

World Language – P2P – D&E

FAQ's

For more information: www.p2p-de.weebly.com

1. What is World Language – P2P?

This program began in the fall of 2014 at Davis and Elkins College to allow D&E students the opportunity to improve and certify their proficiency in a modern spoken world language not their native tongue. Students register in 1-hour “World Language” courses each semester and prepare for an online assessment to determine proficiency.

Depending on their results, they may qualify for 3, 6, 9 or 12 additional credit hours in a specific language.

2. Who is eligible for World Language – P2P?

Any full-time D&E student may register for World Language 100 and 200 (fall and spring) in order to prepare for testing. The language studied and tested must not be the student’s “native” or “first” language.

3. What languages are offered with World Language – P2P?

D&E students taking World Language 100 and 200 join study groups in Spanish, French and German which are organized at the beginning of each semester. Mentoring and coaching is available for students who are interested in independent study and testing in less-commonly-taught languages including Arabic, Chinese, Italian, Hebrew, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese and Russian.

4. How does a student enroll in World Language – P2P?

Once students are registered in World Language 100 and 200, they are sorted by language and given assignments to help them improve proficiency. Registration can occur up until Add/Drop week the first week of classes in each semester.

5. How and when are students assessed in World Language?

D&E students take the STAMP (STandards-based Assessment to Measure Proficiency) online in either November or April, though much more commonly in April. STAMP is untimed, but usually takes between 2.5 -3 hours with four sections: Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking. Writing and Speaking scores count double in the averaging. The \$25 fee for the test is part of the course fees for World Language 100.

6. How can students earn credit with World Language – P2P?

Students receive a 1-hour credit for participating in each World Language course, 100 and 200. After the STAMP is taken and results received, the students’ four skills results will be averaged, with Writing and Speaking counting double. Students will be awarded additional credit of 3, 6, 9 or 12 hours in the specific language tested. World Language 100 and 200 are courses that count in a student’s course load and are calculated in the

GPA. The credit-by-exam earned via STAMP is not part of a student's course load and does not figure into the GPA. It does go on a student's transcript and, if 12 hours are earned, make him or her eligible to apply for the Global Seal of Biliteracy. (See FAQ #9)

The program's target proficiency range is 3-5, Novice-High to Intermediate-Mid on the American (ACTFL) proficiency scale. This is applicable to Western (European) languages: Spanish, French, German, Portuguese and Italian.

The four skills assessments are scored on a scale of 1-9.

1 = Novice Low (some knowledge – no functional ability)

2 = Novice Mid (simple formulaic utterances – reactive communicative ability)

3 = Novice High (growing skill – longer, varied phrases and short sentences – communicative ability with familiar topics)

4 = Intermediate Low (beginning to remix and create with language – more discourse at sentence length – usually comprehends the “main idea”)

5 = Intermediate Mid (creating more confidently with language – connecting sentences – comprehends “main idea” and many details)

6 = Intermediate High (creating confidently on many topics – longer discourse on familiar and unfamiliar topics in all time frames)

7 = Advanced Low (understand and delivery lengthy presentations and engage in lengthy exchanges with some errors)

8 = Advanced Mid (understand and delivery lengthy presentations and engage in lengthy exchanges on complex topics with fewer errors)

9 = Advanced High (communicate with fluency, flexibility, variety, nuance and precision on many topics, even complex ones)

An average of the four skills (Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking), with Writing and Speaking counting double, gives you your score on the overall STAMP:

3.0 = 3 credit hours (Novice High Certification)

3.5 = 6 credit hours (Novice High / Intermediate Low Certification)

4.0 = 9 credit hours (Intermediate Low Certification)

5.0 = 12 credit hours (Intermediate Mid Certification)

7. Are the same benchmark scores for non-Western languages for credit purposes the same as Western languages?

No. Other language options are possible, based on student request. Alternate scoring equivalents are listed below for “non-Western” languages. It is justifiable to “lower the bar” on credit equivalents for these languages as they represent a steeper learning curve than Western languages for English speakers or speakers of other Western languages. Languages in this group tested by STAMP are Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Polish and Russian. (Note: Although they are considered “less

commonly taught,” Italian and Portuguese are “Western” languages and given credit using the same scale as Spanish, French and German.)

2.0 = 3 credit hours (Novice Mid Certification)

2.5 = 6 credit hours (Novice Mid / Novice High Certification)

3.0 = 9 credit hours (Novice High Certification)

3.5 = 12 credit hours (Novice High / Intermediate Low Certification)

8. May students minor in a world language at D&E?

Currently, D&E offers a minor in Spanish. Once students achieve the 12-hours of P2P equivalency, they are required to complete three 3-hour courses (9 extra semester hours) at the 200-level and above. The three courses are: Spanish 209 – Advanced Conversation and Composition; Spanish 211 – Professional Spanish (in which students customize their Spanish study to align with their major); Spanish 310 – Hispanic Culture through Literature and Film.

9. Are there any other World Language certification offerings?

A student who scores at least a 5.0 (Intermediate Mid) proficiency in any of the languages becomes eligible to apply for the Global Seal of Biliteracy, a globally recognized recognition of proficiency in at least two languages.

More information: TheGlobalSeal.com