

Modern and Classical Language Studies Placement FAQs (May, 2017)

When should I start taking foreign language classes?

In your first semester if possible because:

1. you can build on what you learned in high school;
2. you get to talk about interesting things such as yourself;
3. classes are relatively small;
4. it's best to get started when your schedule is still very flexible and not so full.

I studied a language before. I heard I may be able to get credit for prior knowledge.

We call this "Alternative Credit." All of the alternative credit options are posted on the Modern and Classical Language Studies Web pages in a special section called "Placement and Alternative Credit."

I speak a foreign language at home. I heard I can get a waiver for my requirement. Is this true?

The university does not grant waivers for languages spoken at home. However, students whose **education before university study was conducted primarily in a language other than English** may be eligible for a waiver. Documentation is required. Contact MCLS for more information.

I placed into Intermediate II but my requirement is Elementary II. Can I drop back to Elementary II?

Taking a course two or more levels below your placement is NOT recommended. Don't waste time or money!

Consider one of the alternative credit options instead. Alternative credit options cost FAR less than courses.

I am nervous about studying foreign language. I heard there are other options.

Your specific language requirement and options depend on your major. Your academic advisor will show what your options are.

But may we recommend you **START** with a course called *Introduction to Structural Concepts for Language Students (MCLS 10001)*?

This class has been designed just for you. **Take it before or along with** your first language class and your language classes will be easier than you expect.

Talk to your language teachers early and often about your concerns. They are there to help you have a successful, positive language learning experience.

Finally, MCLS offers **free tutoring**. Ask your teacher for the schedule or stop by the department in 109 Satterfield Hall.

My program doesn't require foreign language but I want to take a language. What should I do?

If you are interested in taking a language and you have not yet earned college foreign language credits:

1. Take the placement test in the ALEKS and Placement Assessments link in your Student Resources folder in Flashline.
2. Take note of your placement score.
3. Contact the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies main office 330-672-2150 or MCLS@KENT.EDU and we will help you get started.