FOREIGN LANGUAGE - TIME MANAGEMENT

A foreign language is different from most courses: you need to study every day, not just M-W-F.

**DO**

- **DO** keep up with classwork – it’s harder to catch up than to keep up. Language is cumulative with the current lesson built on the previous one; neglect and falling behind will snowball.

- **DO** schedule your time to allow daily study time - the rule is at least two study hours for every hour in class, but language study should be spread out through the week.

- **DO** try to divide your study time so that as much as 80% of it is spent in recitation and practice - think of language as a performance course where practice makes perfect.

- **DO** try to schedule some of your study hours before you go into class - as a participation-type class, you need the material fresh in your mind to be used or performed in class.

- **DO** schedule language study hours ASAP if they have to be after class in order to minimize forgetting - immediate reinforcement helps solidify new material longer and more accurately.

- **DO** study when you’re most alert when you feel you can absorb and retain the most material for these memorization-heavy subjects. Prime time will vary, obviously, from person to person.

**DON'T**

- **DON'T** try to cover the whole assignment in one sitting - break it up into smaller chunks of time. Four ½ hours are better than 2 straight hours.

- **DON'T** try to learn a whole lesson at once - break it up into “digestible” portions of material, probably following the segmenting already done by the textbook publisher.

- **DON'T** cut class - you will fall behind, possibly irretrievably.