



**M. Ed. / Initial Licensure in Second Languages Education  
Prerequisite List – World Language**

**Candidate Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **License:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prepared by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Degree Granting Institution:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Major(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**What are prerequisites?**

Prerequisites are foundational courses or experiences required in specific content areas for licensure. Candidates are required to have an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution with appropriate liberal arts/general education coursework and must meet the prerequisites below.

**When do prerequisites need to be completed?**

Any required prerequisites should be completed before starting the program in June. The Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) should be completed and submitted with the program application. Please contact the adviser for any potential time extension requests.

Please check with your program area adviser before registering for any prerequisite coursework.

**Guidelines for Petitioning to Replace a Required World Language Course with Related Experience**

The Second Languages Education Program at the University of Minnesota requires two advanced academic courses in the target language to meet the required licensure content standards set by the State of Minnesota. However, Minnesota considers licensure standards to be performance-based. As such, it is possible to use non course-based experiences to demonstrate competency in the standards.

If you have attained high proficiency in a world language through a method other than academic coursework, you have the option of petitioning to request that one of the two courses be waived. **Native or heritage speakers of the language may be able to petition for both courses to be waived. In rare cases, non-native speakers may also be able to petition for both courses to be waived.** The petition process involves the submission of a portfolio to the Second Languages Education Program demonstrating experiences and skill equivalent to an advanced language course.

If you would like to petition to meet one course via portfolio, please begin the process by meeting with a faculty member.

**Please note:** The University of Minnesota World Language Licensure Program has standards and expectations in addition to the state standards. Faculty will make the final decision to approve courses, experiences, and portfolio petitions taking both the state standards and University expectations into consideration.

World Language Teaching License Prerequisites				
Lack	Requirement	Complete	Course name/description	Possible alternative options for meeting the requirement through portfolio assessment.
Demonstration of Oral Language Proficiency				
	<p><b>Oral Proficiency Interview:</b> Candidates must attain <u>advanced low</u> status the ACTFL OPI (or through and oral proficiency assessment found to be equivalent to the ACFTL OPI by U of MN faculty)</p> <p>State standards: 3.A.3; 3.A.4</p>			*Native speakers educated in the target language outside of the U.S, are exempt from the OPI.
Demonstration of Written Language Proficiency				
	<p><b>Two Advanced Language Courses:</b> Courses must be above an intermediate level and focus on grammar and/or a significant writing component.</p> <p>Most 3000-level and above courses at the U of MN will meet this requirement</p>			Possible experiences accepted via portfolio: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-credit bearing advanced courses.</li> <li>• High school diploma (or equivalent) in target language</li> <li>• MN platinum bilingual seal.</li> <li>• Writing sample evaluated by U of MN faculty</li> <li>• Advanced score on Avant writing exam</li> </ul>
	<p>Coursework taken abroad in the target language as part of a degree program fulfills this requirement.</p> <p>State standards: 3.A.4; 3.A.5</p>		-	
Familiarity with Culture of Language				
	<p>Study abroad experience <u>or</u> Evidence of intensive practical use of language in community</p> <p>State standards: 3.C.1; 3.C.2; 3.C.4; 3.C.11</p>		-	

\*Prerequisite courses must have a minimum 'C-' grade\*