

## OAKTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Department of Modern Languages

Chair: Dr. Marguerite Solari

Office: 2729 Phone: 847.376-7012 Fax: 847.635.1764

E-mail: [solari@oakton.edu](mailto:solari@oakton.edu)

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### MODERN LANGUAGES at OAKTON: PLACEMENT AND PROFICIENCY ISSUES

Oakton Community College offers credit courses in eleven languages: Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Russian and Spanish. At the present time, Chinese is available to Oakton students through a distance learning arrangement with College of Lake County.

#### **PLACEMENT**

Consult the following descriptions of Oakton language classes and the background required for enrollment. When in doubt about your placement, please consult an instructor of the language or the chair of the department to discuss your situation.

#### **Language 101**: Beginning Language I

This course is for true beginners, those with a semester or less of language study, or those whose previous study was limited and occurred long ago. It starts at the very beginning and presumes no prior knowledge of the language.

#### **Language 102**: Beginning Language II

This course continues 101 and is designed for those with 1 semester of college-level work or 1 year of high school study of the language. Some students who have a more extensive level of experience but from language study years ago may wish to begin here.

#### **Language 105**: Conversational Language (Currently available in French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish)

This course concentrates on speaking and listening skills for those who already know the basics of the language. To take this course, you must have 1 year of college or two years of high school language study.

#### **Language 201**: Intermediate Language I

This course provides a review of basic grammar while continuing to stress the skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing, and culture. It is designed for students with 1 year of college or two years of high school language study. It is the ideal refresher for students with considerable background but who haven't used the language in some time.

**Language 202:** Intermediate Language II

This course continues 201, with extensive reading and further practice in speaking and writing. To qualify, students must have 3 semesters of college or 3 years of high school language study.

**Language 205:** Conversation and Composition (Currently available in French, German, Japanese, Spanish)

This course is designed to reinforce oral and written communication skills through a variety of speaking and essay-writing activities. It prepares students to move into advanced courses where writing requirements are likely to be extensive. Eligible students will have completed 4 semesters of college or 4 years of high school language study.

**Language 210:** Introduction to Literature (Currently available in French, German, Spanish)

Our most advanced course, this course is appropriate for students with completed 4 semesters of college or 4 years of high school language study. It is a survey of literature, conducted exclusively in the language, with all written and oral assignments in the language.

**PROFICIENCY CREDIT FOR MODERN LANGUAGES**

For a student who has been officially accepted at Oakton and who has earned at least six credits at the College with a grade of C or better there are two ways to earn proficiency credit in languages at Oakton. Standard fees for proficiency credit apply.

1. A student may apply for CLEP credit. College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams, are available for French, German, and Spanish only. Depending on the score achieved and performance on a writing sample, a student may obtain 8 semester hours of credit for either Level I (101 and 102) or Level II (201 and 202). The test is administered by appointment by the Testing Center/Learning Center, room 2400, Des Plaines campus.
2. In any of the languages offered at Oakton a student may request proficiency credit for lower level language courses in the beginning/intermediate sequence after completion of an equal number of hours in higher level courses with a grade of A or B (up to a maximum of 8 semester hours). Apply to the Department of Modern Languages to receive this credit.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT Dr. MARGUERITE SOLARI, DEPARTMENT CHAIR, 847/376-7012 OR E-MAIL: SOLARI@OAKTON.EDU