

FOREIGN LANGUAGE (FL) REQUIREMENTS IN WISCONSIN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

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(Survey of May 1998 - Updated April 2011)

Institution	Admission Requirement	Advanced Placement Given Through:		Departmental Examination for Credit or Placement	High School Courses Satisfying Requirements Without Examination	Graduation Requirement	Innovative Courses or Programs
		AP	CLEP				
UW-Eau Claire	2 high school units of one FL	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	University-Wide Requirement: 2 semesters of a foreign language or its equivalent OR 9 credits of courses identified with international content OR study abroad; However, BA degree requires 2 semesters of one FL (or equivalent).	Study abroad programs in nearly 50 countries, International internships, Student/Faculty collaborative research opportunities, Latin American Studies Program, French, German and Spanish business language courses, Spanish for the Health Professions, Interdepartmental collaboration, Student organizations and events, International fellows program.
UW-Green Bay	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Humanistic Studies - 2 semesters; Information and Computing Science - 8 credits or equivalent; Linguistics and ESL Certificate - 16 credits or equivalent.	Study abroad/exchange programs in Germany, Spain, Mexico, France. Cyber Cafés for language students. Teaching internships in local schools. International business internships. Film studies, business language courses and other interdisciplinary connections to language study.
UW-La Crosse	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	16 semester credits (202 level) required for BA.	Overseas study. Honors program.

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UW-Madison	2 high school years of one FL	Yes	No	Yes	No To meet the university graduation requirement students must take the UW system placement test in French, German, or Spanish (or departmental equivalent in other languages), OR another approved test (AP, CLEP, SAT II with listening, IB), OR complete college-level FL courses at the appropriate level.	College of Letters and Science BA degree requires 4 semesters in one language (or equivalent 4 th year high school course) OR 3 semesters in one language plus 2 semesters of another language (or equivalent 3 rd and 2 nd year high school courses); College of Letters and Science BS degree requires 3 semesters in one language; College of Business BBA degree requires 3 years of a single high school FL OR 3 college semesters; FL credit may satisfy humanities requirements in Engineering or Family Resources and Consumer Science.	The Disabilities Curricular Substitutions Committee of the College of Letters and Science can approve a substitution for the FL requirement for students with certain disabilities that make it impossible to learn a FL. Extensive and very specific documentation is required from students and learning disability specialists.
UW-Milwaukee	No (FL units are not required for admission to UWM. However, completion of at least 2 units of a single FL in high school is strongly recommended).	Yes	No	Yes; Beginning Spring 2002, require FL placement exam of all students with more than 2 years of high school FL study to continue study of that FL	Yes Graduation requirement satisfied by completion of 2 years of one FL in high school.	A BA in Letters & Science requires either a. 4 semesters of one language or b. 3 semesters of one language and 2 semesters of another OR Demonstrating the equivalent proficiency.	FL undergraduate course offerings in 14 languages; business and language course offerings; International Studies major; Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies. UW-Milwaukee sponsors study abroad programs in 20 countries.
UW-Oshkosh	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	14 semester credits required for BA degree.	Special classes in Spanish for dyslexic students in cooperation with Project Success. Study abroad programs in Mexico, Spain, France, and Canada.

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UW-Parkside	No	Credit, not placement	No	UW System Placement exam required for retro credits or classes beyond 1st semester	Yes	One year of college-level language. Can be satisfied by 2 years of high school FL with a C+ or better average in the last year taken.	New 3rd year Spanish for Native Speakers; work with International Studies program; new French Studies and German Studies majors; working with UW-Milwaukee to provide distance education.
UW-Platteville	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes Graduation requirement satisfied by completion of 2 years of one FL in high school.	One-year (2 semester) graduation requirement which can be satisfied by completing a 2-year course in one FL at the high school level.	Native speakers of certain languages, including Native American languages, through testing, may satisfy the one-year graduation requirement effective in 1994.
UW-River Falls	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	BA degree: 6-14 credits of FL, depending on plan chosen; BS degree: 0-2 years, depending on plan chosen; General Education: 4 credits(1 class) is an option.	Semester abroad program: directed independent research in Europe. Business and professional language courses offered in French, Spanish, German.
UW-Stevens Point	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	BA degree: 8-credit requirement; BS degree: 0-credit requirement; BM/BFA degrees require 8 credits (one-year) FL OR 7 credits mathematics; May test out of FL requirement; International Studies Major and Minor; International Resource Management Minor: one FL course beyond second year.	Study abroad programs in France, Germany, and Spain. Dormitory "Language Wing" with native assistants.

