



DIVISION OF UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Campus Foreign Language Requirement Update

Senate Council
October, 2015

Campus Foreign Language

- Until 2010, Language requirement was embedded in general education, USP
- No specific foreign language requirement in UK Core*
- Upon eliminate 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 Foreign Language (2 yrs high school/1 year college)”~~ *This SR, a part of the former USP description, is no longer valid for students matriculating since Fall 2011.*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 (AAPPL, 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

(what SC agreed to last year)

- A&S agreed to pilot AAPPL testing for the Fall 2015 cohort
- A&S reported results to APUE on October 23, 2015
- SC will (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 pilot will examine potential impact on colleges beyond A&S.
- SC approval of Phase 2 results would lead to full implementation by Fall 2017.

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◆◆◆◆ **AAPPL** THE ACTFL ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE
TOWARD PROFICIENCY IN LANGUAGES

AAPPL – An online proficiency oriented test developed by the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), the umbrella professional organization for language teachers in the U.S.

The ACTFL proficiency guidelines are recognized by government agencies, the military, and private sector employers. Aligned with proficiency guidelines, the AAPPL test provides a national and internationally recognized scale for measuring student performance.

The ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) is unlike any other assessment. AAPPL Measure addresses the World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages and uses today's communication media in which test takers perform tasks such as participating in a virtual video chat, creating wikis, e-mailing, and using apps to demonstrate language ability.

Arabic

Chinese

French

German

Spanish

Language Testing Pilot

Spring semester of 2015: MCLLC and HS test students in 101 through entry-level 300 courses to establish workable placement scores with new proficiency-oriented AAPPL test.

Composite score at the Novice High level is established as placement into 200-level courses. This is the same score student would need to place out of the proposed graduation requirement.

Summer 2015: Beginning over merit weekend, incoming A&S students are tested using the new AAPPL test. Results are used for placement and as a test run for proposed University-wide graduation requirement.

What We Learned

In this year's cohort (2015-16), 97% of incoming Freshman complete 2+ years of HS FL.

Total years foreign language (group)	 % of Total Distinct count of ..	Distinct count of Slem Id
0	1.11%	56
0.5	0.04%	2
1	1.46%	74
1.25-1.75	0.08%	4
2 or more	97.31%	4,920

Of this same cohort, 86% met the cut-off score of “Novice High” by testing into a 200-level or higher language course.

Language	Total Years ..	Pass/Fail Placement			
		Fail		Pass	
		% of Tot..	Number ..	% of Tot..	Number ..
Chinese	2	66.67%	4	33.33%	2
	3	83.33%	5	16.67%	1
	4	28.57%	2	71.43%	5
French	1	100.00%	2		
	2	30.16%	19	69.84%	44
	3	11.11%	5	88.89%	40
	4	2.78%	1	97.22%	35
	5			100.00%	3
	6			100.00%	3
German	1			100.00%	1
	1.5			100.00%	1
	2			100.00%	13
	3	6.67%	1	93.33%	14
	4			100.00%	14
	5			100.00%	5
	8			100.00%	1
Spanish	0			100.00%	2
	0.5	100.00%	1		
	1	37.50%	3	62.50%	5
	1.5			100.00%	1
	2	23.19%	106	76.81%	351
	3	6.54%	17	93.46%	243
	3.5			100.00%	1
	4	1.03%	2	98.97%	192
	5			100.00%	34
	6			100.00%	4
7			100.00%	3	
8			100.00%	1	
Grand Total		14.07%	169	85.76%	1,030

Additional Notes

- The 14% not currently meeting the requirement would only need to take one course, either a second semester course, or a first year review course.
- We expect the 86% rate of those meeting the cut-off score to increase once the requirement goes into effect. The hope is that students will take additional languages courses in H.S.

Next Steps for Senate Council

- (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.

If Phase 2 is deemed a success, approve implementation of campus requirement for Fall 2017.