



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULA
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TO: Academic Advisors
FROM: James Thompson, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Curricula
DATE: April 14, 2022
SUBJECT: Update to General Education Language Policy Effective Fall 2022

Greetings from the Office of Undergraduate Curricula.

We are writing to share information about a change to the General Education Language Credit Policy effective Fall 2022 (for both incoming and continuing students). Please share this message with anyone in your department or school who advises students so they will have the most up-to-date information.

Attached you will find the proposal as it was approved, which includes some background information on why this change is being made. You will also find an advising guide that outlines student options for completing the general education language requirements. This change will apply to both the Making Connection Foreign Language (FL) requirement and the IDEAs in Action Global Language (GLBL-LANG requirement).

In brief, two new credit options will be available to students and the current Native Speaker credit option will be discontinued this summer (the exact date is still being determined).

The first new option is to use educational experience primarily taught in a language other than English (transcripts must be provided to verify time of enrollment). The threshold for credit is two or more years of secondary education or two full semesters (defined as 24 eligible-for-credit UNC semester credit hours) of higher education. This option will replace the existing Native Speaker process. All students who would have qualified for the Native Speaker option will also qualify for this educational experience option.

The second new option is to verify level 3 or higher language proficiency in a language UNC does not currently teach through level 3. This option is possible through partnership with the language departments on campus and partnerships with other institutions and language experts. The process will vary by language but will either consist of a placement test, an interview with a language expert, or verification and submission of scores for standardized tests not already accepted by UNC.



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You can find the full details of what is and is not changing in relation to language credit, these new processes, forms for students to fill out, and options to seek general education transfer credit for languages not taught at UNC in the attached advising guide.

If you have any questions about the new policy, the advising guide, or anything related to these processes, please reach out to our office at gened_glbl_language@unc.edu.

Thank you for your partnership supporting students and advising them on this new policy.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

James Thompson
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Curricula