

WORLD LANGUAGES CENTER

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The World Languages Center (WLC) is a cooperative venture between the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Professional Studies. The primary goal of the WLC is to offer an expanding array of languages in a variety of instructional formats for Northeastern students and to ensure that students will be able to take at least two years of instruction (four semesters) in any language offered by the WLC.

Placement Assessment

Students with prior experience in French, German, or Spanish must take the online written placement exam if they wish to enroll in a French, German, or Spanish language class. The link for this exam can be found on the WLC or the Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Web site. Students with prior experience in any other language should contact the WLC to make an appointment for a placement assessment interview. Results of a student's placement online or interview assessments are valid for one year only.

Any student with prior experience in a language who registers for a language class without taking the WLC online placement test or a WLC placement assessment will not receive a letter grade for that course.

Attendance in Language Classes

The development of competence in a language requires regular and structured interaction opportunities. Thus, the WLC takes attendance in language classes very seriously. Each missed class will have specific consequences and will have a negative impact on a student's final grade. Thus, attendance in class is a matter of great significance. Because the number of students in a class is limited, a student's absence (and presence) will be noted. Because of the interactive nature of language instruction, students cannot make up missed classroom interactions. Students should be aware that they are graded on active participation in class, not simply attendance. Routine tardiness in a class will also have negative consequences. Regular and enthusiastic participation and involvement in the class is expected.

No more than three (3) unexcused absences are permitted, after which each absence results in points deducted from the final point average used to determine a student's final letter grade. Classes missed as a result of registering late for a class will count as unexcused absences; if students believe they have been misplaced in a language class, they should consult the WLC immediately.

Auditing Language Classes

Auditing language classes is not permitted. Students who are not on the official roster of a class may not sit in on the class and will be asked to leave by the end of the first week of classes.

Immersion Language Classes

The WLC offers off-campus language immersion classes in a variety of languages. These immersion classes (courses 120, 320, and 520) are designed as language immersion classes that are a part of a faculty-led study trip. Typically, these classes are offered during Summer 1 and Summer 2 terms. These courses will count toward fulfillment of the College of Arts and Sciences BA language requirement, assuming a student receives a grade of C or better.

Study-Away/Abroad Classes

The WLC will authenticate credit-bearing language classes taken in study-away/abroad programs at accredited institutions in fulfillment of and as equivalent to the 101, 102, 301, or 302 language classes offered in the WLC. Students should receive approval of language course equivalence from the WLC before embarking on a study-away/abroad program. Failure to do so may mean that the courses taken away/abroad will not be accepted in lieu of on-site Northeastern language courses and thus may not satisfy the language requirement. Credit is only granted for successful completion of the course.

BSIB Language Classes

The Bachelor of Science in International Business program is offered through the College of Business Administration. Because of the intensive expectations of the program (one semester in classes abroad, one semester international co-op), the WLC offers classes that are restricted to BSIB students only. These courses are 111, 112, 311, 312, 511, 512, 611, and 612. Only BSIB majors may enroll in these BSIB-designated courses.