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UW-Stout	No	Yes	Yes	Optional	No	Most tracks of Retail Merchandising and Management require 2-4 credits of Spanish. Hospitality and Tourism requires 2 credits of Spanish. Professional Communications and Emerging Media require 8 credits of foreign language. The International Studies Specialization requires the equivalent of 8-16 credits of foreign language. All students must fulfill a Global Perspectives requirement, which may be met by credits in a foreign language.	We have numerous study abroad programs, a course on Hispanic Literature in America, and a growing student organization Latinos Unidos that welcomes members of all ethnicities. Concentrations in International Business and International Hospitality and Tourism have options for taking up to ten credits of foreign language. There is a Spanish minor as well as an Applied Foreign Language minor. The Applied minor accommodates credits in any foreign language.
UW-Superior	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Two semesters of the same language for the BA (without high school credit) or one semester at the 200-level or higher for those taking the UW-System Placement Test for the BA (or test out completely by testing into the 300-level).	Study abroad at many institutions in many countries with competitive scholarships. There is a generous scholarship to Oldenburg, Germany (from a private donor), for all declared German minors who have taken at least one 300-level course at UW-Superior.
UW-Whitewater	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes for BA requirement; no for others.	BA requires 2 years high school OR completion of 2nd semester university level or higher. International Studies major requires 16 credits FL for graduation; General Business-International major requires 16 credits FL for graduation.	One year of foreign study at a non-English speaking institution will satisfy International Studies requirement.
UW-Colleges: Two-Year Campuses (all 13)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes (Use UW System Placement Exam)	No	No graduation requirement in the Colleges (2-year campuses) -- only those of the transferring institutions (4-year Baccalaureates).	Selected courses to be offered via compressed video and asynchronous web courses beginning fall 1998. Six semesters of language coursework offered at some UW colleges.

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Alverno College	No	No	No	Yes	No	International Business major requires FL for graduation; Global Studies minor accepts, but does not require, FL for graduation.	Two-credit courses in French, German, Italian, and Japanese, with strong oral emphasis. Students may complete language coursework through study abroad in an approved program. Short course study/travel abroad programs are available each semester.
Beloit College	No	Yes	No	No	No	Comparative Literature and International Relations majors require 2 literature courses in the FL; European Studies minor requires one FL course above the intermediate level.	
Cardinal Stritch University	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	BA degree requires 6 credits (2 semesters); BFA degree requires 6 credits (2 semesters).	Students may complete the language requirement through study abroad in an approved program or through an internship abroad when approved in advance by the FL Department. Students may complete 2 semesters of German, Latin, or Greek through a cooperative program in FLs with Concordia University.
Carroll University	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Various BA degree majors require 16 credits (4 semesters) of FL. Can be satisfied by passing fourth-semester course or one numbered higher. Retro credit can be given for high school coursework, and this reduces the number of on-campus courses needed to be taken for graduation.	Student teaching can be done in foreign country. Language and culture immersion programs both abroad and domestically. Annual Bilingual Spanish Play in conjunction with Theatre Department Bi-annual Hispanic Images, Voices, and Visions Traveling Photo Exhibit and Workshops Innovative Courses: Spanish for the Professions exploratory course Spanish journalism course with publication of annual EL COLOSO Spanish magazine

