

5-6-2013

# Delta College Foreign Language Requirement Reduction

The College at Brockport, College Senate

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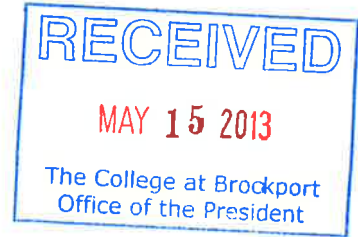


The College at  
**BROCKPORT**  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

350 New Campus Drive  
Brockport, New York 14420  
585-395-2586 \* 585-395-2246 (fax)  
senate@brockport.edu  
brockport.edu/collegesenate

Resolution #272012-2013  
College Senate

Supersedes Res #: \_\_\_\_\_



TO: Dr. John R. Halstead, College President

FROM: The College Senate: **5/07/2013**

RE: **→** I. Formal Resolution (*Act of Determination*)  
II. Recommendation (*Urging the Fitness of*)  
III. Other, For Your Information (*Notice, Request, Report, etc.*)

SUBJ: **Delta College Foreign Language Requirement Reduction**  
**(#50\_12-13GE)**

Signed: *Dawn M Jones* Date: 5/14/13  
(Dawn Jones, 2013-2014 College Senate President)

**Please fill out the bottom portion and follow the distribution instructions at the end of this page.**

TO: Dawn Jones, College Senate President

FROM: John R. Halstead, College President

RE: **→** I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution (circle choice)  
a.  Accepted - Implementation Effective Date\*\*: Immediate  
**\*\*Implementation of resolution requires final approval from SUNY-State Education Department.** YES  
b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II, III. Response to Recommendation or Other/FYI

a. Received and acknowledged \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

b. Comment:

Signed: *J. Halstead* Date: 5/16/13  
(Dr. John R. Halstead, President, The College at Brockport)

**DISTRIBUTION:**

Upon approval, the College President will forward copies of resolutions to his staff who will, in turn, forward copies to their staff. The College Senate Office will post resolutions to the College Senate Web at <http://www.brockport.edu/collegesenate/resolutions>

**COLLEGE SENATE OFFICE  
RESOLUTION PROPOSAL COVER PAGE  
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: FEBRUARY 28**

Incomplete proposals will be returned and proposals received after the deadline may not be reviewed until next semester.

<b>Routing Number</b> <i>Routing # assigned by Senate Office 2012-2013</i>	<b>#50_12-13GE</b> <i>Use routing number and title in all reference to this proposal.</i>
<b>This Proposal Replaces Resolution</b>	

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Use committee guidelines available at [brockport.edu/collegesenate/proposal.html](http://brockport.edu/collegesenate/proposal.html).
- Prepare ONE complete document in **Word format**: include this proposal cover page, proposal, attachments and support letters from your department chair and dean if applicable.
- **Locate the Resolution # and date this proposal will replace at our "Approved Resolutions" page on our Web site.**
- Email completed proposal to [senate@brockport.edu](mailto:senate@brockport.edu). (General Education Proposals and questions go to [dlamphron@brockport.edu](mailto:dlamphron@brockport.edu) in the Vice Provost's Office first.)
- Make revisions on the paperwork emailed to you from the Senate office that shows the assigned routing number on top. Submit updated document to [senate@brockport.edu](mailto:senate@brockport.edu).
- Questions? Call the Senate office at 395-2586 or the appropriate committee chairperson.

1. **PROPOSAL TITLE:** Please be somewhat descriptive, ie. *Use a course number and/or title, indicate if for GED code, etc.*

Delta College Foreign Language Requirement Reduction

2. **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL:**

The Delta College faculty proposes to reduce our Foreign Language requirement from essentially three semesters to credit for Foreign Language 111 for our students seeking a Bachelor of Science degree.

3. **WILL ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AFFECTING BUDGET BE NEEDED?**  NO  YES EXPLAIN  
YES

4. **DESCRIBE ANY DATA RELATED TO STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT USED AS PART OF THE RATIONALE FOR THE REQUESTED SENATE ACTION.**

n/a

5. **HOW WILL THIS AFFECT TRANSFER STUDENTS:**

n/a

6. **ANTICIPATED EFFECTIVE DATE:**

immediately

7. **SUBMISSION & REVISION DATES:** PLEASE DATE ALL REVISED DOCUMENTS TO AVOID CONFUSION.

