

Dear Students:

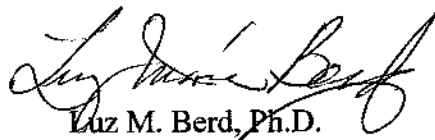
I am addressing you as a Spanish teacher, a native speaker of Spanish, and as a mother. Based on my own experience, I believe that it is crucial to know more than one language in these difficult times of unemployment and globalization. Personally thanks to the fact that I already knew Spanish and that I was studying English, I was the recipient of a scholarship to study at the University of Michigan. That is where my French studies began. Later on I became a Spanish teacher and continued studying French. When I became trilingual I was able to obtain the position of Head of the Import and Export Department of the World Trade Center of Chicago which dealt with trade involving Illinois, Mexico and Canada. You already have the advantage of knowing Spanish and therefore I suggest to you to study French so that you will be trilingual and in the future you will be able to compete and excel in whatever career you select.

Here are just some of the reasons for you to study French:

- 1) Since Spanish and French come from Latin and both languages are very similar, it will be easy for you to learn this language.
- 2) If you study French for a minimum of three years, you will increase your chances of being accepted at the college of your choice.
- 3) If you know French, you will be able to communicate with two hundred million French speaking people who live all over the world.
- 4) If you are trilingual because you know how to speak and write English, Spanish and French, you will have more advantages to obtain employment over those candidates who speak only one or two languages.

Based on all that I have mentioned above, I ask you to speak to your advisors or one of the French teachers so that you can register in one of the French classes. In today's challenging economic environment knowing three languages will help you to be successful in life.

Sincerely,



Luz M. Berd, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita