Foreign Language Requirement

Guidelines for Foreign Language Requirement

The Foreign Language requirement may be satisfied by demonstrating proficiency in reading comprehension, writing, and conversation in a foreign language equivalent to the second semester college level, either by passing an exam or by completing approved course work. A letter grade of C- or better is required.

Satisfying Foreign Language Requirement with High School Coursework or Exam

- Completion of high school foreign language (other than English) through the third year of instruction - Minimum Grade: C-
- SAT Subject Test, language other than English - Minimum Score: 590
- Advanced Placement World Languages and Culture Exam - Score 3, 4, or 5 in:
  - Chinese Language and Culture
  - French Language and Culture
  - German Language and Culture
  - Italian Language and Culture
  - Japanese Language and Culture
  - Latin
  - Spanish Language and Culture
  - Spanish Literature and Culture
- International Baccalaureate Exam - Score 5, 6, or 7 in:
  - Language (other than English) acquisition:
    - A2 Standard Level (SL)
    - A2 Higher Level (HL)
    - B Standard Level (SL)
    - B Higher Level (HL)
  - Studies in language (other than English) and literature:
    - A: literature Standard Level (HL)
    - A: literature Higher Level (HL)
    - A: language and literature Standard Level (SL)
    - A: language and literature Higher Level (HL)
- GCE A-level or O-level Exam in a language other than English - Score A, B, or C
- Foreign Service Institute (FSI) or Defense Language Institute (DLI) exam - Score 1-5

Satisfying Foreign Language with a Berkeley Course

There are three options for satisfying Foreign Language at Berkeley:

1. Completion of second semester or higher of foreign language instruction with a C- or higher. [Review list of approved courses](https://ls.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/fl_course_list_01_28_20_0.pdf)

2. Completion of a pre-approved breadth course that is taught in a language other than English and requires an advanced language instruction course as a prerequisite. For this option, students may use the course to fulfill Foreign Language and one of the approved Seven-Course Breadth courses. [provided the course is completed with a letter grade of C- or higher](https://ls.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/fl_breadth_08_02_2019_courses.pdf).

3. Proficiency exam issued by a UC faculty. [Note: Not all language departments/faculty administer proficiency exams. Check with the department for your language of interest to confirm that this option is available.](https://ls.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/fl_course_list_01_28_20_0.pdf)

Satisfying Foreign Language with a Transfer Course

All transfer courses pursued for Foreign Language must be completed with a C- or higher.

- Students admitted with IGETC Certification or UC Reciprocity have satisfied Foreign Language. No additional course work is required.
- Students can complete a pre-approved foreign language course at a California Community College. Pre-approved courses can be found on ASSIST ([http://www.assist.org/web-assist/welcome.html](http://www.assist.org/web-assist/welcome.html)). Refer to the L&S Transfer Coursework page ([https://ls.berkeley.edu/advising/planning/transfer-coursework/](https://ls.berkeley.edu/advising/planning/transfer-coursework/)) for instructions on how to submit your transcripts to UC Berkeley to receive credit for your language course.
- Transfer courses from accredited higher education institutions (i.e. 2-year or 4-year campus in the U.S. or non-UCEAP courses from abroad) to satisfy Foreign Language, must be reviewed and approved by L&S. You may request a review of your language course by completing the Breadth and Essential Skills Transfer Review Google form ([https://goo.gl/forms/mXp0la8tYdqGLXT42/](https://goo.gl/forms/mXp0la8tYdqGLXT42/)). Please allow up to 4-6 weeks to receive a response from the Transfer Credit Review
Committee upon receipt of all required information; failure to provide all required information will delay the review of your request.