

Class Schedule 2017–2018

Our classes begin in September and will end in May. We follow the Orono Public School holiday/release calendar and other release days specific to the community education schedule. There will be approximately 55 lessons. Classes are 45 minutes in length. Days, times & start dates are subject to minor modification.

Spanish meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:15–9:00 AM
Start: Tuesday, September 26, 2017

*No Spanish dates: Oct. 19, Nov. 2, Nov. 23, Dec. 19, 21, 26, 28,
Jan. 2, Feb. 20, Mar. 27, 29*

Chinese meets on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:15–9:00 AM
Start: Wednesday, September 27, 2017

*No Chinese dates: Nov. 22, Dec. 18, 20, 25, 27, Jan. 1, 15, Feb. 19,
Mar. 26, 28, Apr. 1*

Teachers, Groups & Enrollment

We assemble students into groups based on grade and proficiency level. Our lessons are designed to develop language skills for both new and more experienced students. During the first two to three weeks of the program, we experience a significant number of student changes. We reserve the right to reassign teachers and to regroup students to accommodate enrollment.

First Class & Parent Orientation

Instructions for the first day of class including teacher and room assignments, materials, and the time and location of the 30-minute parent orientation will be sent via email approximately one week in advance.

Communication

We conduct all of our communication with you via email. Please add us to your email safe list and inform us immediately of any changes.



Tuition & Materials

Registration deposit is \$50 + the approximate full year cost of \$792. Check our website for more information. Materials are assigned once groups are formed. Fees are approximately \$15–\$30.

Register online:
www.oronocommunityed.com
Search “Language”

For information regarding registration and payment, contact:

Anita Goman
Orono Community Education Secretary
952.449.8350
agoman@oronok12.mn.us

For information regarding course content, curriculum and instructors, contact:

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2017–2018

Before School Language Enrichment Programs Grades K–5


**Hablemos
Español!**
&
**Let's Speak
Chinese!**

Offered in Partnership with
Orono Community Education

ORONO Community
Education
Orono Public Schools

University Language Center



Learning to speak Chinese or Spanish is a good idea!

Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, with over 300 million speakers in 44 countries. In the United States, 28 million people speak Spanish at home, making us the fifth largest Spanish-speaking nation in the world.

Mandarin is the world's most widely spoken language with more than 800 million speakers. About 1 in 5 of the global population speaks some form of Chinese. China is our third largest trading partner after Canada and Mexico.

Learning a second language at a young age enhances a child's overall language skills and produces life-long benefits. Children who study a foreign language:

- ❖ **Increase their mental flexibility & creativity**
- ❖ **Transfer skills used between their first and second languages**
- ❖ **Improve their understanding of English**
- ❖ **Learn to understand, appreciate and respect diverse cultures**

Let's Speak Spanish or Chinese!

Welcome to the leading before & after-school language enrichment program in the Twin Cities. We are a Minneapolis-based business offering language instruction for children and adults, translating, interpreting and proficiency testing services since 1985.

In the mid-1990s, we responded to the parent-led demand for high-quality foreign language instruction by developing **¡Hablemos Español!** We provide a rich, meaningful language-learning experience for hundreds of students in many K–8 schools throughout the metropolitan area. We continue to offer language instruction to adult learners year-round in our Minneapolis classrooms.

University Language Center is an active participant in the *International Alliance for Learning* and the *Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures*.

Teaching Methods & Curriculum

We design our curriculum using the latest in language acquisition research and teaching methods. ULC specializes in *Accelerated Learning*, a method defined by a whole-mind, whole-body approach that engages all of the senses in the learning process. Children respond especially well to our classroom-tested dynamic activities that combine movement, music and art to boost language acquisition. Our students learn by doing — with outstanding results.

ULC provides all of the curriculum and materials for each course. The strength of our *Accelerated Learning* program is that it incorporates all four components of language: reading, writing, speaking and listening, from the first to last class. We organize

our curriculum with a focus on communication rather than structure, masterfully designing activities and materials that are age-appropriate.

For our young learners especially, we emphasize comprehension over speaking in the earliest stages of their language acquisition.

The “Immersion Classroom”

Children learn foreign languages best when their native language is not used for the instruction. Remember that a child develops comprehension skills in their first language long before they speak their first words. You may expect our teachers to use the target language as much as 95% of the time — using English on a very limited basis to support comprehension in the first few lessons. Children are extremely adaptable to this communication strategy and adjust in about 3 to 5 classes.

Our Teachers

Our professional commitment to excellence in language acquisition attracts the best and brightest educators from a worldwide pool of talent. Each of our instructors has the proficiency level of an educated native speaker; a bachelor's degree or higher in education or a related field, and has demonstrated effectiveness in working with children. For our dedicated staff, multicultural describes both the richness of experience gained from living abroad and their endeavors as artists, musicians and scholars. The talent they share is in nurturing the innate gift children have of learning a new language.

