

To: Undergraduate Academic Affairs Council
From: Michael Ball, Chair Department of Social Inquiry
Date: September 21, 2009
Re: BA Language Requirement

The Department of Social Inquiry proposes that the UW-Superior's language requirement for the B.A. degree be revised as follows:

“Candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree must complete four semesters **of college level work** (12 credits minimum or the equivalent) ~~of one foreign language in any second language other than the student's own primary language(s)~~. This requirement may be reduced on the basis of previous language training. For example, a student with enough high school knowledge to enter a fourth-semester course (and make a grade of B- or better) will not only have fulfilled the language requirement for the B.A. degree but will receive retrocredits in language to his or her transcript as well. Students who have studied a language in high school are expected to complete the Foreign Language Placement Test for that specific language when applying.

The Department of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures **also** allows students to receive elementary and intermediate credits ~~by examination in those languages for which it has programs (currently Chinese, German, and Spanish). In addition, such credits can be awarded in other languages, providing that a certified examiner and/pr examination is available with approval by the department. An example would be the CLEP (College Level Examination Program) in French; an example of the former would be the administering of an examination by someone holding a degree in that specific language and/or literature for which the student wishes to receive credit.~~ **through examination by UW-Superior language faculty, qualified faculty from other institutions, or by standardized tests from such accredited bodies as CLEP, International Baccalaureate, ACTFL and AP College Board.”**

We propose that this policy change take effect immediately and apply to all current and future UW-Superior students.

It is the intent of this policy change to cover the following cases:

- Students who study language at UW-Superior.
- Students who study heritage languages at the college level.
- International students who study a second language for purposes of higher education.
- Students who receive language training in military language institutes.
- Students who have studied a second language at another accredited institution.

We are aware of ongoing discussions at the UAAC regarding the B.A. language requirement. We consider this proposal to be complementary to those ongoing discussions and not at odds with them.