

FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT FOR TESOL STATE CERTIFICATION:

NYSEd Program-Specific Pedagogical Core Requirements (<http://www.nysed.gov/college-university-evaluation/general-and-program-specific-requirements-teaching-english-speakers>) say: “Programs must ensure that candidates in teaching English to speakers of other languages programs have completed at least 12 semester hours or the equivalent of study of a world language other than English.”¹ Students can satisfy this requirement by taking 12 university credits in one or more languages, or by attaining proficiency in one language comparable to second year college work, as evidenced by the following. For more information, please see the notes below, or contact the TESOL Certification Director, Mariann Coogan: mariann.coogan@stonybrook.edu

- Students can take 12 university credits in one or more languages, regardless of level. If a graduate student would like to take a language course to satisfy the foreign language requirement, please consult with Mariann Coogan, TESOL Certification Director.²
- Students can take a language class at the 212 level or higher (300/400/500-level), demonstrating that they have a proficiency level at least as high or higher than intermediate level 2nd semester. If a graduate student would like to take a language course to satisfy the foreign language requirement, please consult with Mariann Coogan, TESOL Certification Director.²
- Students can take a CLEP test for Spanish for 12 credits, if students select “Spanish with writing.” If they select the regular Spanish CLEP, they only get a maximum of 9 credits (i. e., 111, 112, 211, but not 212). The only other languages for which there is a CLEP exam are French and German, and they only have the “regular” type, meaning students can earn a maximum of 9 CLEP credits (111, 112, 211) for French or German. For more information, see <https://clep.collegeboard.org/prepare-for-an-exam/study-resources-by-exam/world-languages> If a graduate student would like to take a CLEP test to satisfy the foreign language requirement, please consult with Mariann Coogan, TESOL Certification Director.²
- Following their acceptance into the program but prior to matriculation, students can take a Placement Exam at Stony Brook University and place out of the 212 level (meaning they have the proficiency equal to the 212 level). Stony Brook University offers placement exams in the following languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish. (Russian is temporarily unavailable.) For more information, see https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/llrc/placement_challenge_exams/index.php
- Following their acceptance into the program but prior to matriculation, students can take a Challenge Exam for a 212 class. For more information, see https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/llrc/placement_challenge_exams/challenge_exam

¹ Note that the Foreign Language requirement for TESOL State Certification is at a higher level than Stony Brook University’s LANG requirement for undergraduates.

² Note that while they are enrolled in a Masters program, students cannot earn Stony Brook University undergraduate credits either by taking a course or a Challenge Exam.

- Students can take the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI), and receive a proficiency ranking of at least “Advanced Low” for most languages (including Spanish, French, German, Italian, Russian, Greek), or at least “Intermediate High” for certain languages (including Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Arabic). NYS recognizes the ACTFL OPI as a valid form of proficiency testing and awards candidates who take the OPI and receive a proficiency ranking of at least “Advanced Low” (or “Intermediate High” for Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean) with 15 “equivalency credits.” “Equivalency credits” are not the same thing as actual college credits, but they can be used as the “equivalent” of undergraduate college credits for certain purposes. For more information, see <https://www.languageTesting.com/>

- Students can document satisfaction of the first two semesters of foreign language proficiency (111, 112) in the following additional ways:
 - o receive an AP score on a foreign language or literature exam with a score of 3 or higher
 - o receive a score of 5 or higher on the Higher Level IB exam
 - o receive a score of 530 or higher on the SAT II in a foreign language
 - o having previously attended at least two years at a secondary school or university where the primary language of instruction is other than English (Students must submit official transcripts from the institution, showing evidence that one of the classes was the formal study of the other language.)

If students have proficiency at this level (111, 112), they need two additional semesters in the same language, or two semesters in another language, or two semesters in two other languages.