

FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

There are several ways of completing the Core Curriculum Foreign Language Requirement:

- Passing a proficiency test offered by the Romance Languages Department, Classical Studies Program, Irish Studies Program or Institute for Global Interdisciplinary Studies.
- Attaining a 4-5 score on an appropriate AP exam.
- Obtaining course credit through an appropriate Credit by Exam.
- Completing an appropriate language sequence as outlined in the Undergraduate Handbook, the Enchiridion.
- Petitioning for exemption due to a documented language proficiency, as outlined in the Enchiridion.

Rationale:

The Foreign Language Requirement is designed to engage the student on all levels of learning. This discipline has a strong commitment to a rigorous and intellectually challenging program of studies. In addition to foreign language learning, it endeavors to develop students' skills in literary and cultural analysis and critical thinking. It is expected that the knowledge gained by the acquisition of a new language and its literature and culture will translate into an improvement of the students' critical thinking and an enrichment of their entire life, and it will encourage respect for other peoples. Acquiring a new language provides a new perspective on the world that will foster the acceptance of diverse views and promote understanding among the people of the world.

Criteria for courses in foreign languages:

Courses in foreign languages will allow students to communicate with people from other parts of the world, understand their culture, and gain skills in critical and creative thinking. In doing so, it will address the mission of Villanova University and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Courses in foreign languages are intended to train students to gain new perspectives and an understanding of other cultural practices in a variety of career paths, including but not limited to medicine, business, education, law and the arts.

Learning objectives:

The core courses in foreign languages will provide students with the skills to:

- A) Understand, speak and write a foreign language through practice and learning.
- B) Gain an appreciation of their culture in relation to the values and cultures of other parts of the world.
- C) Acquire sensitivity towards other social groups.
- D) Recognize the spiritual and moral development of other cultures in relation to their own.
- E) Acquire knowledge of history, art and other works produced by people from other cultures.

Outcomes:

After completing the course students should have acquired:

- A) A knowledge of a new language and culture or cultures.
- B) An appreciation of their own culture in the global context.
- C) An ability to relate to other people and to go beyond the limits imposed by their own culture.
- D) An awareness of their own values and shortcomings, and a respect for different religions and value systems.
- E) An ability to act and live in different cultures.