Information about the U.C. Foreign Language Requirement (A letter from UC Berkeley)

There are alternate ways to meet the Foreign language requirement. This comes from the UCOP website (http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/educators/counselors/adminfo/fr eshman/advising/admission/agr.html) There is also a chart which outlines specific paths.

The minimum performance objectives of two years of high school study of the same language other than English should include:

The ability to sustain a brief conversation on simple everyday topics demonstrating good use of the whole sound system (good pronunciation) and of the basic structural patterns in past, present and future tenses, subjunctive and commands; The ability to summarize, orally and in writing, the main points of a relatively simple reading passage not involving specialized vocabulary. Emphasis should not be on the ability to describe grammatical features of the language.

Classical languages (such as Latin or Greek) and American Sign Language are acceptable to fulfill the "e" requirement.

Generally, a bilingual student is considered to have met the "e" requirement and may choose not to enroll in courses in a language other than English. Such students may be better served by enrolling in additional electives or, if their English is limited, English as a Second Language. Students who elect not to take courses in a language other than English must satisfy the "e" requirement by one of the methods listed in Options for Satisfying UC's A-G Subject Requirements or document competence in a language other than English as described below.

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How to Meet the U.C. Foreign Language Requirement (as of January, 2021)

UC-approved high school courses

Two years (three years recommended) of the same language other than English. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, composition and culture. American Sign Language and classical languages, such as Latin and Greek, are acceptable.

SAT Subject Examination

The following scores satisfy the entire requirement:

- Chinese With Listening: 520
- French/French With Listening: 540
- German/German With Listening: 510
- Modern Hebrew: 470
- Italian: 520
- Japanese With Listening: 510
- Korean With Listening: 500
- Latin: 530
- Spanish/Spanish With Listening: 520

AP or IB Examination

Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP Exam in Chinese Language and Culture, French Language and Culture, German Language and Culture, Italian Language and Culture, Japanese Language and Culture, Spanish Language, Spanish Language and Culture, Spanish Literature and Culture or Latin;

Score of 5, 6 or 7 on an IB Language A2 HL exam

College courses

Grade of C or better in any transferable course(s) (excluding conversation) held by the college to be equivalent to two years of high school language. Many colleges list the prerequisites for their second course in language as "Language 1 at this college or two years of high school language." In this case, Language 1 clears both years of the requirement.