<i>First Submission</i>	<i>Updated on</i>	<i>Updated on</i>	<i>Updated on</i>
3/5/2013			

8. **SUBMITTED BY:** (contact person)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>
<i>Nancy Washer</i>	<i>Delta College Program</i>	<i>5233</i>	<i>nwasher@brockport.edu</i>

9. **COMMITTEES:** (Senate office use only)

Standing Committee	Forwarded To	Dates Forwarded
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Committee	Standing Committee	3/5/2013
<input type="checkbox"/> Enrollment Planning & Policies	Executive Committee	4/1/13
<input type="checkbox"/> Faculty & Professional Staff Policies	Senate	4/8/13, 4/22/13, 5/6/13
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Education & Curriculum Policies	Passed GED's go to Vice Provost	
<input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Curriculum & Policies	College President	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Policies	OTHER	
<input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Curriculum & Policies	REJECTED -WITHDRAWN	

NOTES: Postponed 4/22/13 to vote 5/6/13

# Delta College Foreign Language Reduction Proposal

## Summary

The Delta College faculty proposes to reduce our Foreign Language requirement from essentially three semesters to credit for Foreign Language 111 for our students seeking a Bachelor of Science degree. Delta College students seeking Bachelor of Arts degrees would still be required by their degree programs to complete one foreign language to the 212 level.

## Rationale:

First, The College at Brockport has reduced its Foreign Language requirement for General Education to one semester (credit for Foreign Language 111) for students seeking Bachelor of Science degrees; we would like to have our requirement be the same as the College's General Education requirement, since Delta College is principally a general education program. We do not question the value of foreign language acquisition, but follow the College's approach of embedding requirements within the degree program, major, or certification rather than in the General Education Program.

Second, our student demographic has changed since the program was reconfigured in 1995. Then the approximately thirty Delta College students per cohort all sought Bachelor of Arts degrees, requiring them to complete four semesters of one foreign language. Delta College provided much of that instruction through its own Language Tutorials. Now most of our sixty students per cohort seek Bachelor of Science degrees in virtually every major offered at the College, and we do not offer foreign language instruction. The current foreign language requirement is a vestige of the initial BA focus of the program and does not adequately reflect the needs of our current students to complete complex and course-intensive majors in a timely fashion. With our foreign language requirement set at 9 credits, the Delta College Program requires 65 credits; See Table 1.

Table 1. Delta College Current Curriculum and Curriculum with Proposed Change

<b>Current Requirements</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Proposed Requirements</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Educational Mentor Tutorial	2	Educational Mentor Tutorial	2
Human Heritage 1 and 2	6	Human Heritage 1 and 2	6
Society and Culture 1 and 2	6	Society and Culture 1 and 2	6
Aesthetic Experience 1 and 2	6	Aesthetics Experience 1 and 2	6
Scientific Exploration 1 and 2	7	Scientific Exploration 1 and 2	7
Technology and Society	3	Technology and Society	3
Approved Statistics Course	3	Approved statistics course	3
Integrative Learning Seminars 1, 2, and 3	7	Integrative Learning Seminars 1, 2, and 3	7
Integrative Learning Experiences 1, 2, and 3 (Required Internships)	16	Integrative Learning Experiences 1, 2, and 3 (Required Internships)	16
Foreign Language	9	Foreign Language	3
Total	65	Total	59

With the proposed change, the Delta College curriculum would be reduced by 6 credits to a total of 59, but it would still require many more credit hours than the regular general education program. See Table

2. It should be noted that the Delta College Program offers an integrated and interdisciplinary approach to the liberal arts and sciences, so the “Course Equivalents” listed on Tables 2 and 3 are approximate.

Table 2. Delta College Curriculum Compared to Brockport General Education Program:  
Current Requirements

<b>Brockport Gen-Ed Requirements</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Delta College’s Equivalent Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Academic Planning	1	Educational Mentor Tutorial	2
English 112	3	“ “	0*
2 Humanities	6	Human Heritage 1 and 2	6
2 Social Sciences	6	Society and Culture 1 and 2	6
Fine Arts and Fine Arts with Performance	6	Aesthetics Experience 1 and 2	6
Natural Science and Natural Science with Laboratory	7	Scientific Exploration 1 and 2	7
Contemporary Issues	3	Technology and Society	3
College Mathematics	3	Approved statistics course	3
Perspectives on Gender	0**-3	Society and Culture 2	0*
Diversity or Other World Civilizations	0**	Society and Culture 1 and 2	0*
Computer Skills	0	Integrative Learning Seminars 1, 2, and 3	7
Foreign Language	3	Foreign Language	9
Subtotal	38-41	Subtotal	49
		Integrative Learning Experiences 1, 2, and 3 (Required Internships)	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>38-41</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>

\*Credits already counted.

