### Non-English Languages and Cultures

* 1. **Course Description:** The Non-English Languages and Cultures Requirement emphasizes the essential role that language study plays in acquiring intercultural knowledge and participating meaningfully in global culture. The ability to operate between languages and cultures is essential for all of our students to think and act as responsible global citizens, to develop as effective communicators, and to understand the challenges of our world from diverse cultural perspectives. All students are required to take two sequential courses of a non-English language and culture at the college level to complete this requirement, preferably in the first two years of their studies. Students will be placed in the level appropriate to student competence as established by a formal evaluation.

Note: The working group has included extensive website language for exemptions and exclusions in a separate document.

* 1. **Criteria:** Non-English Languages and Cultures courses will:
     1. Provide ample and constant opportunities for students to practice the non-English target language.
     2. Meet proficiency benchmarks in reading, listening, speaking and writing skills set by the department or program offering the target language.
     3. Integrate study of the target language with the study of relevant cultures.
     4. Highlight ways in which cultural values and worldviews are articulated through the target language.
  2. **SLOs:** Non-English Languages and Cultures students will
     1. Increase their non-English language proficiency in listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing, as appropriate to the target language, in order to develop effective communication skills across languages and cultures.
     2. Students will acquire knowledge and appreciation of products, practices, and perspectives of cultures related to the target language to develop the intercultural skills needed to ethically engage the world in its diversity.
     3. Students will place their own cultural values in dialogue with the values of cultures related to the target language to better understand connections and divergences among global cultures.

**Additional Considerations:** a third sequential semester of language study could count towards the Global Affairs and Cultures requirement, if that course meets the area designation criteria.