

Fulton School Majors Foreign Language Requirement

Believing that the study of a foreign language and its attendant culture(s) is essential for life, work and citizenship in the increasingly globalized and culturally diverse 21st century, all Fulton School of Liberal Arts B.A. programs require that their students demonstrate 102-level knowledge of a foreign language. (Please note that the following Fulton majors have unique requirements: International Studies requires a 202-level knowledge of a foreign language; Art B.A. specifically requires two semesters of college language study, and Art B.F.A. requires no foreign language study.)

Students are encouraged to go beyond that, however, as the 102-level requirement opens up to a wide array of opportunities in international – and often interdisciplinary – education at SU, including area studies minors; Salisbury Abroad semester, summer and winter programs; majors in Spanish and French; minors in Spanish, French and German; and more, all designed to provide students with a global perspective on the world that will serve them well, both at work and at home, and both in the United States and abroad, in the decades to come!



Fulton Foreign Language Requirement FAQ

How do I “demonstrate 102-level knowledge of a foreign language”?

For most students, there are three ways:

1. Successful completion of Level 3 or higher of one foreign language in high school. (Note: If you are an incoming freshmen with Level 3 or higher in high school, your fulfillment of the requirement has already been registered by the University via information on the high school transcript you submitted for admission to SU. *If you are a transfer student with Level 3 or higher, you will need to provide your Fulton major advisor with a copy of your high school transcript.*)
2. A combination of high school and college study. (The most common example is completion of Level 2 foreign language in high school, plus a 102 course in the same language in college).
3. College-only study of one foreign language by taking both 101 and 102 in college.

Note for Heritage Speakers/International Students: Heritage speakers of a language other than English who do not present high school or pre-SU college study of the language in question, but propose to use that language to fulfill the requirement, may demonstrate proficiency through the 102 level – including speaking, writing, reading and listening – via an appropriate placement examination administered or arranged by SU’s Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies Department (for example: “first-generation” U.S. citizens or residents who learned to speak their parents’ native language at home, but without formal study). Otherwise, these students would follow one of the paths toward fulfillment of the requirement described above. International students who come directly to SU from abroad and are native speakers of a language other than English will have already fulfilled the “foreign language” requirement by virtue of their satisfactory performance on the TOEFL exam; for these students, English is their foreign language.

If I didn’t take Level 3 or higher in high school, what do I need to do?

If you took through Level 2 in high school, you will need to take one 102-level course in the same language you studied in high school in order to fulfill the requirement. *In fact, based on your completion of Level 2 in high school, your automatic placement into a course in the same language at SU will be 102.* (Note: You should not take a 101 course in a language you already studied through Level 2 in high school, nor should you attempt to jump up to 201 – Level 2 study in high school places you firmly in 102 at SU. Also note that in order to benefit most from your previous study in high school, you are encouraged to take 102 to fulfill the requirement as early as possible in your career at SU.)

If you only took through Level 1 in high school, you should begin in 101 at SU and follow it up with 102. With Level 1 in high school, you are not prepared for 102 at SU.

What if I want to start a new language in order to fulfill the language requirement?

No problem – just pick one of the many languages that SU offers – American Sign Language, Arabic, French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Mandarin, Portuguese, Spanish and more! – and take both 101 and 102.

MAJORS

- Art
- Communication Arts
- Conflict Analysis and Dispute Resolution
- English
- ESOL/K-12 Certification (English to Speakers of Other Languages)
- Environmental Studies
- French
- History
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- International Studies
- Music
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Theatre



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What if I have fulfilled the requirement and want to continue my language study at SU?

You are strongly encouraged to do so! If you have already fulfilled the requirement via successful completion of Level 3 or higher in high school, and you want to continue with the language you used to fulfill the requirement at SU, you will need to take the quick and easy online Computer Adaptive Placement Exam (CAPE) for Spanish, French or German (contact the Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies Department for other languages) prior to registering for a foreign language course above the 102 level. The CAPE is available online at: www.salisbury.edu/modlang/test.html

You can take the CAPE at any time, day or night. But wait, there's more! If the CAPE places you at the 202 level (fourth semester) or higher, and you earn a C or better in the level into which the CAPE places you, you will have the opportunity to buy "back credits" (and at a discounted price) for some of the language courses/levels you jumped over by virtue of your high-level high school work! You don't have to buy "back credits," and you don't even have to decide about that part until before your graduate, but many students find it to be a good thing. See the CAPE Web page for all the details!

If you have fulfilled the requirement prior to arriving at SU by having studied through the 102 level or higher at another college, all you need to do is continue at the next appropriate course level at SU.



What can I do with a foreign language while I'm at SU?

As suggested above, the 102-level foreign language requirement described here dovetails nicely into several Fulton School and SU interdisciplinary and international education opportunities. For example, the Fulton School offers five exciting area studies minors (www.salisbury.edu/areastudies):

- African Studies
- East Asian Studies
- European Studies
- Latin American Studies
- South Asian Studies

These minors feature both a 102-level foreign language requirement and a study abroad requirement that can be fulfilled via one of several semester-long Salisbury Abroad programs at SU partner institutions in China, Ecuador, Estonia, India, Scotland and Spain (and coming soon, Ghana and South Korea!). There are also several winter and summer SU study abroad opportunities for which your 102-level knowledge of a foreign language would either be required or an asset. And if you want to go well beyond the 102 level, there are SU's major programs in Spanish and French, as well as minor programs in Spanish, French and German.

And, many of the aforementioned Salisbury Abroad semester programs can take you to more advanced levels of foreign language study as well, not to mention provide you with lots of real-world/abroad practice! Your foreign language knowledge, and the cultural knowledge that comes with that, also will serve you well on the SU campus via the many cultural events and programs that occur throughout the year. *All of this is thoughtfully designed to prepare you for life, work and citizenship in the increasingly globalized and culturally diverse 21st century!*

What if I have further questions?

- For further questions regarding placement, specific language courses and course levels, as well as continuing study of a particular language at SU, contact the Department of Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies at 410-543-6341.
- For questions regarding this requirement as it pertains to your specific major or its impact on potentially adding a Fulton major or changing to a major within the Fulton School, contact the Fulton School's Advising Services Coordinator, at 410-543-6236.

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