

Colonnade Program World Language Requirement

Beginning in Fall 2014, all entering students must demonstrate proficiency in a world language at the *Novice High* level before completing 60 credit hours (that means – in your first two years at WKU for most full-time students).

What is Novice High? – It is the ability to communicate in writing and speaking on familiar topics in simple sentences. For more detailed description, check out this link:
http://www.actfl.org/global_statements.

How can you meet this requirement?

- Enroll in a new language (one you have not studied) and complete 101 and 102 with a C or better.

Arabic
Chinese
French
German
Japanese
Russian
Spanish

Additional languages offered in Modern Languages or in other departments may also fulfill the requirement. Check the current catalog for a complete list of options. See the schedule of classes for courses and languages offered each semester.

- Continue a language you've studied before and complete 102 with a C or better. If you have taken one or two years of a language, read the Proficiency Descriptors (page below) to determine the level in which you belong.
- If you feel like you're already at Novice High, you can take a test to demonstrate this:
 - An AP test score of 3 or higher
 - A CLEP score of 50 or better (best if you have had three or more years, awards credit)
 - An AAPPL Measure test
 - A STAMP test (you should have had at least two years of high school language)

The CLEP and STAMP tests are available through Counseling and Testing. Click on Testing at:
<http://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/>.

You should fulfill your language requirement as soon as possibly (preferably Freshman year), because your knowledge from high school will still be fresh. Remember, you must fulfill this requirement before you complete 60 total credit hours at WKU (for most students that means by the end of your second year).

World Languages Proficiency Descriptors

This list shows the level students will have reached at the end of 101-202 courses at WKU. For example, if you can do everything listed under 101 targeted proficiency, you are ready for a 102 course. If you can do everything under 102 targeted proficiency, you are probably ready to take the STAMP test.

101 Targeted Proficiency Level upon completion: *Novice Mid*

- I can understand some everyday words, phrases and questions about me, my personal experiences, and my surroundings.
- I can understand familiar words, phrases, and simple sentences.
- I can interact with help, using words, phrases and memorized expressions.
- I can answer simple questions on very familiar topics.
- I can provide basic information about myself and my intermediate surroundings, using words, phrases, and memorized expressions.
- I can provide some basic information on familiar topics in lists, phrases, often using memorized expressions.

102 Targeted Proficiency Level upon completion: *Novice High*

- I can understand some ideas about familiar topics expressed in phrases, simple sentences, and frequently used expressions.
- I can understand the main idea in short conversations, messages, and announcements.
- I can understand some ideas from simple texts that contain familiar vocabulary.
- I can exchange information about familiar tasks, topics, and activities.
- I can handle short social interactions using phrases and simple sentences.
- I can write descriptions and short messages to request or provide information on familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences.

201 Targeted Proficiency Level upon completion: *Intermediate Low*

- I can understand the main idea and some details on familiar topics expressed in sentences, short conversations, presentations, and messages.
- I can understand the main idea and some details in texts that contain familiar vocabulary.
- I can carry on a conversation on a limited number of familiar topics.
- I can ask and answer simple questions and exchange information in familiar situations using phrases and series of sentences.
- I can make simple presentations using a series of sentences with some details.
- I can write on familiar topics and experiences using a series of sentences with some details.

202 Targeted Proficiency Level upon completion: *Intermediate Low + to Intermediate Mid*

- I can understand the main idea and many details on familiar topics expressed in a series of connected sentences, conversations, presentations, and messages.
- I can understand the main idea and many details in texts that contain familiar vocabulary and some details in texts that contain unfamiliar vocabulary.
- I can carry on conversations on a variety of familiar topics and in uncomplicated situations.
- I can describe experiences, events, and plans.
- I can state an opinion on a familiar topic.
- I can make a simple factual presentation using connected sentences with many details.
- I can write communications, descriptions and explanations on familiar topics using connected sentences with many details.

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