands of overly qualified applicants. In speaking with students about senior year course selection, we encourage students to think carefully before dropping a language."

Andrea Thomas, Assistant Dean of Admission
Hamilton College

"[...] the student studying for four years has a genuine interest in knowledge and education, not just in fulfilling minimum foreign language requirements."

Mathew Potts, Admissions Counselor
University of Notre Dame

"[...] depth and mastery are important in the serious study of any discipline. The student who is willing to do more than the minimum is *always* more appealing."

Ray Brown, Dean of Admissions
Texas Christian University

"We give the most consideration to students who have taken the highest level of language available at their school."

Robert Killion, Office of Admissions
Haverford College

"[...] the more years of a language, the better-- it shows that the student has gone beyond the minimum requirement."

Lia Brassford, Assistant Director of Admissions
Smith College

"Our recommendation is that, in terms of high school preparation, students take 4 years of a single language, believing that achieving proficiency in a language is preferable to not quite achieving proficiency in two."

Steve Le Menager, Director of Admissions
Princeton University

"We look for at least three years of study of the same language for many of our programs. If not completed before admission, it must be made up with a year of college-level study."

B.J. Ore, Sr. Associate Director of Admissions
University of Pittsburgh

"Ideally a student will present at least 4 years of the same language (classical or modern) if the curriculum allows."

Terry Cowdrey, Dean of Admissions & Financial Aid
St. Lawrence University

"The more years in one language the better it shows commitment and desire for proficiency."

Dennis O'Driscoll, Director of Admissions
Creighton University

"Three to four years of a language shows follow-through and a deeper level of interest."

Michael C. Behnke, Vice President for Enrollment
University of Chicago

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Should I Take Latin III & IV?



Many students struggle with this question. They often wonder if taking two years of one language in high school is enough...