

ILTEXAS ACADEMIC PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ILTEXAS INSTRUCTIONAL CURRICULUM SUMMARY

The curriculum at ILTexas, as steered by our mission, prepares students for exceptional leadership roles in the international community by emphasizing servant leadership, mastering the English, Spanish and Mandarin Chinese languages, and strengthening the body, mind and character. Further, ILTexas has a college preparatory program whereby we not only provide our students with the instruction needed to be successful in college, but with the expectation that they will attend and be successful in college and beyond.

As part of our curriculum, we teach the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) and ELPS (English Language Proficiency Standards) as curriculum standards. Moreover, we've adopted the both vertically and horizontally aligned TEKS RS scope and sequence/Year at a Glance and supplemental resources and instructional focus documents. All state assessments are administered as required by the State of Texas.

At the elementary level, we are working *towards* a 45-45-10 model whereby our students will receive 10% of their instruction in Mandarin Chinese and, as via our 50/50 Dual Language Immersion (DLI) model, will receive 45% of their instruction in English and the other 45% in Spanish. At the secondary levels, our students receive both Mandarin Chinese and Spanish as part of their academic schedule. Our academic model is further enriched by our Physical Fitness program, whereby each student receives conditioning training by a Performance Coach. Through Physical Fitness Training, students also develop important character traits such as servant leadership and putting "others before self," the ILTexas motto.

Program Overview:

There are different components to ILTexas' uniform and unified educational program. As referenced above, the ILTexas curriculum incorporates the TEKS for each grade level and each subject area. The TEKS are listed below by Chapter, and a complete list of the TEKS is available online by chapter and by grade level at: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=6148>. Further, ILTexas uses a wide variety of state approved instructional materials to address the TEKS. Notably, ILTexas has seven core classes, which significantly differs from the traditional four core classes: (1) Math, (2) Science, (3) Reading Language Arts/English, (4) Social Studies, (5) Mandarin Chinese, (6) Spanish, and (7) Physical Fitness. For each semester students are enrolled at ILTexas they will need to take, in addition to electives, these seven core classes.

TEKS by Chapter:

- Chapter 110. English Language Arts and Reading
- Chapter 111. Mathematics
- Chapter 112. Science
- Chapter 113. Social Studies
- Chapter 114. Languages Other Than English
- Chapter 115. Health Education
- Chapter 116. Physical Education
- Chapter 117. Fine Arts
- Chapter 118. Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits
- Chapter 126. Technology Applications
- Chapter 127. Career Development
- Chapter 128. Spanish Language Arts and English as a Second Language
- Chapter 130. Career and Technical Education

Additionally, we incorporate the ELPS to address the linguistic instructional needs of our English Language Learners (ELLs). The ELPS can be found in their entirety at <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter074/ch074a.html>. Further, the ELPS will also be used to inform

Spanish and Chinese language learning, thus the locally developed Spanish Language Proficiency Standards (SLPS) and Chinese Language Proficiency Standards (CLPS), all following the same research base and guided by the same fundamentals of language acquisition. Further, the instructional implications that surface from the ELPS also apply to SLPS and CLPS in all four language domains: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

The scope and sequence used to teach the TEKS is a critical component of our curriculum model. Our scope and sequence is guided by TEKS RS. TEKS RS aligns the relationship between the TEKS, Student Expectations (SEs), and the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) and End-of-Course (EOC) tests in Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. TEKS RS scope and sequence is also aligned with Grades K-12 other college entrance exams, such as the SAT/ACT. TEKS RS addresses the components that are critical for effectively teaching and assessing the TEKS/SEs to the depth and complexity of the STAAR/EOC with both a horizontal and vertically aligned scope and sequence. Moreover, ILTexas works in close collaboration with the TEKS Resource System to provide teachers with a vertically aligned scope and sequence, Instructional Focus Documents, and end of unit assessments, crafted by state curriculum and assessment experts and consultants.

Further, the model of delivery to teach the TEKS is a college preparatory, data-driven, tri-lingual model working alongside the Physical Fitness model to reinforce athletic conditioning and our character education program. Each of these systems work in conjunction to strengthen the body, mind, and character.

TRILINGUAL EDUCATION K–12

Students attending ILTexas receive academic instruction in English, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese. Students in Kindergarten through 5th grade will participate in a two-way, 50/50 dual language program (Spanish/English) as well as participate in Chinese language development classes through their specials classes (FLES). Students in 6th-8th will receive daily language development instruction in Spanish and Chinese as part of their academic instructional schedule (LOTE). In grades 9-12, students will participate in proficiency based Spanish and Chinese language courses for every semester that they are enrolled.

K-5 (fully implemented over the course of five years)

Two-Way Dual Language Immersion (DLI) - Spanish/English

Foreign Language in the Elementary School (FLES) - Mandarin Chinese

6-12

Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

As elementary students move up through the dual language program, we will explore the options of incorporating DLI at the secondary level (i.e., Art class in Chinese, Theatre in Spanish, etc.).

