

## Language Requirement and Placement Information

Every nursing student is required to demonstrate a certain level of proficiency in a language of the student's choice. There are numerous languages to choose from, including American Sign Language (ASL). The language requirement may be fulfilled through one of the following methods:

1. The completion of four course units of study in the chosen language.
2. Achieving a required minimum score on one of the following exams:
  - Advanced Placement exam
  - Foreign Language CEEB (SAT II) exam (*See next page for minimum scores.*)
  - A University of Pennsylvania departmental placement exam
  - In the case of a bilingual student, a specially-administered exam

Incoming students who fulfill the language requirement through successful completion of one of the above-mentioned exams must take four (4) free electives in order to reach the 40.5 course units required for graduation. Students earning language requirement exemption and an Advanced Placement (AP) credit in a language may only require three (3) free electives. Please contact [advisor@nursing.upenn.edu](mailto:advisor@nursing.upenn.edu) if you have questions.

Students who have a documented disability that precludes learning in a language may petition the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Petitions Subcommittee for an exemption from the language requirement. Students petitioning for a waiver should seek the guidance of their faculty advisor and the Office of Student Services. Such petitions should be initiated as early as possible in the freshman year. If the petition is granted, students must fulfill four alternate course units.

For more detailed information on the School of Nursing Language Requirement, refer to the Undergraduate Student Handbook, available online at:

<http://www.nursing.upenn.edu/students/resources/Pages/Handbooks-Forms-and-Policies.aspx>

### Language Placement Exams

It is **strongly recommended** that students take a language placement exam. If a student is proficient in a language and passes out of one or more levels of that language, this allows for greater flexibility in the plan of study and helps the student to more easily accommodate special options such as minors and submatriculation.

French and Spanish offer [online exams](#). Written exams for Arabic, Chinese, Italian, Hebrew, Russian, Latin and German are offered at the beginning of each semester. The schedule and location of these exams will appear on the [New Student Orientation](#) website during the summer. Students wishing to be evaluated in a modern language other than those taught by the language departments should consult the [Penn Language Center](#).

Students who feel their placement scores do not accurately reflect their language level, or students who have other questions about their language study, should make an appointment to speak with the coordinator of their particular language program.

## SAT II Language Placement Chart

If you have taken an SAT II Language exam, please refer to the following table to determine your language placement:

SAT II	SCORE	REGISTER FOR:
FRENCH	UNDER 380	FRENCH 110
	380 – 440	FRENCH 121
	450 – 540	FRENCH 130
	550 – 640*	FRENCH 140
	650 or above	EXEMPT
GERMAN	UNDER 350	GERMAN 101
	350 – 440	GERMAN 102
	450 – 540	GERMAN 103
	550 – 640**	GERMAN 104
	650 or above	EXEMPT
HEBREW	700 or above***	EXEMPT***
ITALIAN	UNDER 380	ITALIAN 110
	380 – 440	ITALIAN 120
	450 – 540	ITALIAN 130
	550 – 640*	ITALIAN 140
	650 or above	EXEMPT
JAPANESE	A score of 650 or above may satisfy the requirement upon demonstration of oral proficiency in an interview.	
LATIN	UNDER 450	LATIN 101
	450 – 540	LATIN 102
	550 – 590	LATIN 203
	600 – 640*	LATIN 204
	650 or above	EXEMPT
RUSSIAN	UNDER 350	RUSSIAN 001
	350 – 440	RUSSIAN 002
	450 – 540	RUSSIAN 003
	550 – 640*	RUSSIAN 004
	650 or above	EXEMPT
SPANISH	UNDER 380	SPANISH 110 or 115
	380 – 440	SPANISH 120, 121, or 125
	450 – 540	SPANISH 130 or 135
	550 – 640*	SPANISH 140 or 145
	650 or above	EXEMPT

\*Students who score between 600 & 640, you can be exempted from the Language Requirement if you pass an oral exam.

\*\*If you score between 600 and 640 in German, you can be exempted from the Language Requirement if you achieve a rating of intermediate or better on an oral exam. Students may sign up in the [German Department](#) office before the end of the first week of classes.

\*\*\* If you score under 700 in Hebrew and wish to continue in the language, you must sign up to take the placement exam in the [Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations](#) during New Student Orientation.