Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q-1: Is it a requirement to study a language at Bloomsburg University even if I do not want to?
A: Yes. One of Bloomsburg University’s General Education (MyCore) Goals is the Second Language Goal which requires students to demonstrate basic communication in a second language. [http://departments.bloomu.edu/langcult/mycore.html](http://departments.bloomu.edu/langcult/mycore.html)

*This applies to all students (summer, fall, spring, including international, transfer and ACT 101 students) regardless of their major, who enrolled during and after the Summer/Fall 2012 semester.

Q-2: I studied a foreign language in high school, am I still required to satisfy the Second Language Goal?
A: Yes.

Q-3: Is it a requirement to complete the Foreign Language Placement Test?
A: Students are encouraged to complete the (20-40 minute) Foreign Language Placement Test in order to determine which language course to schedule, and as an opportunity to earn the two associated MyCore General Education Points by demonstrating proficiency in a language.

There are multiple ways to complete the MyCore Second Language Goal. Please contact the Languages and Cultures department for more information: [http://departments.bloomu.edu/langcult/mycore.html](http://departments.bloomu.edu/langcult/mycore.html). The department is located in room 230 Old Science Hall, phone # 570-389-4750.

Students may also satisfy the Second Language Goal by successfully completing American Sign Language 1 (ASLTERP 155), starting in the spring of their freshmen year. For more information concerning ASLTERP 155, please contact Dr. Bentley-Sassaman, jbentley@bloomu.edu.

Q-4: How will I know if I demonstrated proficiency on the Foreign Language Placement Test?
A: If a student’s test score places them above the 102 (second semester) competency level, they will have satisfied the Second Language Goal (earn the two associated MyCore General Education Points, but does not earn credits towards graduation).

*Students receive a printed copy of their score report at the conclusion of testing, which will inform them if they have satisfied the second language goal.

Q-5: What is the deadline to satisfy the Second Language Goal?
A: Students have until the time they graduate to fulfill the Second Language Goal. However, it is encouraged that students fulfill it as soon as possible.

Q-6: When should I register to take the Foreign Language Placement Test?
A: Students can register to complete the Foreign Language Placement Test on any date and time that is available on the registration web site. The placement test is offered year-around, and additional dates and times are added periodically.

Q-7: Do I have to take the foreign language placement test before the Fall/Spring semester begins?
A: No.
Q-8: Can I take the foreign language placement test while I am on campus enrolled in classes?
A: Yes.

Q-9: I cannot attend any of the test dates listed due to prior commitments and/or work. Is there any way I could be put on a mailing list for future test dates?
A: No. The Foreign Language Placement registration site: www.bloomu.edu/testing is continuously updated with test dates and times throughout the year. Please monitor the site and register to take the test at your convenience. If you are not available to test on any of the test dates and times listed and are planning a visit to our (BU) campus, (Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM), please contact the Office of Planning & Assessment (570) 389-2998, and arrangements will be made for you to take the test at a date and time that is convenient for you.

*Additional test dates and times may include test sessions during the BU Preview Days in June and July, and during Orientation in August.

*For your convenience, the Foreign Language Placement Test registration web site may at times include dates and times that correspond with the ACCUPLACER test dates and times, so you may complete both tests while on campus, if you wish to do so.

Q-10: Are students permitted to take the Foreign Language Placement Test for more than one language?
A: Yes. Students can test in more than one language.

Q-11: Can I retake the test if I’m not satisfied with my placement results?
A: Yes. Each foreign language placement test can be only taken twice, students must wait at least two weeks between each attempt at the same language to retest. *All attempts at the foreign language placement test beyond the second attempt will be discarded.

Q-12: Can I register to test for two different languages on the same day?
A: Yes. However, each language placement test must be scheduled for a different test session.

Q-13: I plan on studying two different languages while in college. Should I take the foreign language placement test for both or whichever one I feel I could do better on?
A: Students should register to be tested for each foreign language. The results will be used for placement in the appropriate course-level. The test generally takes 20-40 minutes.

Q-14: I studied a foreign language in 9th and 10th grade, but plan on starting back at Level 1 because I have not retained much of what I learned. Should I still take the placement test if I am starting at the bottom?
A: Yes. Students are encouraged to take the placement test.

Q-15: There are no foreign language placement tests listed for the language I studied in high school. How will I be placed in the appropriate course or to see if I am eligible to earn the two associated Mycore General Education points?
A: Please contact Professor C. Donahue, cdonahue@bloomu.edu, Department of Languages and Cultures or (570) 389-4714.
Q-16: I studied or I am currently studying a foreign language through dual enrollment with another university. Is it possible to transfer my credits to satisfy the Second Language Goal?

