



DIVISION OF UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Campus Foreign Language Requirement Update

Senate Council
December 15, 2014

Campus Foreign Language

- Until 2010, Language requirement was embedded in general education, USP
- No specific foreign language requirement in UK Core*
- Upon elimination of USP, no Senate Rule adequately covers foreign language

Applicable Senate Rules

- SR 4.2.1.1.C (Pre-College Curriculum): “the University Senate recommends that high school students complete at least two years of a foreign language.”
- ~~SR 5.4.3.3 (University Studies Requirements): “Each undergraduate student must complete ... Foreign Language (2 yrs high school/1 year college)”~~ *This SR, a part of the former USP description, is no longer valid for students matriculating since Fall 2011.*
- SR 4.1.0 (Application for Admission): “A student who has credit for three units of a foreign language in high school may not receive degree credit for the first year of that language in the University.”

Issue 1: Without Campus Requirement

Many Students Are Exempt

- Under Section 2 (6) of the Pre-College Curriculum, the CPE requirement does NOT apply to:
- An adult student;
- A student entering baccalaureate degree status with twenty-four (24) or more semester credit hours applicable to a baccalaureate degree with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.00 on a 4.00 scale;
- Active duty military personnel, their spouses, and their dependents;
- A student enrolled in a community or technical college or a community college type program at a university;
- A nonresident student who has otherwise met the University's own admissions requirements and taken the ACT
- Any international student (even, say, a student from a native English- speaking country)

Solution: New SR 5.4.3.3

Any first-time freshman or transfer student must either, (1) demonstrate that they have passed two high school credits in a single foreign language, or two semesters at the postsecondary level or (2) pass a two-semester sequence in one foreign language at the University of Kentucky prior to graduation.
[SREC 08/21/2014 per SC 05/12/2014]

Issue 2: UK Core and Campus Language Requirement

UK Core Curriculum, SLO IV Dec. 8, 2008)

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complexities of citizenship and the process for making informed choices as engaged citizens in a diverse, *multilingual*³ world. [6 credit hours]
- *Footnote 3 then reads:* Current University of Kentucky entrance requirements include 2 years of second-language study in high school; this knowledge requirement should be assessed upon students' entrance to the University, as a prerequisite for the fulfillment of Learning Outcome IV.

University Senate Action (May 4, 2009)

- “competency equivalent Of two years of high school foreign language.”
- To be implemented along with UK Core in 2010
- Piloted to ascertain administrative feasibility
- Implementation of remediation (coursework) in 2012

Activities to Date

- In conjunction with SC Chair Blonder, established a faculty committee representative of campus in Fall of 2013
- Committee draft completed in May 2014, shared with SC
- Fall 2014, shared draft with Undergraduate Academic Associate Deans
- Feedback from college faculty
- Presented to Provost Leadership Team in October 2014.

Committee Recommendation #1

Foreign Language Entrance Requirement: To be eligible for consideration at UK an applicant must have successfully completed the following as a minimum: *Two credits in the same foreign language or demonstrated competency.*

**Students who do not fulfill this requirement may be admitted to the university but will be required to complete a two-semester foreign language sequence and fulfill the foreign language graduation requirement.*

Committee Recommendation #2

Graduation Foreign Language Requirement:

Prior to graduation from UK students must demonstrate the equivalent of novice high proficiency in a foreign language by one of the following:

Students Would Demonstrate Proficiency Through:

- recognized foreign language assessment (APPL, AP, STAMP) at novice high or equivalent.*
- completion of a 3 credit foreign language course at or above the 200-level.
- completion of a UK Core** approved study abroad program with a foreign language component.
- completion of UK's global studies certificate.
- completion at UK of two consecutive semesters of a language other than that which was completed in high school.

To Move Forward

- A&S will pilot APL testing for the Fall 2015 cohort
- As a lead-up, A&S will test currently enrolled students.
- By October, A&S will supply an analysis to APUE and to SC
- (1) decide the program is unworkable and infeasible; (2) determine that the program needs significant modification, or (3) agree to move ahead to Phase 2 of implementation.
- Phase 2 would lead to full implementation by Fall 2017.