Korean Proficiency & Placement

See also general information on Proficiency Exams and Placement Interviews.

Proficiency Exams measure your ability in a language and are used to satisfy or waive language requirements.

Placement Interviews determine which language class is appropriate for your background and ability, and are only necessary if you intend to take the course. The interview results cannot be substituted for a proficiency exam.

The department does not offer either Proficiency or Placement to those outside the University.

Proficiency Exam

To show proficiency in Korean language through the first year, or to waive the language requirement, you must take the Korean Proficiency Exam (KR100A) administered in the Office of Educational Assessment in 440 Schmitz Hall, (206) 543-1171. Contact the OEA to set up a date and time for you to take this Proficiency Exam.

The KR100A consists of a listening section followed by a written section (vocabulary, grammar, and reading). If you receive a score of 66 to 90, you are exempted from the general language requirement for graduation. There is no re-test policy or waiting period. You may retake KR100A at any time.

If you want to prove that you are proficient at the second-year level, take KR200A. Taking KR200A may not exempt you from the language requirement of your major, if what is required is the in-class time rather than the proficiency at that level. Confirm the requirement with the advisor in your department. There is no re-test policy or waiting period. You may retake KR200A at any time.

Placement Interview

If you have taken Korean at the University of Washington, then you can simply register for the next class in the sequence.

If you have taken college-level Korean at an institution other than the University of Washington, (or have received Advance Placement credit), then please take one of the following surveys:

- Take this survey if you think you are at a first-year-level.
- Take this survey if you think you are at a second-year-level.
- Take this survey if you think you are at a third-year-level.

If you have questions about placement, if you're not sure of what level you might be, or if you desire to major or minor in Korean, contact the following Professors:

100 Level (K101, 102, 103): EunYoung Won
200 Level (K201, 202, 203): JungHee Kim

300 Level (K301, 302, 303): JungHee Kim

400 Level (K415, 416, 417): Heekyoung Cho

If you feel that your placement is inappropriate or have concerns about a particular placement, you should make an appointment with the instructor in charge of the course. If you are already taking a course and discover that your placement is not appropriate, he or she should talk to the instructor within the first two weeks of the course for assistance.

Do NOT take any written tests at UW until you are told to do so.

The University of Washington is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. If you are a student with a documented disability and need to request disability accommodation(s) for your interview, please contact the Disability Services Office at least ten days in advance of your scheduled interview date at: 206.543.6450/V, 206.543.6452/TTY, 206.685.7264 (FAX), or e-mail at dso@uw.edu.

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