

LANGUAGES OF LEARNING

Foundation Document Criteria for General Education Certification

Approved by FGEC February 2013

Requirement Purpose

This requirement gives students the opportunity focus on building specialized skills in either quantitative reasoning or effective communication by studying either advanced mathematics or a second language. (See *The Aims of a BYU Education*.)

Learning Outcomes

Mathematics Option

Students will:

1. demonstrate proficiency in beginning calculus or a similarly advanced quantitative discipline
2. demonstrate the ability to use numerical tools to explain the world in quantitative terms, interpret numerical data, and evaluate arguments that rely on quantitative information and approaches (*Aims*)

World Languages Option

For European languages, student will:

1. demonstrate intermediate proficiency in the target language as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) proficiency guidelines for reading, writing, speaking, and listening (where applicable)
2. recognize and analyze a selection of literary works in the target language within their historical and cultural context

For non-European languages, students will:

1. demonstrate novice-high or intermediate level proficiency in the target language as defined by ACTFL proficiency guidelines for speaking and listening (where applicable)
2. read and analyze important cultural or literary contributions in the target language or in translation
3. gain basic familiarity with the target language's written symbols

Course Characteristics

Mathematics Option

1. The culminating course in mathematics that fulfills this option is beginning calculus.
2. In other disciplines, the Faculty General Education Council (FGEC) may designate courses that are substantially equivalent to calculus in quantitative rigor and purpose.

Such courses should, among other things, give students experience in applying quantitative models to everyday situations, exposure to formal logic and statistics, and a fluency in the conventions and language of the discipline.

World Languages Option

1. The world languages option is filled by completing a culminating course that follows several semester hours of college course work in a foreign language or its equivalent.
2. The primary focus of the culminating course will be on using the language to explore the literatures, cultures, and histories of the native speakers of the language. The courses will also give attention to grammar, pronunciation, and similar matters in order to improve skills of interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication in a foreign language.
3. The culminating course will be taught primarily in the language being studied. Exceptions to this criterion may be made only with the explicit approval of the Faculty General Education Council (FGEC).