MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Contribution to the Core

A 2000-level course or above in a modern language other than English fulfills the language requirement. In order to achieve this level of mastery of a foreign language, a mastery that will allow students to comprehend a text of average sophistication in its oral and written form and to comment on it orally and in writing in a coherent and grammatically correct manner, the 2000-level course provides a critical analysis of selected cultural and literary texts, with composition, conversation, and review of pertinent grammatical structures.

Language skills preparation: One to three courses. Students who need preparation before taking the required 2000-level course have:

• Four entry points in French and Spanish, depending upon their prior knowledge of the language:
  • 1001-Introduction I
  • 1002-Introduction II
  • 1501-Intermediate I
  • 1502-Intermediate II

• Three entry points in Arabic, German, modern Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, and Russian:
  • 1001-Introduction I
  • 1501-Intermediate I
  • 1502-Intermediate II

All those beginning a language at the most basic level take an intensive one-semester course worth five credits in order to accelerate their progress. Other students begin with the course in which they are placed by the department and progress to the 2000-level course. Spanish-heritage speakers, who place out of levels 1001 through 1502 of the language, will take SPAN 2301 Spanish for Heritage Speakers instead of 2001 or 2201 to fulfill the language requirement. Students with advanced skills will take SPAN 2500 Approaches to Literature. Incoming students seeking a substitution/waiver for the foreign language core through the Office of Disability Services must complete this process by the end of the fall semester of their sophomore year.

Exemptions: B.S. and B.F.A. students, B.A. students in PCS, and those majoring in natural science will not have a language requirement unless required for their major.

In addition, the department offers courses that fulfill the American Pluralism, Global Studies, Eloquentia Perfecta 2, 3, and 4, Advanced Literature, Interdisciplinary Capstone, and Senior Values core requirements. It also offers Community Engaged Learning Courses that integrate coursework with service in the diverse and multilingual context of New York City.

Study abroad is an integral part of the study of foreign language, literature, and culture. Students are highly encouraged to study abroad in a foreign-language-speaking country for a semester or a year.

All courses counting towards the core language requirement and the major or the minor in a modern foreign language, literature and culture must be taken for credit and a letter grade. When AP or IB credits are awarded as equivalent to the 1502 level in a language, these credits will be applied toward the core language requirement and, as elective credits, toward graduation, but they will not be applied toward the major or the minor in that language.