

Impact Statement on General Studies and Foreign Languages

At its 10/12 meeting the University Curriculum Committee approved the CAS recommendation that General Studies majors be required to complete twelve (12) hrs. of one foreign language. Before implementing the change, the Provost has asked for a budget impact statement. In reviewing the enrollment of GSBA students in foreign language classes, I do not believe that adding the intermediate requirement of 6 hrs. will require the employment of further instructors in the Department of Foreign Languages.

1. At the present time all General Studies majors whose first concentration is in humanities, the sciences, or social sciences must complete six (6) hrs. of one foreign language. With very few modifications, this is the same group which will be required to take twelve hours. The new GSBA will not include a business concentration or an applied sciences concentration, and it is not likely that many of these students (approximately 12% of the total GSBA majors) will continue under General Studies.

2. A review of the enrollment of GSBA students in the 102 level of all languages offered over five (5) semesters (spring, summer, and fall of 2006 and spring 2007) reveals that:

2.1 Ninety three enrolled in Spanish, 17 in French, and 42 in Latin (excluding summer for Latin).

2.2 In the 2006 year the numbers of GSBA students who completed the 102 courses were:

Spring, 06	Sum. I 06	Sum II 06	Fall 06
French 7	0	7	5
Latin 12	0	0	8
Spanish 12	8	12	17

2.3 The number of available seats in the intermediate classes was:

	Fall 06	Spring 07
French 205	12	14
Latin 201	17	18
Spanish 205 (2 sect)	18	21

2.4 The numbers indicate that there are sufficient seats available at the intermediate level to accommodate additional students. The total of GSBA students involved in Fall, 2006 for the humanites, social science, and science concentrations was approximately 275 which means that at this time there would be on average 33 students per semester who need the intermediate classes offered.

3. In addition, we have just started teaching Arabic through the fourth semester. We also receive through compressed video German 101 and 102 from Southern in Baton Rouge, and these courses usually have 10-15 students. Both languages could accommodate additional students at the intermediate level.

4. The new advising system for GSBA students can assist in directing students into languages other than Spanish.

5. We belong to a consortium of language programs which includes ULL, Nichols, Southern in BR, and Grambling. Under the agreement, ULM offers a variety of courses from Latin and Arabic 101 and 102 to French for Business and Spanish American Culture and Civilization. We currently receive German 101 and 102 from Southern. ULM may request that intermediate classes in French and Spanish be offered for any ULM students that we

cannot accommodate. This is not an optimal situation, but it does present the possibility for relief if we do have an over-enrollment.