



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE ACADEMIC DEAN AND PROVOST
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
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ACDEANINST 1531.9
2/ADAA
26 November 2019

ACADEMIC DEAN AND PROVOST INSTRUCTION 1531.9

From: Academic Dean and Provost

Subj: LANGUAGE MINOR POLICY

Ref: (a) ACDEANINST 1531.10 Humanities and Social Sciences Electives

1. Purpose. To ensure breadth in the education for all midshipmen, the Minor Program in all seven languages has been made equally accessible to all students. This is accomplished by equalizing the requirements for the minor in all languages, with the result that all language minors, including minors in French, German and Spanish, can be completed within a three-year period, starting at the 100 level, by all midshipmen with adequate space in their matrix who place at that level. This minor policy replaces the previous minor policy guidance in section 2b of Reference (a) for all students in the class of 2023. Students in classes 2020, 2021, and 2022 will be assessed minor completion with either policy.

2. Minor requirements. The following minor requirements are now in place:

a. The new minor will require a minimum of six courses (18 credits). A midshipman must have an average grade of 3.0 in the 18 credit hours of target language classes designated to earn the minor.

b. Through language placement any midshipman can alleviate a maximum of two courses (six credits) toward the minor.

i. As an example, a student who places at or above the 200 level of Spanish will be able to use six credits toward the minor. That student shall take an additional 12 credits (four courses) during the course of a career at USNA with a minimum 3.0 average to complete the minor.

c. Students pursuing the minor will be placed at the appropriate initial level of study according to performance on the placement exam which will be administered prior to arrival at USNA. Candidates for the minor will be required to begin the minor at the level in which they are placed.

d. It is possible that language immersion programs (such as LSAP or STEM language intensive summer programs) vetted by professors in the Languages and Cultures Department, semester study abroad, or CLS (Critical Language Scholarship program) may alleviate one but no more than two additional courses, or six credits.

i. As an example, a student who participates in Semester Study Abroad to Morocco and validates three Arabic courses upon his or her return, may only use two of these courses towards a minor.

e. In all cases, a minimum of two language courses (six credits) must be taken in residence at USNA, with a 3.0 GPA, in order to complete a language minor.

3. Summary. The ultimate goal of this change is to broaden and deepen the competency of the Brigade of Midshipmen in foreign languages and cultures and to produce graduates who possess a fundamental understanding of foreign languages and societies from linguistic, literary, cultural and geopolitical perspectives. All questions regarding this instruction should be directed to the Chair of the Language and Cultures Department. A summary of the minor policy in shorter form can be found on the USNA Intranet site at the following URL;
<https://intranet.usna.edu/LanguagesAndCultures/Academics/Language-Minors.php>

4. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned for the standard subject identification codes (SSIC) 1000 through 13000 series per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy/Assistant for Administration (DON/ AA), Directives and Records Management Division (DRMD) portal page at [https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-InformationManagement/ Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/ AllItems.aspx](https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-InformationManagement/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx).

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact your local records manager or the DON/ AA DRMD program office.

5. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215 .17 A, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its effective date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, DoD, SECNAV, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction.



A.T. PHILLIPS