

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE REQUIREMENT

Language and Culture Requirements for Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music Degree and Certain B.S. Degree Candidates

1. West Chester University believes that college students today require exposure to global cultures, and the University integrates this belief into courses and programs in various ways. Departments in the College of the Sciences and Mathematics, as well as the College of Business and Public Management, in particular, see a need for students earning bachelor of arts degrees to gain competency in language and cultures as a critical aspect of their education. The University provides options for these students based on varying levels of language competency deemed appropriate by major departments for study in their field. Questions regarding language requirements should be directed to the department chairperson. A number of B.A. degree programs require a language proficiency gained from completing the second half of the intermediate year (202) of a language. At this level, students may be expected to have a working knowledge of the language and culture of a country. These programs are as follows:
 - a. English (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/english/>)
 - b. Languages and Cultures (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/languages-cultures/>) (in a second language)
 - c. History (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/history/>)
 - d. Linguistics Program (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/linguistics-program/>)
 - e. Mathematics (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/mathematics/>) (limited to French, German, and Russian)
 - f. Political Science (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/political-science/>) (International Relations Concentration only)
2. Other B.A. degree programs offer students the following options:
 - a. Demonstrating language proficiency through the intermediate level (202) or
 - b. Demonstrating language proficiency through the Elementary II (102) level of a language and further acquiring a cultural foundation through taking three culture cluster courses within the same language area. This option is available for the following languages:
 - i. American Sign Language
 - ii. Arabic
 - iii. French
 - iv. German
 - v. Italian
 - vi. Russian
 - vii. Spanish
 - c. Each has an approved set of associated culture cluster courses. It is not necessary for students to complete the Elementary II (102) level before taking culture cluster courses.
3. While this option does not give students the depth and focus of language study, the three courses will help them understand a culture. (In this option, students may elect to further their language skills by taking an additional semester of the language, plus two culture cluster courses.)
4. Degree programs offering the culture cluster option are as follows:
 - a. Anthropology (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/anthropology-sociology/>)
 - b. Communication and Media (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-media/>)
 - c. Communication Sciences and Disorders (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/communication-sciences-disorders/>)
 - d. Interdisciplinary Studies (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/university-college/interdisciplinary-academic-support-programs/>)
 - e. Philosophy (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/philosophy/>)
 - f. Political Science (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/political-science/>) (Government & Politics Concentration only)
 - g. Sociology (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/anthropology-sociology/>)
 - h. Theatre and Dance (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/theatre-dance/>)
 - i. Urban Community Change Program (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/urban-community-change-program/>)
 - j. Women's and Gender Studies (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/womens-gender-studies/>)
5. Some B.S. degree programs also require a language. Students should see their advisors.
6. The Department of Languages and Cultures (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/languages-cultures/>) handles testing and placement.
7. Course substitutions to the language requirement of a department will be granted if the student meets one of the following criteria:
 - a. The student is able to demonstrate proficiency through successful testing by the Department of Languages and Cultures (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/languages-cultures/>).
 - b. The student holds a diploma from a secondary education institution in another country. This institution must be at least the equivalent of a U.S. high school, and instruction must be in a language other than English.
 - c. Students who may request course substitutions because of a disability should refer to "Services for Educational Accessibility." (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/services-educational-accessibility/>)
 - d. Students should take note of the policies regarding taking courses out of sequence (<https://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/course-policies/>).

Second degree students who have not met the language requirement in their prior degree program will be required to do so if a language requirement is part of their second degree program.

Language Culture Clusters

Of the three required culture cluster courses, students who choose that option may take no more than two in the same department, except that only one may be taken in the department in which they major. Students are encouraged to begin taking their culture cluster courses as soon as possible. The 201 level of language courses is acceptable for use as one of the three culture cluster courses. Any exceptions to these conditions must be petitioned. A student may not use one course to simultaneously fulfill a general education distributive requirement and a culture cluster requirement.

