



January, 2012

Dear Prospective Student:

I am glad that you have been accepted at Wheaton College and hope that you will decide to begin your college studies here in August 2012. If you do, it will be my responsibility to enroll you in your first semester classes and to recommend appropriate testing to meet some college requirements.

The enclosed flier contains information on the general education requirements at Wheaton and the ways you can meet some of these requirements through appropriate testing. The following comments should answer many of your questions.

1. If you have the opportunity to take an Advanced Placement (AP) exam or an International Baccalaureate (IB) exam, you should do so. You can earn college credit if you earn a qualifying score (see enclosed brochure) on an AP exam or if your score on an IB exam is 5 or above. These tests must be arranged through your high school. Be sure to ask about taking the exam in any AP or IB class that you are enrolled in. ***It is not necessary to take any further tests for an area in which you take an AP or IB Exam.***

2. Students who do not take AP or IB exams in a foreign language but have fairly strong foreign language knowledge should consider taking the College Board SAT Subject Tests. You need to register for these tests which are given only a few times a year. You may register online for SAT Subject tests at <http://www.collegeboard.com/sat/html/satform.html>. You may take up to three exams on a given Saturday for a single fee. Given the guidelines below, consider taking first the SAT Subject exam in foreign language. The remaining exams should be chosen from areas in which you had strong high school preparation and think that you can do well. Because it takes six weeks for your tests to be graded, it is best to take the SAT Subject Tests before May.
 - (a) If you have completed only through level two (equivalent to two years of high school language study) in French, German, Latin, or Spanish, you may continue your college study in the 103 course in the same language without further testing. This one semester course is an accelerated coverage of the first year of that language. If you feel you can test into a higher level course, you may elect to take the College Board SAT Subject Test or the Wheaton College placement test.

If you have completed *above* level two in French, German, Latin, or Spanish in high school, ***you must have a placement test score (AP, IB, SAT Subject, or Wheaton College placement exam) before you may enroll in any college course in the language you studied.*** If you do not take the College Board SAT Subject exam by June 1, you must take the Wheaton College online placement test prior to enrolling in a foreign language. No credit is given for the placement exam.

If you have completed *less* than level two in high school foreign language study, or if you wish to study a new language in college, you do not need to have any preliminary testing. You should take the 101, 102, and 201 courses in the desired language, unless the language you prefer is Hebrew, in which case you should take 301, 302, and 401.

The Wheaton College foreign language (French, German, Latin, and Spanish) placement exams are offered online throughout the summer, beginning on or about May 18, 2011.

- (b) **The quantitative skills requirement may be met** by achieving qualifying scores on the AP Calculus or IB Mathematics-Higher Level exams or transferring credit for the same courses from another college. Transfer credit will not be accepted for any courses below the Calculus level. College Algebra, Pre-Calculus and Trigonometry will not meet the requirement and will not transfer in for credit. Students not transferring credit or taking AP or IB exams should prepare for the quantitative skills exam, given during freshmen orientation. A study guide for this exam will be sent to all new students in May. *You should complete the quantitative skills requirement by the end of your sophomore year.*

By the end of June, you should receive a *Course Guide* booklet and registration materials from me that will list all the courses open to freshmen in the fall semester of 2012. Based on these materials and your test scores, you will choose the courses you wish to take in the fall of 2012. These materials will also be posted on our website.

Please email or call the freshmen advising office if you have further questions.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Jay Wood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

W. Jay Wood
Director of Freshman Advising
Freshman.Advising@wheaton.edu
630/752-7373

WJW/kd
Enclosure