Languages Proficiency/Assessment Procedures
*coordinated in collaboration with The Department of Languages and Cultures and the Excel Languages Center

The Excel Languages Center (LC) is located in Dwire Hall 270 and available to all CU students, faculty, staff, and community members. Our space, staff, and services are here to best support community-building, cultural exchange, leadership development, and student success. We provide tutoring and support for foreign languages, English for international students, and American Sign Language (ASL).

The LC fosters academic and co-curricular learning to serve diverse communities and develop intellectually curious students who are globally and culturally competent. We support awareness to increase international and domestic multicultural program opportunities. We provide direct support all students, staff and faculty on campus to build cultural understanding and to develop a more globalized community. The LC strives to build an inclusive educational community that attracts, embraces, and supports diverse students, faculty and staff to advance learning and scholarship in a multicultural world.

**The mission of the LC is to empower student success through collaborative learning, individualized tutoring, leadership development, and meaningful dialogues.**

If you require assistance or clarification, please contact the Excel Languages Center (LC) Director, Dr. Sandy Ho (sho@uccs.edu or 719.255.3691).

**English Language Proficiency Testing (international students or non-native English users)**

Students seeking undergraduate and graduate admission to UCCS must show proof of English proficiency:

- TOEFL—Minimum score of 75 on iBT within the past two years (UCCS code: 4874)
- IELTS—Minimum score of 6.0 within the past two years
- PTE—Minimum score of 51 within the past two years
- KITE—Minimum score of 460 within the past two years. **UCCS can administer the English Proficiency exam (the KITE exam) on an individual basis.** For admission a minimum score of 460 or better within the past two years is required. Students (both UCCS students and non-UCCS students) are allowed to take the test no more than once per academic semester (fall, spring, summer). To make an appointment for testing, email international@uccs.edu and pay the $75 fee at the link: [https://www.uccs.edu/international/intensive-english-program/testing](https://www.uccs.edu/international/intensive-english-program/testing)
Why refer students to WebCAPE Foreign Language Proficiency Assessment?
A student may be notified by the University for MAPS deficiency—specifically for foreign languages—if the student did not pass two years of the same foreign language in high school, the student will need to complete the second semester level of any foreign language prior to graduating from the university. A student may be sent by an advisor to take the WebCAPE (“ ”) assessment to pass the Minimum Preparation Standards (MAPS) language requirement, WITHOUT RECEIVING COURSE CREDIT (no matter what score a student receives on the assessment).

a. STUDENTS must be made aware that this test may only be taken one time in order to try to exempt the UCCS language requirement. It is only available for Chinese, French, German, Russian, and Spanish. Resulting score must exceed Sem 2 level (different values for each language)
b. It is recommended that the student review before they come to take the WebCAPE assessment to eliminate their MAPS foreign language deficiency.

If a student wishes to meet their MAPS deficiency requirement with a language not tested within WebCAPE, please refer he/she/them to the LC Director to be connected to an approved third-party testing facility. The student will have to pay out of pocket to be tested by the approved third-party testing facility, but may be able to do so in other languages, e.g. Vietnamese, Urdu, Korean, etc.

1. IF an instructor is using WebCAPE as a pre- and post- assessment (THIS IS NOT A PLACEMENT TEST) for general skills assessment with Chinese, French, German, Russian, and/or Spanish.
   c. NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY. Student comes in individually (per advisor or instructor), the student will check-in at the LC (Dwire Hall 270) reception desk sign-in computer. LC staff will direct the student on next steps process.

2. If a student wants to challenge a course level to best suit their knowledge and skills of a language, it is a two-step process. PLEASE refer her/him/them to take the WebCAPE assessment and then contact the LC Director, Dr. Sandy Ho with results for further direction/instruction (differences in procedure are based on which language is of interest to the student).
   a. If a student needs to retrieve his/her/their most recent WebCAPE score (if he/she/they printed out results page and submitted it to LC as instructed) the student can contact the LC Director, Dr. Sandy Ho, to access the most recent score.
FOR SPANISH ONLY (when challenging a course or wanting to “skip” course(s)):
Spanish Placement Exam When Challenging a Course (Canvas and Written/Paper)
*Must be scheduled in advance with the LC Director, Dr. Sandy Ho, sho@uccs.edu

1. The CANVAS test is used to determine at what level prospective majors/minors in
_spanish could_ begin their coursework. Students take the Canvas test to challenge going
past a UCCS Spanish class
***AGAIN WITHOUT RECEIVING COURSE CREDIT, no matter what score a
student receives on an assessment.***
   a. The reasons he/she/they may take this test are:
      i. Transfer students who have previously taken Spanish not at UCCS
      ii. He/She/They might be in a class in which they might not be performing at
          the desired level
      iii. He/She/They could have had two to four years of high school study and
           wish to continue university study of the language
   b. Students have the opportunity to challenge out of Spanish 1010, 1020, 2110, and
      2120 with the Canvas tests. Testing to challenge out of a course is never a
guarantee that student will be allowed or eligible to skip any course and must be
approved by a language faculty or department chair.
   c. If the student has completed two years of AP High School Spanish, he/she/they
      will most likely be ready to take the 1020 test in order to test into the 2110 class.
   d. Students must score an **80% or higher** on any Canvas exam. The student then has
demonstrated enough ability to take the next course.
   e. Students must score a **95% or higher** on the 3000 level diagnostic written paper
test to challenge the 3000 level courses.

2. He/She/They must set up a future appointment to be added to the appropriate Canvas test
with the LC Director. Note: The test may take up to two hours. The student will need to
provide a picture ID before being allowed to take any test.
   a. The Canvas tests are administered on a computer with three parts (multiple
      choice, essay response, and oral (recorded) response) and must be taken within an
      LC approved space, proctored by LC staff.
   b. The 3000+ level diagnostic test is administered on paper.
   c. Tests are graded by UCCS Spanish faculty. Scores and advised registration are
      communicated by the LC Director. Students are advised to check their UCCS
      email.

FOR ALL OTHER (not Spanish) FOREIGN LANGUAGES & ASL
Please defer to the LC Director—Sandy Ho, Ph.D. (sho@uccs.edu)–to arrange an assessment
with the appropriate instructors or delegates.