

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 12, 2011

TO: Deans, Directors, Department Heads, and Advisors

FROM: George Gehrels, Chair, Undergraduate Council
Celeste F. Pardee, Curriculum Associate, Academic Affairs

RE: Policy on Double Use of General Education Courses

Effective in Summer/Fall 2011, students with documented language disabilities who have college approval to take alternate courses toward the Second Language Requirement may apply up to two of those courses toward a major or minor. Previously, the double use of intermediate-level language courses for both the Second Language Requirement and a major/minor was restricted to students who completed foreign language courses. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) notified the Undergraduate Council about the inequitable aspect of this policy in December 2010 and proposed that the General Education double-dipping benefit be extended to students with language disabilities and approved substitutions. DRC's proposal was approved by the Undergraduate Council on 2/8/11 and passed by the Faculty Senate on 5/2/11. The revised Policy on Double Use of General Education Courses may be found in the 2010-11 Catalog.

Revision of the Double Use of General Education Courses (second bullet)
http://catalog.arizona.edu/2010-11/policies/double_use.htm:

Courses used to fulfill the University-wide General Education <<http://catalog.arizona.edu/2010-11/gened.html>> Foundations, Tier One or Tier Two Requirements may not apply to a major or minor, with the following exceptions:

- * Any Math course at or above the level of Calculus I (MATH 113, 124, or 125) may also apply to a major or minor.
- * The two higher level courses taken to satisfy the fourth-semester skill level of the Second Language Requirement for a B.A. degree may also apply to a major or minor.
- * A maximum of two Tier Two courses may also be used to satisfy the minor requirements.

Management of the Policy:

Students who may have a language learning disability should be referred to the DRC, 1224 E. Lowell Street, 621-3268, to request accommodations, <http://drc.arizona.edu/pdf/coursesub.pdf>. If recommended by the DRC for substitute courses, students should see their college academic advisor for final approval.

Colleges should revise their Second Language Substitution Agreements by replacing the following statement, or words to this effect, with the statement in bold font:

[Delete: No courses substituted to fulfill the Second Language Requirement may be used toward any other degree requirement.]

Add: Upper division (300-level or above) courses substituted for the third and fourth semesters of the Second Language Requirement may also apply toward the major or minor. Note: 200-level courses may be substituted for the third and fourth semesters of the Second Language, provided those courses are not double-counted toward the major or minor.

UGC's rationale for recommending upper division substitutions is that the third and fourth semester language courses (e.g., German, Hebrew, Latin) are at the intermediate level in a sequence of courses with progressively higher proficiency prerequisites.

Therefore, courses selected as third/fourth semester substitutes in a linguistic area (e.g., culture, history, literature) should also be at the "intermediate" level-that is, courses with prerequisites. Many of the 200-level linguistic-area culture, history, and literature courses taught in English do not have prerequisites. Those 200-level courses may be approved by college advisors to satisfy the Second Language Requirement. However, courses substituted for the language and applied toward a major or minor should be at the upper division (i.e., 300-400) level to be considered equivalent in academic rigor to third and fourth semester language courses.

Questions about the General Education policy should be addressed to Celeste Pardee, Curriculum Associate, at 621-5375, cpardee@u.arizona.edu.