

You Can't Graduate Without a Foreign Language

Fall 2008

Before graduating, students must demonstrate skill with a foreign language that allows them to listen to and converse with native speakers, and use the language for other practical purposes. You must accomplish this by the end of your sophomore year.

HERE'S HOW TO REACH THAT GOAL:

1. Register for the class you need (without taking a placement test) if ...

- You plan to take the beginning (101) course in a language you have never studied. Remember that the first semester of a language (the 101 course) is taught only in the fall.
- You plan to take the 103 course (first and second semesters combined) in a language that you studied no more than 2 years in high school. Modern languages only; normally offered fall only for German, fall and spring for French and Spanish.
- You took an AP or SAT II Subject test in a language. Use this chart to determine which course to take

AP (Advanced Placement Test)

- Score of 2, 3, 4, 5: Competency requirement met and credit earned (4, 6, 8, 10 hours, respectively)
- Score of 0 or 1: take the Placement Test

SAT II Subject Test

French - German - Spanish	• Score below 450	• Take 103
French	• Score 450-570	• Take 201
German	• Score 450-570	• Take 201
Spanish	• Score 450-570	• Take 201
Latin	• Score below 440	• Take Latin 102
Latin	• Score 440-570	• Take 201
Hebrew	• Score below 440	• Take Hebrew 302
Hebrew	• Score 440-490	• Take 401
Competency requirement met (+ 4 credits)		
French 580+	• German 580+	• Spanish 580+
	• Latin 580+	• Hebrew 500+

- You took the International Baccalaureate exam in a language and had a score of 5 or above, you have fulfilled your language requirement.

OR

2. Take a PLACEMENT TEST as soon as possible.

- If you hope to take a language class this fall, you will need your placement test score in order to complete your fall schedule. Otherwise, you won't know which level class you should take. You will not be allowed to take a language class without a placement score unless one of the scenarios listed above under #1 applies.
- You can arrange with the Foreign Languages Department to take the test at a later time, but if you do so, you should expect to wait until Spring Semester to begin language study.

How to take the Placement Test

1. Fill out the enclosed registration form and return it immediately.
2. If you have studied French, German, or Spanish, you will be sent a password and assigned a two-week period during which the test may be taken at any time from your home or some other computer—library, etc.—along with instructions for taking the test and on what to do if something goes wrong (not a common event). Normally, the test takes between 20 and 30 minutes. You will be given your score when you finish the test so you will know immediately which Wheaton College course you should register for (if any).
3. If you have studied Greek, Hebrew, or Latin you will be sent instructions about taking a placement test on campus during New Student Orientation.

NEW STUDENT PLACEMENT TEST REGISTRATION FORM

ALL NEW STUDENTS MUST TAKE A PLACEMENT TEST THIS SUMMER UNLESS EXEMPT
Return this form immediately; otherwise, you *may* not be able to take a foreign language class this fall.

FAX: 630 752 5788

Type or Print Clearly

Date: _____

Name: _____ (please print) Student ID No. _____

Addresses and telephone where you can be contacted before arrival on campus.

Address: _____
Street

E-mail address: _____ Telephone: () _____

LANGUAGE TEST: Check all that apply

- FRENCH (online test)
- GERMAN (online test)
- GREEK (on campus test)
- HEBREW (on campus test)
- LATIN (on campus test) (need six weeks notice to order test)
- SPANISH (online test)

PAYMENT: You may take more than one test. Your student account will be charged \$10 for each test you complete prior to the beginning of school. After school begins, this fee will increase to \$20 per test.

Modern languages

1. The sooner you take a modern language test, the sooner you can complete your fall course schedule.
2. You need not wait until after your high school graduation to take the test. All you need is the password.
3. Check the webpage for your language to determine which level class to take after you have taken the test and received your score.
4. If your placement score is above the Intermediate (201) level you will need to arrange for a short validation interview with a language professor. Without that interview, you will NOT have completed the general education requirement. Contact the Foreign Languages Department secretary to arrange a validation interview after you come to campus.

Ancient languages: Greek, Latin, Hebrew

1. Since you will take the test on campus during Freshman Orientation, go ahead and register for the class you *think* is right for you. You will be able to change if it proves not to be the best class for you.

Return to:

Wheaton College
Foreign Languages Department
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For further information:

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