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Carthage College	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	As a graduation requirement, students must complete 2 semesters of a FL. They can earn up to 12 retroactive credits according to the results of the placement exam.	One-semester study abroad is required for all Modern Language majors. Study abroad opportunities can be arranged in Germany, France, Francophone Africa, Spain, Mexico, most of Central and South America, China and Japan.
Concordia University-Wisconsin	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	All undergraduates must take at least 3 credits of a language (other than English). Several majors require additional courses. Culture requirement may also be fulfilled by a foreign language course.	Study abroad programs; student teaching can be done in foreign country.
Edgewood College	No	Yes	Yes	Yes, for placement	Yes, two years with a minimum grade of C or better in both years of high school.	Either 8 credits (2 semesters) or 16 credits (4 semesters) required depending on major field.	Students who have learned another language (e.g., by living in the country) make arrangements with the college for a proficiency examination in that language in order to satisfy the requirement. Also Study Abroad programs through ISEP, ISA and an Edgewood summer program in Peru
Lakeland College	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	International Business major. Two years of foreign language study (14 semester hours). Resort Management major. One year college-level coursework in a foreign language (8 semester hours).	SPA400 Internship in Spanish – 2-3 credit teaching assistant position Study abroad programs in Costa Rica, Germany, and Spain
Lawrence University	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Every Lawrence University graduate will have taken an intermediate or advanced-level FL course (Intermediate equals third term of study).	Non-native speakers of English may satisfy the FL requirement by taking an advanced English course numbered 22 or above. Study abroad programs in Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish.

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Marian University	No	Yes	Yes	Yes, for placement	No	12 semester credits of one language or 6 credits of one language and 6 additional credits from courses outside of student's major taken in School of Arts, Humanities and Letters to graduate with a BA.	Semester of study abroad in England, Mexico, Spain and summer programs in Mexico and Costa Rica. Spanish for Nursing, Social Work and Criminal Justice. Interdisciplinary courses in contemporary culture, literature & translation offered through department. Courses in elementary Japanese and Sign Language.
Marquette University	No	Yes	No	No	No	College of Arts & Sciences requires 0-14 credits (depending on prior proficiency); College of Business Administration, International Business Major, recommends a minor; College of Communication and the program in Speech Pathology & Audiology requires 0-8 credits (depending on prior proficiency).	May pass a competency placement questionnaire administered by FL department or receive certification of competency by established authority. Study abroad programs in Spain, Mexico, and France.
Mount Mary College	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Study abroad programs in Rome, Peru, China, Ireland, Paris, and Nicaragua. Business, medical and social services language courses. International Studies major requires a second major in Spanish or ESL (for international students). Bilingual education teacher certification available.
Northland College	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Ripon College	No	Yes	No	Under consideration	Max. 12 retro credits per language count toward B.A.	Global Studies major requires 5th-semester competency or study abroad.	Business French and Spanish; Spanish for the medical professions; Portuguese; "Maymester" in Guadeloupe, Germany or Spain.

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St. Norbert College	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	International Studies major requires 16-semester credits FL; International Business & Language Area Studies major requires 20-28 semester credits; Both majors also require study abroad.	All language majors must study 1 semester abroad in target language; teaching minors must study at least 6 weeks in country of target language; English majors must study through 102. Students may fulfill Area 7 (Foreign Heritages) of Gen. Ed. with 102 or higher in a language.
Silver Lake College	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Viterbo University	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	14 semester credits FL required for BA.	Students can satisfy the requirements by demonstrating proficiency as assessed by departmental exam, or through IBP score of 5 or above.
Wisconsin Lutheran College	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes Graduation requirements satisfied by 3 consecutive years of one FL in high school or two years of one language and one year of another.	Successful completion of college semester 3 of one FL or 2 semesters of one FL and 1 of another required for BA degree. Successful completion of college semester 2 of any one FL required for BS or BBA degrees.	Sign language is treated as a FL with the same number of semesters required as if it were a FL.