



October 18, 2022

Associate Professor Brad Steinmetz
Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

RE: World Language Placement Test Proposal

Dear Brad and Members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee,

At its meeting on October 12, 2022, the Arts and Humanities 2 Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee unanimously approved the proposal by the CLLC to modify the current policy for World Language Placement testing which currently grants EM credit for the courses that they place out of through these placement tests. The policy change is to **no longer grant EM credit for the courses that students test out of through 1103**. In other words, the placement test will only place a student into their appropriate World Language level. With this change, students will still be able to fulfill their World Language requirement through placement testing but will not get 4 EM credit hours for the prerequisite courses they “fulfilled” once they are placed into their corresponding World Language level.

Particularly, students in ASC who place out of 1103 will not be required to take any more world language courses if they choose not to, but those who contest their placement test score in departments that offer EM tests for lower levels and can, therefore, give an EM test for those levels, will be able to take those tests and move up levels if needed. Also, if a department’s placement test continues beyond placement in 2202, the student will be eligible for EM credit for any classes placed out of not including 1101-1103.

There are several reasons for this proposal. First, online placement tests cannot truly demonstrate the skills that should be attained through college courses; second, freeing up some credits can allow students to use those credit hours elsewhere to enhance their education (i.e., courses in the new GE and/or their majors/minors); and third, it will promote a more equitable system for all students since native speakers of languages not offered at OSU cannot get credit for their language skills. On the administrative side, the policy change will also provide relief since staff will not be having to manually complete all the EM credit forms.

We believe that the proposed policy change for World Language Placement, as stated in the proposal, will be parallel to other OSU testing that are used for placement only and do not grant credit. Likewise, this new policy will mirror other Big Ten institutions that do not offer credit for placement tests either. Thus, we advance the proposed revision to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.

Regards,

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