Majors in International Relations must display oral and written proficiency in a foreign language. Thorough language study is an essential tool for developing cultural literacy and sensitivity that are important goals 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 at Tufts.

**Students studying a language not offered at Tufts or a language offered at Tufts only through the first, second, or third year** need to make sure that feasible opportunities exist elsewhere to complete all eight semesters of language instruction. They are expected to secure IR approval for these alternative paths to completing the eight-semester (or equivalent) IR Language Requirement so that they do not endanger their ability to complete the major in a timely way.

Options to pursue 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.

Students who pursue these alternate languages to satisfy the IR Language Requirement must complete the appropriate “Online Transfer of Credit Request” form found online on the Student Services website. The request must be approved by the transfer of credit representative in the respective Tufts language department. The language department must certify that the courses amount to the equivalent of eight semesters of university-level language study (normally 122-level at Tufts) and send a short note to the IR Program office (Cabot 605) confirming this. As with all transfer courses, students are urged to retain catalogue descriptions and class syllabi.