American Sign Language Culture Cluster

Code	Title	Credits
COM 295	Communication and Disability	3
DST 255	Introduction to Deaf Studies	3
DST 355	Deaf History	3
DST 357	Deaf Culture Perspectives	3
DST 457	American Sign Language Literature	3
KIN 254	Disability Studies: An Interdisciplinary Introduction	3

Arabic Culture Cluster

Code	Title	Credits
HIS 221	The Medieval Middle East	3
HIS 222	The Modern Middle East	3
HIS 381	The Forgotten Queens of Islam	3
PHI 220	Introduction to Islam	3
WOS 381	The Forgotten Queens of Islam	3

Classical Civilizations Culture Cluster

Code	Title	Credits
ARH 382	Art of Greece and Rome	3
CLS 201	Classical Greco Roman Myth in 20th Century Arts	3
CLS 367	Classical Greco Roman Mythology	3
CLS 368	Greco Roman, Culture, Myth & Society	3
HIS 318	The Ancient World	3
HIS 319	Medieval Europe	3
PHI 270	History of Ancient Philosophy	3
PHI 271	History of Medieval Philosophy	3

French and Francophone Area Culture Cluster

Code	Title	Credits
ARH 383	Medieval Art	3
ARH 385	18th and 19th Century Art	3
EFR 301	United in Cultural Diversity: France and Germany in the European Union	3
EFR 320	French Civilization (In English)	3
EFR 322	French Food: The History and Mysteries of French Cuisine	3
EFR 330	Francophone Cultures West Africa-Caribbean	3
EFR 350	French Civilization on Film	3
EGE 301	United in Cultural Diversity: Germany and France in the European Union	3
GEO 303	Geography of Europe	3
HIS 328	The French Revolution and Napoleon	3
HIS 427	Modern France: 1789 To Present	3
PHI 415	Existentialism	3
PSC 342	European Politics	3

German Culture Cluster

Code	Title	Credits
EFR 301	United in Cultural Diversity: France and Germany in the European Union	3
EGE 301	United in Cultural Diversity: Germany and France in the European Union	3
EGE 323	Austrian Civilization	3
EGE 404	Artists as Conscience: Postwar Lit/Film	3
EGE 405	German Film: Expressionism to Contemporary German Film	3
EGE 409	Impact of Holocaust on Lit and Film	3

GEO 303	Geography of Europe	3
HIS 323	Austrian Civilization	3
HIS 423	Modern Germany	3
PHI 272	History of Modern Philosophy	3
PHI 273	19th Century Philosophy	3
PSC 342	European Politics	3

Italian Culture Cluster

Code	Title	Credits
ARH 384	Art of Renaissance-Baroque	3
EIT 321	Images of Italy	3
EIT 333	Beyond The Godfather: New Perspectives on the Italian Mafia	3
EIT 360	Italian Cinema	3
GEO 303	Geography of Europe	3
PSC 342	European Politics	3
THA 410	Behind the Mask: Revelations of Italian Culture Through Renaissance Theatre Practices	3

Russian and Eastern European Culture Cluster

Code	Title	Credits
ERU 309	Russian Culture	3
GEO 304	Geography of Asia	3
HIS 224	Reform and Revolution in Imperial Russia	3
HIS 324	Race & Nation in the Russian Empire	3
HIS 425	Twentieth-Century Russia	3
PSC 346	Russian Government and Politics	3

Spanish Culture Cluster

Code	Title	Credits
ANT 224	Native People of South America	3
ANT 322	Ethnology of Central America	3
ANT 324	Native People of the Andes	3
ANT 362	Archaeology of Central America	3
ARH 220	Introduction to Latin American Art	3
CLS 333	Latina Writing	3
CLS 334	Politics and Economics Lit of Modern Amer	3
CLS 335	Latino Literature in the U.S.	3
DAN 380	Cuban Rumba: Cultural Identity	3
ESP 300	Latin-American Culture and Civilization (In English)	3
ESP 303	Convivencia: Muslims, Jews, and Christians in Medieval Spain	3
ESP 305	Spanish Cinema	3
ESP 306	Representations of the Spanish Civil War	3
ESP 309	Latin America on Film (in English)	3
ESP 310	Latin American Narrative from the European Conquest to 1930s	3
ESP 311	Contemporary Latin American Narrative	3
ESP 316	Latin American Avant-Gardes and Mass Media	3
ESP 317	Utopia and Apocalypse in the Americas	3
ESP 318	Speaking Spanish in the United States	3
ESP 319	Cultural Realities of Spain	3
ESP 324	Latinos in the U.S.	3
ESP 333	Latina Writing	3
ESP 335	Latino Literatures in the US	3
GEO 302	Geography of Latin America	3
HIS 315	Colonial Latin America	3
HIS 316	Modern Latin America	3

HIS 317	History of Mexico	3
PSC 340	Latin American Culture and Politics	3
PSC 353	Latinx Politics	3