

RESOLUTION

prepared by the Language Requirement Task Force
and submitted to the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences
May 2018

Whereas the Language Requirement Task Force, in the report it submitted to the Chancellor in April 2017, has proposed that the Schools comprising Rutgers University - New Brunswick adopt a one-credit language requirement in order to: 1) promote the study of world languages at RU-NB; 2) foster awareness of the benefits and processes of second-language learning and multilingualism; and 3) encourage RU-NB students to activate and nurture their own linguistic heritage and competences;

Whereas the proposed one-credit language requirement, if adopted, would be fulfilled in a wide variety of ways, including language courses at any level, stand-alone 1-credit or 1.5-credit courses in or about language(s) at any level, 1-credit or 1.5-credit language modules attached to courses in other fields at any level, and student activities (such as mentoring and conversation in a second language) at any level, developed and structured so as to be credit-bearing;

Whereas a truly informed faculty vote on the proposed one-credit language requirement should be able to assess its value and viability based on a clear notion of what it could accomplish and on sufficient preliminary experience with its content, management, and cost;

Therefore, be it resolved that:

- 1)** the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences, working in coordination with the School's leadership and with the School's language departments and programs, will dedicate two academic years (four semesters) to developing content that would fulfill the future one-credit requirement if adopted, as well as structures that would facilitate its implementation;
- 2)** the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences will engage in this development work on a voluntary basis: departments and programs, as well as individual faculty members, will freely commit to this task, and will have no obligation to engage in it as long as the requirement itself is not adopted;
- 3)** the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences, working in coordination with the School's leadership and with the School's language departments and programs, will develop content and create appropriate pilots in the three main forms mentioned above (courses, course modules, student activities), or any other form deemed fit to bear at least one credit;
- 4)** an Ad Hoc Committee, representative of the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences and all other participating Schools (*i.e.* Schools where a resolution similar to this one is adopted), will be appointed to monitor and coordinate this effort;
- 5)** a resolution to adopt the one-credit language requirement itself, stipulating its implementation schedule, will be submitted to the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences on the initiative of the Ad Hoc Committee after at least two years, but no more than three years, have elapsed since the passage of the present resolution, upon determining that enough content and structures have been created and experimented with to allow meaningful consideration and warrant a vote;
- 6)** while discussions about a larger requirement such as the one (6 to 8 credits) also proposed by the Task Force's report may have begun or begin at that stage, the one-credit language requirement will be the sole object of the adoption resolution mentioned in point 5 above.