Options for Satisfying Foreign Language Proficiency

Trinity’s students must demonstrate proficiency equal to one year of coursework. Below are several options to demonstrate language proficiency. Some students will be granted course credit for their language skills, but other students may demonstrate their skill without receiving credit.

Please note that one year of proficiency is required for all students for general education. International affairs majors must demonstrate two years of competency (test at the 202 level or above). Students wishing to achieve nomination to Phi Beta Kappa must also demonstrate 2 years proficiency.

1. Non-credit bearing options:
   1. Take the Spanish or French placement test developed by our faculty.  Students who PASS will have their foreign language competency fulfilled. However, they must enroll in additional courses to fulfill the 6 credits. They will not need to take the foreign language class.

Contact Dr. Kimberly LaBoone ([laboonek@trinitydc.edu](mailto:laboonek@trinitydc.edu)), Director of Academic Services Center, to schedule an appointment.

* 1. Take a non-credit bearing assessment at [Penn Language Center](http://plc.sas.upenn.edu/services/languageproficiencytesting/nonpenn) (PLC). They offer exams for a number of languages including Amharic, Arabic, Twi and other languages. PLC sends the written exam to Trinity’s Testing Services so students may take their exam here at Trinity. Following the exam, our staff return the exam to PLC for grading. Then, PLC faculty will contact the student to schedule a phone call for the oral exam.

Students must pay the fee for this exam directly to PLC. Visit the website for additional details and to register for the exam:

<https://plc.sas.upenn.edu/services/languageproficiencytesting/nonpenn>

**List the following for your Exam Proctor:**

Kimberly LaBoone, PhD,Director of Academic Services

Trinity Washington University

125 Michigan Ave, NE

Washington, DC 20017

e: [laboonek@trinitydc.edu](mailto:laboonek@trinitydc.edu)

v: (202) 884 9360

**Please have PLC return official results to:**

Office of Student Records

Trinity Washington University

125 Michigan, Ave, NE

Washington, DC 20017-1094

e: [enrollmentservices@trinitydc.edu](mailto:enrollmentservices@trinitydc.edu)

v: 202.884.9350

* 1. Take a non-credit bearing assessment at the [International Center for Language Studies](https://www.icls.edu/language-skills-assesment/#graduate-study-credit). The Center is in Washington, DC and will assess students’ proficiency in several non-traditional languages. They will test proficiency in spoken and written language skills. Following the exam, students receive their results and must provide Trinity with a copy to satisfy the language requirement.  ICLS tests are great for providing proof of foreign language competency, NOT for providing credit-bearing results.

Students must pay the fee for this exam directly to ICLS. Visit the website for additional details and to register for the exam:

<https://www.icls.edu/language-skills-assesment/#graduate-study-credit>

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1. Credit bearing options:
   1. Take the introductory-level courses to fulfill the 6-credit requirement.
   2. Take a [CLEP](https://clep.collegeboard.org/world-languages) exam, administered by College Board.  Depending on their scores, Trinity will award student actual credit for the completion of the exam.  CLEP exams are usually for Spanish, French and German.  Students can receive up to 6 credits.  CLEP is a nice option for students because it is affordable.  They have to schedule the test with a CLEP accredited institution (a local community college is a good option).  It takes several weeks to receive their scores AND for us to evaluate them.

Students must pay the fee for this exam directly to the College Board (CLEP). Visit the website for additional details and to register for the exam:

<https://clep.collegeboard.org/world-languages>

* 1. Take a credit-bearing assessment from [New York University’s Continuing Education](https://www.sps.nyu.edu/homepage/academics/divisions-and-departments/center-for-applied-liberal-arts/proficiency-testing.html) program, offered for a variety of languages (see site for details and languages). Students who want to utilize this option may take the test at Trinity with an approved proctor (Academic Services staff can act as proctors).  NYU has added online exams for certain languages ([see site for details](https://www.sps.nyu.edu/homepage/academics/divisions-and-departments/center-for-applied-liberal-arts/proficiency-testing.html)). Students must contact NYU to set up the exam between NYU and Trinity to complete the test.

Students must pay the fee for this exam directly to NYU. Visit the website for additional details and to register for the exam:

<https://www.sps.nyu.edu/homepage/academics/divisions-and-departments/center-for-applied-liberal-arts/proficiency-testing.html>

**Have NYU return official results to:**

Office of Student Records

Trinity Washington University

125 Michigan, Ave, NE

Washington, DC 20017-1094

e: [enrollmentservices@trinitydc.edu](mailto:enrollmentservices@trinitydc.edu)

v: 202.884.9350

**List the following contact infromation for the person who agreed to administer the exam:**

Kimberly LaBoone, PhD

Director of Academic Services

Trinity Washington University

125 Michigan Ave, NE

Washington, DC 20017

[laboonek@trinitydc.edu](mailto:laboonek@trinitydc.edu)

202.884.9360

**Note:** students may receive credit or waive the requirement through the 202 level (101, 102, 201, 202) or none depending on the results of the assessments.