

Approved revisions to the current assessment of language competency for doctoral students

There are three possible ways to fulfill the language requirement for Humanities-assessed departments. Measures #1 and #3 are similar in structure to those used for other language requirements at our school (undergraduate and graduate voice major, etc.), but in most cases are more rigorous. Measure #2 is a new initiative tailored to the specific needs of certain students for scholarly research.

1. *Pass a fourth-semester (or higher) college-level class with a minimum grade of B+.*

- Focus on oral and written proficiency, including the cultural context of language production. Appropriate for students who wish to live, teach, and/or study in a French or German-speaking country. Essential for grant applications to these countries (*Fulbright, Chateaubriand, DAAD*).
- At Eastman, this course is French/German “202G”. Students with little or no prior language instruction will need to take prerequisite courses (101G, 102G, and/or 201G).
- If taken at another university, it must have been within the last 5 years, the college or university must be accredited, and the class must be comparable to the Eastman’s “202G” in level and scope. Eastman language courses adhere to a standard curriculum sequence shared by many colleges and universities. Students may be asked to submit the syllabus for the course for approval.

OR

2. *Pass a reading knowledge/translation class with a grade of B+ or higher.*

- Two new courses, focusing on readings for translation in French and in German, will be offered in alternate years, beginning in fall 2017 with French. Each of these courses will meet for 3 hours per week, and students may register for them either for 3 credits (“209”) or for 1 credit (“209G”).
- A comparable course from another university may be considered as an appropriate substitution, but it must have similar content and scope. Students must obtain pre-approval to guarantee the course will qualify before taking it.

OR

3. *Demonstrate superior language skills*

- Students who have a significant record of advanced coursework or scholarly accomplishment in the target language. Undergraduate majors and minors will qualify.
- Interview with the French and/or German language professors is required.