



## PROFICIENCY TESTING IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES AT USM

[www.usm.maine.edu/pla](http://www.usm.maine.edu/pla)

The Office for Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) at USM offers credit for the Language Proficiency Exams which follow below.

These exams evaluate student knowledge of languages and assign points which translate into undergraduate credit at USM. The tests do not require knowledge of technical terms or specialized vocabulary. These proficiency exams test three skills – listening, reading, and writing – that are necessary for everyday communicative tasks. Students are required to answer questions about a listening comprehension passage, translate into English and into the target test language, and write a short essay in response to a selection of general topics. (The format of some language tests may differ somewhat, perhaps requiring short answers or multiple choice responses.)<sup>1</sup>

USM offers two versions of the exam: a two-hour or a three-hour exam offering up to a possible six credits. Proficiency exams will be scheduled at a time mutually agreeable to USM/PLA and the candidate and require at least a two-week notice for scheduling.

Please contact PLA for specific guidelines, policies, credit awards, registration materials, and other information.

### Foreign Language Exams offered through PLA

Afrikaans	Dutch	Irish (Gaelic)	Russian*
Albanian	Finnish	Italian ☆	Serbian**
Arabic	French*	Japanese ☆	Spanish*
Armenian	German*	Korean	Swahili
Bengali	Greek (Modern)	Latin*	Swedish
Bosnian**	Gujarati	Lithuanian	Tagalog
Bulgarian	Haitian Creole	Malay	Thai
Catalan	Hebrew	Norwegian	Turkish
Chinese-Cantonese	Hindi	Persian	Ukrainian
Chinese-Mandarin	Hungarian	Polish	Urdu
Croatian**	Ibo	Portuguese	Vietnamese
Czech	Icelandic	Punjabi	Yiddish**
Danish	Indonesian	Romanian	

\*Credit is not offered at USM for an exam in a language currently taught at USM: French, Spanish, German, Russian, Ancient Greek, and Latin. NYU language exams may not be taken for credit in your native language.

☆Please check with PLA prior to taking these exams.

\*\*Speakers of Bosnian, Serbian, and Croatian can take the test in only one of the three languages. Students taking the Yiddish exam are expected to write according to the Standard Yiddish Orthography.