

Item 2: Update to World Language Proficiency Requirement Resolution

In December of 2017, the Colonnade General Education Curriculum Committee, in conjunction with the University Senate, passed a resolution that modified the World Language Proficiency Requirement. The resolution was signed by Provost Lee on December 8, 2017. The resolution specified the following:

(1) All degree-seeking students with two credits (or equivalent) of high school world language will be considered to have fulfilled the world language proficiency requirement at WKU. This change is effective for all degree-seeking WKU students who have a catalogue year through 2017-2018.

(2) The Office of Academic Affairs, the Potter College of Arts and Letters, the Department of Modern Languages, the College of Health and Human Services, the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and any other academic units with courses that fulfill the world language requirement have until February 15, 2018 to present a plan to the WKU Colonnade Curriculum Committee that clearly articulates how future students can fulfill a world language proficiency requirement. This plan should be comprehensive and clearly articulate how student demand for courses can be met and/or how the world language proficiency requirement can be realistically achieved with existing university resources and staffing.

(3) The WKU Colonnade Curriculum Committee will revisit the world language proficiency requirement at its February and/or March meeting. The WKU Colonnade Curriculum Committee will consider the viability of the world language proficiency requirement given the details of the plan submitted under item # 2. Should the details of the plan appear to be insufficient in preventing another backlog of students who need to meet this requirement, the Colonnade Curriculum Committee may move to change the world language proficiency requirement. Such as change would be submitted to SEC, the University Senate, and the Provost for approval.

Last fall, Provost Lee convened a World Languages Proficiency Workgroup to work on items 2 and 3 of the original resolution. The Colonnade General Education Curriculum Committee met on February 20, 2018 to review a report compiled by the World Languages Proficiency Workgroup (attached). The Colonnade General Education Curriculum Committee discussed and evaluated four prospective alternatives outlined in the workgroup report on pages 8-14. A straw poll was conducted to determine the level of support for each option among members of the committee (Option One = 1 vote; Option Two = 2 votes; Option Three = 4 votes; Option Four = 0 votes).

Given the information in the referenced report and the committee's discussion and straw poll results on February 20, 2018, the Colonnade General Education Curriculum Committee moves to extend Item 1 of the original resolution through the 2018-2019 catalog year in order to provide the university with the opportunity to pilot test Option 3 as presented on Pages 10-12 of the World Languages Proficiency Workgroup Report (attached). The results of the pilot test will be presented to the Colonnade General Education Curriculum Committee no later than the Committee's October 2018 meeting. The Colonnade General Education Curriculum Committee will review these data/results and offer a recommendation/resolution for the Senate and Provost to consider for catalog year 2019-2020 and thereafter. Motion Passed: 7-0

Please see attachments:

- Attachment 1: World Language Proficiency Workgroup Report
- Attachment 2: Endorsement from the Department of Modern Languages, American Sign Language Studies, and Department of Philosophy and Religion of Option 3 in the Workgroup Report