A: It depends on what the credits are and whether or not those courses can be transferred into a 102 level foreign language course. If they are from a level 2 or above course (with a C or better grade), then students can transfer them and be considered having satisfied the language requirement. If not, students will need to satisfy the Second Language Goal. Please contact the Office of the Registrar (570) 389-4263 to make arrangements to send them your official transcripts.

Q-17: I am taking an Advanced Placement (AP) foreign language course, and will be taking the AP test. Do I still need to satisfy the Second Language Goal?

A: Yes. Students are still required to satisfy the Second Language Goal until the AP credits are materialized and translated into college credits. Please contact the Registrar’s Office (570) 389-4263 to confirm which level(s) of college courses AP could transfer into, and at what AP scores. Students are required to pass the 102 level.

Q-18: I have a 504 Plan (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act) which exempts me from taking a second language in high school. Will Bloomsburg University accept this exemption?

A: Yes. The Languages and Cultures Department would accept the waiver of a student with disabilities or offer other accommodations, both which would require a consultation with the Office of Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (570) 389-4265 or ltomash2@bloomu.edu.

Q-19: I had an Individualized Education Program (IEP) through school. What is Bloomsburg University's policy with regard to students with IEP’s?

A: Please contact the Office of Accommodative Services for Students with Disabilities (570) 389-4265 or ltomash2@bloomu.edu for assistance.

Q-20: If I already took a Foreign Language Placement Test at another school, do I need to retake it or can I forward my test results to the university?

A: Yes. Students are encouraged to complete the BU Foreign Language Placement Test, unless they satisfy the Second Language Goal by successfully completing ASLTERP 155.

Q-21: Is there a cost to take the test?

A: No.

Q-22: Where is the test administered?

A: Only on campus at Bloomsburg University; in the BU Testing Center, Suite 2203 MCHS.

Q-23: What does the test consist of and how many questions are in each section of the test?

A: The foreign language placement test is a multiple choice-based test designed to check if a student’s knowledge and skills
meet the requirement of the 102-level language course. In most cases, for each question, students will be asked to choose from a list of four answers.

Q-24: What do I need to bring?
A: Students are required to bring a form of photo identification (i.e. Driver’s License, High school ID, Passport). Also, students will need to know their six-digit BU student ID # and BU e-mail address.

*If students do not have a form of photo identification, they will not be permitted to test.

Q-25: How long does the test take to complete?
A: It depends on each student. Most students take approximately 20-40 minutes, although there is no time limit for students to complete the test.

Q-26: When will I find out my test results?
A: Students are provided a printed copy of their test results, immediately after completing the test.

Q-27: What do I do with these test results?
A: Students should keep their test results for their records.

Q-28: What does the test score mean?
A: Students should contact Professor C. Donahue, cdonahue@bloomu.edu, Department of Languages and Cultures, (570) 389-4714 for assistance in interpreting their scores.

Q-29: I did not receive any information regarding Foreign Language Placement Testing, when will I?
A: During the fall/spring semesters, a report is run approximately every 2-4 weeks of all incoming freshmen who have paid BU’s required $200 initial deposit. Shortly after, an e-mail is sent to all students on the list regarding the Foreign Language Placement Test, and how to register for a test date and time.

Q-30: I registered online, but did not receive a confirmation e-mail, when will I?
A: An official confirmation e-mail will automatically be sent to the e-mail address in which a student enters on the online registration form.

Q-31: Can I cancel the test date and time that I registered for?
A: Yes.

1. Go to: www.bloomu.edu/testing-placement-language
2. Click on the red "Register Online" button.
3. Click on “My Registrations.”
4. Enter your e-mail address into the required field.
5. Receive e-mail from RegisterBlast.

6. **Click on the link** provided in the RegisterBlast e-mail.

7. Click "**Cancel**" next to the test date and time that you would like to cancel.

**Q-32:** Can I reschedule the test date and time that I registered for?

**A:** Yes.

1. First, cancel the test date and time that you initially registered for.

2. Then, go to: [www.bloomu.edu/testing-placement-language](http://www.bloomu.edu/testing-placement-language)

3. Select a new test date and time. You will then receive a new e-mail confirmation (which will be sent to the e-mail address in which you enter on the form) for the new test date and time.

**Q-33:** The online registration web site does not have any test dates and times listed. When will there be?

**A:** New test dates and times are added on a continuous basis throughout the year. Please continue to monitor the web site [www.bloomu.edu/testing](http://www.bloomu.edu/testing) periodically or send an email to LanguagePlacement@bloomu.edu for assistance.

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