

IR MAJOR LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Majors in International Relations (IR) must demonstrate oral and written proficiency in a foreign language. Deep and sustained language study is an essential tool for developing cultural literacy and sensitivity, which are key learning objectives of the major. The level of proficiency required is **eight semesters or the equivalent in a single language**—the highest level attainable for students who begin a new language as freshmen at Tufts. All students intending to major in IR are **required** to submit a completed **Major Declaration Supplemental Form** to the IR Program with an approvable plan to **demonstrate both oral and written foreign language proficiency**, to officially complete the declaration of the major. Sections I-IV below detail the range of options for demonstrating foreign language proficiency. Students will not be considered officially declared until they have received acknowledgment from the Program that their proposed plan has been accepted.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Courses used for the IR language requirement must be taught entirely in the target language. Not all courses at the 30/100 levels are taught in the target language. Courses utilizing English at these levels will not count toward the IR language requirement.
- No double counting. A course used for the IR Language Requirement may not also be used for Core or Thematic Concentration requirements.
- Please consult the relevant language department and/or your Student Success Advisor (SSA) for questions about language placement testing.

I. STARTING A NEW LANGUAGE AT TUFTS:

Complete all the courses in the sequence in a single language (see course sequence on page 2).

OR

II. CONTINUING A LANGUAGE AT TUFTS THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY STUDIED:

Students will be placed into an appropriate-level language course depending on one of the two criteria below. If a student tests out of several semesters of language study, he/she need only complete the remaining courses in the sequence in this same language (see course sequence on page 2).

- **AP / SAT II Tests:** Depending on test score(s), students will place into a more advanced level course.
- **Transfer Credits:** The Language Coordinator in the relevant language department will review previous coursework and mark a course equivalency notation on a student's transcript, which will determine the level at which one should begin study at Tufts.

OR

III. NATIVE SPEAKERS OF A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH:

Under certain conditions, proficient native speakers **may** be granted full exemption from the IR language requirement. Students interested in pursuing this option **MUST** confer with their SSA **BEFORE** submitting their Major Declaration Supplemental Form to make sure the appropriate level of language proficiency is reflected on SIS and on their Tufts transcript.

Students will be granted full exemption from the IR language requirement **IF AND ONLY IF** Tufts has an official record of the following:

- Graduation from a high school where ALL instruction was taught in a language other than English.
- Reported official scores on the TOEFL or IELTS exam (NOTE: This exemption **ONLY** applies to students matriculating at Tufts prior to Fall 2018.)

WITHOUT EXCEPTION, native speakers who do not plan to fulfill the language requirement by one of the aforementioned methods MUST take the Penn Language Evaluation Exam to demonstrate proficiency at the 8th semester level of college study. This includes the following:

- Students who attended, but did not graduate from, a high school where all instruction in a language other than English.
- Students who took the TOEFL or IELTS and matriculated at Tufts starting with Fall 2018.

Students who speak a language not offered at Tufts should contact their SSA and refer to Section IV below.

IV. CONTINUING A (NATIVE) LANGUAGE NOT OFFERED AT TUFTS

Options to continue alternate languages to the required level may include: use of study abroad opportunities, study in summer school at other universities, or cross-registration at other universities in the Boston area if and where courses are available. Please note: Students who choose to continue alternate languages to satisfy the IR language requirement must be evaluated by taking the PENN Language Evaluation Exam. Students should consult their SSA for more information on taking this exam. The placement exam will determine proficiency or the level at which you should continue study.

COURSE SEQUENCE CHART

LANGUAGE	COURSE SEQUENCE						
Arabic	1	2	3	4	21	22	121 AND one course from: 122, 123, 124, 191, 192
Chinese	1	2	3	4	21	22	121 AND one course from: 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128
French	1	2	3	4	21	22	Two courses from: 31, 32, 121, 122, 124 OR* one course from: 125, 137, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 152, 155, 162, 163, 169, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 177, 178, 191, 192
German	1	2	3	4	21	22	121 AND one course from: 100 level taught in German
Hebrew	1	2	3	4	21	22	121 AND 122
Japanese	1	2	3	4	21	22	121 AND one course from: 122, 123, 124
Italian	1	2	3	4	21	22	Two courses from: 31, 32, 121 OR * one course from: 170, 177, 191, 192
Portuguese	1	2	3	4	21	22	Two courses from: 31, 32 OR* one course from: 152, 191, 192
Russian	1	2	3	4	21	22	Two courses from: 121, 122 OR* one course from: 123, 125, 192
Spanish	1	2	3	4	21	22	Two courses from: 30, 31, 32, 33, 121, 151 OR* one course from: 101, 102, 103, 104, 107, 108, 122, 123, 126, 129, 141, 142, 144, 148, 150, 164, 170, 191, 192

* Please consult with relevant language faculty before enrolling in one of these courses in the seventh semester of language study.