

TO: Lawrence Williams, Chair
Undergraduate Committee

FROM: Richard Scamell
Academic Policies and Procedures Committee

APPROVED JAN 22 2014
M.M.

SUBJECT: UC 12665 13F: Proposal for Hindi Course Placement With Appropriate
Demonstrated Proficiency in Various Placement Tests in Hindi

DATE: November 26, 2013

The Academic Policies and Procedures Committee met on Wednesday, November 20 to consider a proposal to award course credit for students who demonstrate language proficiency on various placement tests in the Hindi Language. Participating in consideration of this proposal were committee members Ognjen Miljanic, William Munson, Richard Scamell, Shishir Shah, Lesley Sisk, and Stephen Soutullo.

Background Information

The goal of the proposed Hindi Credit by Examination program is to facilitate placement of students in University of Houston Hindi language courses. The standards for placement and credit given were set by Professor Hildegard Glass in consultation with Patrick Daniel. These standards, including the number of credits given when a student places in any level between HIND 1501 and HIND 2302, conform with other established Credit by Examination programs at University of Houston (e.g., German, French, Spanish and Vietnamese).

As shown in Table 1, the Hindi Credit by Exam program contains three options by which students may earn Hindi test score credit.

1. Their performance on the Hindi placement/credit exam offered at the University of Houston. The assessment used will be the American Council on The Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Hindi test. This test means that students who have proficiency in a language have the opportunity to be awarded college credit for that competency, whether they learned the language in a classroom or non-classroom setting. Credit is available for proficiency in more than 50 languages through the ACTFL program.
2. Their performance on the Hindi language Advanced Placement exam (AP) while in high school.
3. Successful Hindi coursework completion in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program while in high school.

Also shown in Table 1 are two ways in which students may use credits earned in the Hindi Credit by Exam program.

1. Toward their college language requirement--typically six hours at the sophomore level (HIND 2301 and HIND 2302).
2. Toward credit hour requirements for their degree programs as applicable.

Table 1
Conversion Table For Test Scores, UH Course Credit and UH Course Placement

ACTFL Level (1-10)	IB Level (1-7)	AP Level (1-5)	ACTFL Recommendation	UH Course Credit	Placement
Written: 1-2 Oral: 1				No credit	HIND 1501
Written: 3 Oral: 2	Standard Level 4 Plus Diploma		3 hrs. lower division	HIND 1501 (5 credits)	HIND 1502
Written: 4 Oral: 3	Standard Level 5 Plus Diploma Or High Level 4	3	3 hrs. lower division	HIND 1501, 1502 (10 credits)	HIND 2301
Written: 5 Oral: 4	Standard Level 6 Plus Diploma Or High Level 5	4	6 hrs. lower division	HIND 1(1501, 1502, 2301 (13 credits)	HIND 2302
Written: 6-7 Oral: 5	Standard Level 7 Plus Diploma Or High Level 6/7	5	6 hrs. lower division and 1 hr upper division	HIND 1501, 1502, 2301, 2302 (13 credits capped)*	
Written: 8-9 Oral: 6-7			6 hrs. lower division and 8 hrs upper division	HIND 1501, 1502, 2301, 2302 (13 credits capped)*	
Written: 10 Oral: 8-10			6 hrs. lower division and 8 hrs upper division	HIND 1501, 1502, 2301, 2302 (13 credits capped)*	

In order for students receiving a high test score in Hindi to not qualify for course credit that exceeds that offered in other languages, a cap of 13 credit hours has been established (i.e., students whose placement is in HIND 2302 will only receive a total of 13 credit hours). It is expected, however, that most students will end up being placed in HIND 2302 or below. Thus the need to cap the credit hours earned at 13 is expected to be rare.

The proposed Hindi Credit by Examination program encourages the retention and graduation of students who wish to study Hindi, because it affords them the possibility of getting credit for prior knowledge of Hindi. In other words students can complete the Hindi language college or degree requirements faster and more efficiently.

Recommendation

The Committee unanimously recommends approval of UC 12665 13F as revised.

* Reflects a modification made to UC 12665 13F.