# 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 |

| Code | Title | Credits |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 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 |