

PLACEMENT INFORMATION AND TRANSFER OF CREDIT - PORTUGUESE

Cornell Policy

College of Arts & Sciences Language Requirements

- Option 1: Successfully complete one intermediate course of 3 or more credits at Cornell at the 2000 level or above.
- Option 2: Successfully complete at least 11 credits of study (2 or 3 semesters) in a single foreign language taken in the appropriate sequence at Cornell.

Important The Arts and Sciences language requirement can only be fulfilled by courses taken **at Cornell**. This is a College, not a department, policy. Please take this into account as you plan your work at Cornell and elsewhere.

For All Students:

- Exempt: native speakers or equivalent
- Definition of “native speaker” for purposes of language placement: one who has completed secondary education in an institution whose primary language of instruction was not English, but the target language. Native speakers fitting this description are exempt from the language requirement. To be granted exemption officially, if you fit this definition of native speaker in French or Italian, take the CASE exam. For Spanish, use the NLAS.

Determining Level of Achievement

- **If you are a native speaker** who wants accreditation for your language abilities, you need to take the CASE exam (for details see below). Native speakers must also register in the Collt. As mentioned above, remember that if you are a student in the College of Arts & Sciences, the requirement can only be fulfilled by courses taken **at Cornell**.
- **If you have less than 2 years of foreign language study**, you may enroll in the first semester course (The course number is 1210).
- **If you are a native, near-native speaker, basically having good knowledge of Spanish**, you should contact your instructor.

Contacts for Language Placement:

If you have any question regarding the language placement tests, please contact:

- [Jura D. Oliveira](#), Senior Lecturer of Portuguese Language, 126 Klarman Hall
- [Cal Hile](#), Undergraduate Coordinator, Klarman K165; 5-8222

Or please visit the FAQs and general placement section.

Tips

- Even if you don't intend to continue your study of the language right away, you should take the tests as soon as possible.
- Once you know your score, register as early as possible for the right level to avoid being closed out.
- For the regularly scheduled CASE, if you miss the first round of placement tests, get wait-listed at the level you think will be appropriate and attend class, pending the make-up test results.
- You should take language classes early on in your Cornell career, in case you want to study abroad, or in case you need the language for graduate research.

Transfer Credit

General Information

Credit will be granted only for work done at four-year, accredited, universities and colleges in the United States, or in programs affiliated with four-year, accredited universities and colleges in the United States, in programs comparable to the language programs in Romance Studies at Cornell, and only with the **approval of the [Director of Undergraduate Studies](#)**. The Department reserves the right to deny credit to students who had their pre-approval form signed by someone other than the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Credit will be granted only for courses that are comparable to those offered at Cornell. While the department may grant credit for approved courses taken at other institutions, it will not grant equivalence. Students must take the appropriate department placement exam after they have completed the pre-approved course, in order to be placed in the appropriate course at a higher level. They should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies for information about the appropriate exam. Students must apply for transfer credit and take the placement exam before taking a higher level course in the same language at Cornell.

Procedure for approval of language courses:

1. Bring the following materials to the Director of Undergraduate Studies, [Cary Howie](#), in K111 Klarman Hall:
 - a. **Course materials:** If you took the course already bring detailed course materials for the purposes of comparing the proposed course with equivalent courses at Cornell. These materials could include: a course syllabus or plan or a list of skills taught in the course, along with the means of teaching those skills (How many written exercises will be/were assigned? Of what length? How much reading will be/were assigned? What materials will be/were used in the course?) If you are planning on taking a course during the summer, save all of the course materials. You will be asked to show the syllabus, tests, writing assignments, and other course materials for formal approval after the course is taken.
 - b. **Transcript:** A sealed, official copy of the transcript from the institution where the course was/is going to be taken. The minimum grade required to receive transfer credit is a B.
 - c. **Pre-approval:** form This form can be obtained from the Arts and Sciences Registrar's office.
2. The Director of Undergraduate Studies gives final approval and notifies the student of the outcome.