

Modern Languages and Teacher Education

Students wishing to be certified to teach a modern language must complete an approved teacher education program and complete requires for a major or a minor (depending on certification level) in the language to be certified.

For information of the UW-L School of Education contact their website: www.uwlax.edu/soe

Education students are required to have an advisor in the Dept. of Modern Languages in addition to their School of Education advisor. Please review your major or minor checklist with your MLG advisor every semester to make sure that you are making adequate progress toward completing all requirements for certification.

If you are thinking of declaring a modern language major or minor with the intention of teaching the language, keep in mind the following:

Good foreign language teachers are expected to:

- carry out the majority of their instruction in the target language
- model good language and pronunciation habits
- be knowledgeable about the target culture
- employ a wide variety of teaching techniques and strategies in the classroom

To insure a high quality of foreign language instruction in the state of Wisconsin, DPI (the Department of Public Instruction) requires you to:

- complete an immersion experience (see next page)
- provided evidence that you have attained an oral proficiency level equivalent to Intermediate High on the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Scale (see next page)
- pass the Praxis II test in the language you plan to teach
- take a foreign language methods course (C-I 467/567)
- student teach in the target language
- provide performance-based evidence that you fulfill the Content Guidelines for Foreign Language Teacher Education (in your Education portfolio)

Immersion Requirements

Modern Language majors (EC-A, K-12) must successfully complete a pre-approved study abroad program for a minimum of one semester including completion of INS 250 (Orientation to Study Abroad), INS 251 and INS 252

Modern Language minors (with another Middle Childhood-Adolescence (6-12) content major or Middle Childhood to Early Adolescence Education Major, 1-9) must successfully complete a pre-approved study abroad program(s) or study abroad program with extended residency experience totaling a minimum of 10 weeks including completion of INS 250 (Orientation to Study Abroad), INS 251 and INS 252. (Minors are strongly encouraged to consider a full semester abroad study experience.)

All other cases (i.e., programs less than the minimum required in each category (extended residence abroad, or other types of "immersion" experience) will be evaluated on an individual basis. Students seeking approval for alternative immersion programs must consult with a faculty member in the language and present a written request to the department chair. The Department Planning and Program Committee will be responsible for considering and approving such requests.

Oral Proficiency Requirements

Teacher education candidates should complete an oral proficiency interview (with a faculty member in the respective target language) as soon as possible on return from study abroad and no later than the middle of the semester following the study abroad experience.

If more than two semesters will elapse between the official proficiency interview of a student and the beginning of the student teaching experience, the student must: 1) be continuously enrolled in a target language course during that time period (one 3-credit course per academic year or one 1-credit course each semester; **or** repeat and pass the proficiency exam again before the student teacher placement is finalized.