\*\*These requirements can or must be associated with Knowledge Area courses.

The College’s General Education Program and Delta College Program with three exceptions largely match each other in terms of credit hours required. The most notable difference between Delta College’s requirements and those of the College at Brockport is the 23 credits of Integrative Learning Seminars and Experiences that Delta College requires of its students, but is not part of the College’s requirements. The Integrative Learning Seminars provide instruction and experience in subjects not required by Brockport’s General Education Program and prepare students to pursue the required internships. The Integrative Learning Experiences are fulfilled through internships or study abroad; these activities may be pursued by students outside of the Delta College Program, but are not required by Brockport’s General Education Program. These additional credits reflect our mission to prepare students for life after college through internship preparation, internships, and study abroad. The next largest difference is the 9 credits of Foreign Language study or its equivalent that we currently require, and the smallest is our 2-credit Educational Mentor Tutorial that replaces 4 credits in the regular general education program. As a result, there are 21 credits within the Delta College courses alone that are over and beyond what is required by the College, plus 6 credits of foreign language study. Reducing the foreign language requirement to 3 credits would bring our credit requirements down to

59, which is still considerably higher than the College's 38-41 credits, but more manageable for our students. Without the required internships, the credit hours are almost the same, with Delta College's at 43. See Table 3.

Table 3. Delta College Curriculum Compared to Brockport General Education Program with Proposed Change in Foreign Language Requirement

<b>Brockport's Gen-Ed Requirements</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Delta College's Equivalent Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Academic Planning	1	Educational Mentor Tutorial	2
English 112	3	Educational Mentor Tutorial	0*
2 Humanities	6	Human Heritage 1 and 2	6
2 Social Sciences	6	Society and Culture 1 and 2	6
Fine Arts and Fine Arts with Performance	6	Aesthetics Experience 1 and 2	6
Natural Science and Natural Science with Laboratory	7	Scientific Exploration 1 and 2	7
Contemporary Issues	3	Technology and Society	3
College Mathematics	3	Approved statistics course	3
Perspectives on Gender	0**-3	Society and Culture 2	0*
Diversity or Other World Civilizations	0**	Society and Culture 1 and 2	0*
Computer Skills	0	Integrative Learning Seminars 1, 2, and 3	7
Foreign Language	3	Foreign Language	3
Subtotal	38-41	Subtotal	43
		Integrative Learning Experiences 1, 2, and 3 (Required Internships)	16
Total	38-41	Total	59

#### Potential Effects on Other Departments

The Department of Modern Languages and Literature would feel some effects from this change as fewer Delta College students would be taking foreign language courses above the 111 level. As a result, this proposed change would not require additional resources. It could actually allow all students at Brockport who need to take foreign language coursework to do so in a more timely fashion. **The Department of Modern Languages and Literature has reviewed this proposal. Although they do not support the reduction of the Foreign Language requirement, they do not believe it is their prerogative to determine our curriculum.** It should be noted that some Delta College students do seek Bachelor of Arts degrees, whose foreign language requirements would remain unchanged; these students would continue to take foreign language coursework above the 111 level.

# Attachment 1: Email of lack of objection to the proposal from the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures

**From:** "Parada, Andrea" <aparada@brockport.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: Delta College foreign language proposal  
**Date:** February 7, 2013 9:38:24 PM EST  
**To:** "Washer, Nancy" <nwasher@brockport.edu>

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Hi Nancy.

I am OK with the new version. Andrea

Andrea Parada  
Professor and Chair  
Modern Languages and Cultures  
Tower 103-A (585) 395-5840

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Attachment 2. Email of Support from Vice Provost P. Michael Fox (Delta College's "Dean")

**From:** "Fox, Michael" <mfox@brockport.edu>  
**Subject:** College Senate Actions  
**Date:** March 5, 2013 11:12:20 AM EST  
**To:** "Washer, Nancy" <nwasher@brockport.edu>

Nancy: Thanks for keeping me informed about the College Senate actions in progress related to Delta College.

I approve the changes in the foreign language requirement to bring this more in line with the requirement of the Traditional General Education program and to keep the credit load reasonable.

I also approve the changes in the course names and credit hours being proposed for the Delta College program.

P. Michael Fox PhD  
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs  
The College at Brockport, SUNY  
Brockport, NY 14420