

To: Undergraduate Studies Committee
From: Sarah Fishman
RE: Foreign language hours
Date: 27 January 2009

RECEIVED JAN 30 2009

APPROVED FEB 25 2009

Currently, to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree, we require students to complete 6 hours of language instruction at the 2000 level in one foreign language. However, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, and previous the College of Humanities, Fine Arts and Communication, has always understood that requirement to mean that students must master the language at the level attained by completing the second course in the intermediate language sequence. We have 'heritage' speakers of languages who place out of the first intermediate course, 2301, and take the second class, 2302. We have always considered those students to have met our requirement and have not required them to take another 3 hours of the language. There are no other 2000 level courses that would be appropriate, and most often to enroll in higher level literature courses requires students to complete a 3000 level advanced grammar class. I confirmed my understanding of the 'spirit' of this rule with Dr. Lawrence Curry, former associate dean, and he agreed with me. We have long allowed students to take placement examinations in lieu of the hours.

I suggest we revise the catalogue language to clarify that we want 6 hours at the 2000 level or its equivalent. Below is the existing language.

Bachelor of Arts Degree Special Requirements

Current Catalogue Language:

Candidates for any Bachelor of Arts degree must complete at least six semester hours at the 2000-level in one foreign language. Students may satisfy part or all of this requirement by foreign language courses at a higher level or by placement examination with credit.

Proposed Revision to Catalogue:

Candidates for any Bachelor of Arts degree must complete at least six semester hours at the 2000-level in one foreign language. Students may satisfy part or all of this requirement by foreign language courses at a higher level or by placement examination.

6/17/09 moved
CLASS U.S.C.
1/29/09