

International Tamil Academy World Language Program HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT PROGRAM



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Where can I get the details about the High School Credit Program?

Please visit our ITA website for the details. http://catamilacademy.org/FUSD-Tamil.html

- 2. Do we have the approval of School District for this course?
 - Yes, the program offered by ITA Fremont is approved by FUSD.
 Please refer the document at <u>FUSDApproval4Tamil.pdf</u> for the details.
 - The FUSD website lists "California Tamil Academy" as one of the Foreign Language Schools Approved by FUSD for Credit. Please visit Parent Resources in FUSD website and look for <u>Approved Foreign</u> <u>Language Schools</u>
- 3. How many years of Tamil study are available at ITA- Fremont?

ITA Fremont offers 4 years of Tamil study and all are approved by FUSD.

4. Is this course accepted as a world language by all Public and Private Universities in USA?

Yes. FUSD Director has confirmed that when the Tamil Subject is included in the Student Transcript as a world language, it means that it is approved by FUSD and there is no problem.

5. What is the registration procedure to register HSCP?

Please visit our ITA website for the registration procedure - http://catamilacademy.org/FUSD-Tamil.html

6. Are there any prerequisites to enroll in HSCP?

- Students need to be in 7th grade or higher in regular FUSD School to enroll in HSCP.
- Anyone who does not have any knowledge in Tamil language can enroll in this program.
- It is strongly recommended to begin with Tamil 1 which is Intro to Tamil. Tamil 2 has to be taken after Tamil 1 and Tamil 3 after Tamil 2, and so on.
- 7. Is there any special test we must take to enter the HSCP?
 - There will be no entrance test to register in Tamil 1.
- 8. My son/daughter is currently studying at ITA. Can he/she join this HSCP class?
 - Yes, you can register for HSCP Tamil 1 if they are in 7th grade or higher in regular FUSD School.
- 9. Can my son/daughter skip HSCP Tamil 1 and directly enter HSCP Tamil2?
 - Yes. However, Student needs to meet the following conditions:
 - o The student needs to be in 8th grade or higher in regular School.
 - o ITA will conduct an evaluation test to identify student's readiness to enter HSCP Level 2. The evaluation will test student's skills in reading, writing and conversation to make sure that they have the knowledge equivalent of HSCP Level 1. Student must score grade B or higher in the evaluation test.
 - o ITA management approval required
- 10. What is the deadline for the students to register for the HSCP Course?
 - Normally it is mid-September of each academic year. Please check with HSCP officer for the exact date. You need to submit the "Public School registration form" so that HSCP officer can hand over them to FUSD Director Office. Please refer the registration procedure at http://catamilacademy.org/FUSD-Tamil.html

11. How many hours per week are the classes?

Class duration : Five hours per week.
Class location : ITA Fremont School.

Class Day & Time
 Fall Semester (1)
 Sunday 8:30 AM-1:30 PM
 September – January

• Spring Semester (2) : January – June

12. How many credits can we gain with one school year of class?

• If courses are taken when the student is in High School each course completed with a grade D or higher will get 10 credits.

13. How are the credits awarded during the course?

- There will be monthly tests during the semesters.
- There will be comprehensive grading at the end of every Semester.
- A passing grade is D. This grade will be accounted for GPA when taken as a world language in High School.
- Electives are earned in Jr. High, and Credits earned in High School

14. How do these credits transfer into my High school transcript?

- ITA will provide a list of students enrolled in the program to FUSD, after the registration period closes (usually middle of September).
- ITA provides grades to FUSD at the end of each semester.
- FUSD will forward the grades to the respective schools for updating the student's transcripts.
- Course taken in Junior High will not show up in the High school transcripts. Example: If course Tamil 1 was taken in 8th grade (Junior High), and Tamil 2 in High school, then only Tamil 2 will show up in the high school transcript (It is implied that Tamil 1 was already taken, and this is the 2nd year of Tamil language)
- 15. What is the max # of credits we can earn? Is that # enough to satisfy FUSD High School graduation requirements and/or University of California admissions requirement?

Currently ITA offers 4 levels of courses.

- Therefore, the students can earn 40 credits if all the four courses are taken, and earned grade C or higher in High school.
- When taken in Jr. High, will not count towards credits, but will count for number of years study of the Foreign Language Tamil.
- Example: If Tamil 1 and Tamil 2 were taken in 7th & 8th grade and Tamil 3 and Tamil 4 were taken in high school, the student has four years of world language study and will get the 20 credits to meet the high school graduation requirement since they have taken Tamil for two years during High School.
- UC & CSU requirement is 2 years of a single foreign language (for example cannot mix 1 year of Spanish and 1 year of Tamil) and it can be taken either at High School or Junior High School. However, High School graduation requirement is 1 year of Foreign Language or Fine Arts. Please refer to FUSD high school catalog and University materials for current and up to date requirements.

16. Can I take these courses at Junior High School? What will I earn?

- Yes, students take up HSCP Tamil course during their Junior High School.
- The course can be taken at Junior High too to satisfy the Foreign Language requirements. However, these are Electives. Therefore, may conflict with other Electives, as they are limited to 2 per year in the Junior High schools. Tamil requires 2 semesters to complete one course.
 Discuss with your Junior high school counselor and make your decision.

17. Will there be any transportation?

 Students will have to make arrangements on their own to come to the ITA school.

18. Will I get credit for what I have done in ITA?

 All the students from ITA could have studied some/most of the materials, depending on the grades they have completed at ITA. However, FUSD mandates that all students put 160 hours per year, and pass the exam in order to gain the credits, just like any other Foreign Language course like Spanish or French.

19. If I have question whom should I contact?

• Please refer ITA website for HSCP officer and Principal contact details.