

Tip Sheet for Advisors—Spanish Placement Test, the Language Requirement, and Course Offerings for Fall 2016

Students who place into SPAN 101 or who have not studied Spanish in high school:

- If your advisees took Spanish in high school, placed into SPAN 101, and want to fulfill their language requirement with Spanish, they must pursue Spanish through the intermediate level: 101, 102, 111, 112 or 101, 102, 121.
- Students who have not taken Spanish in high school and Horizon students can fulfill the language requirement in Spanish by successfully completing SPAN 101-102.

Students who place into SPAN 110:

SPAN 110 is Accelerated Elementary Spanish. It is a course for students who have had some Spanish in high school but who are not quite ready for the intermediate level. 110 condenses all of the elementary year into one semester. If any of your advisees place into this course, they can complete LAN in one of two ways: 110, 111, 112, or 110, 121. The latter option (110, 121) will allow students to complete two years of Spanish in two semesters, but please forewarn your advisees that this combination of classes is not for the faint of heart! Also, students must earn at least a B in 110 to be eligible to take 121.

We have given a few students the option of taking 101 or 110. Depending on their level of recall and comfort, these students can decide whether they want to start from scratch (with 101) or take the accelerated course (110) for a good, comprehensive review.

We have also given a few students the option of 110 or 111. If you have advisees in this situation, they can decide whether they want to take their first course at the elementary level or the intermediate level (depending on their level of comfort and how much they remember).

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS YEAR SPAN 110 IS ONLY OFFERED IN THE SPRING SEMESTER.

Students who place into SPAN 111 or 121:

Some of your advisees may have received a placement test score of “111,” “121,” or “111 or 121.”

- Students who have taken Spanish in high school, have placed into 111, and want to fulfill their language requirement with Spanish must complete the full-year sequence of intermediate Spanish (111-112).
- SPAN 121 compresses the intermediate sequence into one class. Students who place into 121 and successfully complete the course will have fulfilled the language requirement in

one term. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS YEAR 121 IS ONLY OFFERED IN THE FALL SEMESTER.**

- Students who receive a placement of “111 or 121” can decide whether they want to take the slower route (111-112) or if they want to take the accelerated class (121). Please note that some students may jump at the chance to take 121 in order to finish their requirement by the end of fall term. However, we would like to ask you to caution them that 121 is a very fast-paced class. Only students who feel pretty confident about their abilities in the language should choose this option. Their placement tests indicate that they are probably able to handle 121, but once again, these accelerated courses are not for the faint of heart. We especially encourage students who are interested in majoring or minoring in Spanish to take 121 as soon as possible. We will certainly let students know during the first few days of class if they are in over their heads in 121.

Students who place into SPAN 231 (Conversation/Composition—Topics); 243 (Modern Hispanic Culture/Literature); 341 (20th and 21st Century Hispanic Relations):

- Students who have placed into the 200 and 300 levels have completed their language requirement, but we hope you will encourage them to continue studying Spanish. They have obviously worked hard to reach this level of proficiency and it would be a shame for them not to continue with the language. With this level of placement, a student can receive a minor in Spanish with six courses and a major with eight courses.
- If your advisees placed into either the 200 or 300 level and they are nervous about taking an upper-level class, please steer them toward 231 or 243, or send them to talk to one of us at the Academic Fair.

Students who have received a 4 or 5 on a Spanish Advanced Placement Test:

- While these students have satisfied LAN, we hope you will encourage them to continue with their Spanish studies. They can enroll in either SPAN 231 or 243. They may also be eligible to take 341, but we would like to talk to them first (please have them stop by the Spanish table at the Academic Fair). Students who have this level of placement through an Advanced Placement exam are strong candidates for a minor or major in Spanish at Hollins.

Please e-mail (aridley@hollins.edu or diazam@hollins.edu) or call us (540- 589-6053—Alison; x6644—Ángel) if you have questions about the Spanish placement test results or if you have students who need to discuss their scores. The test will be available on Moodle through orientation and registration (for new students who did not take it over the summer). **Please note that all students who took Spanish in high school must take the Spanish placement test prior to beginning their first semester.** Even if your advisees do not think they will continue with Spanish at Hollins, they still need to take the test. We will no longer offer the test to students after their first enrolled semester.