

UCEAP Language Prerequisite Guide: Spanish & Portuguese

How to Satisfy the Language Prerequisite

It is possible to satisfy the language prerequisite of a UCEAP program in three ways. Applicants' language backgrounds are reviewed based on the most recent instruction/evaluation and in the order the methods are listed.

- 1. Coursework** (preferred method): complete the necessary coursework at Berkeley, another institution (such as a community college), or through an EAP program
- 2. Exam Scores:** receive the necessary score on an AP, SAT II, or IB exam.
- 3. Language Evaluation:** complete an EAP Language Evaluation with the Spanish and Portuguese Department to verify that you have met the language prerequisite.

The following **Equivalencies Chart** lists Berkeley courses, exam scores, etc. that satisfy various EAP language prerequisites.

	UCEAP Language Prerequisite	Semesters of Coursework	Berkeley Courses*			AP Spanish Language Exam Score	SAT II Spanish Subject Test Score	IB Higher Level Exam Score	High School Language Course-work
Spanish	1 year of university-level Spanish	2 semesters Spanish	Spanish 2			3	350	4	4 years
		3 semesters Spanish	Spanish 3	Spanish 21		4	450		
	2 years of university-level Spanish	4 semesters Spanish	Spanish 4	Spanish 22		5	550	7	
		5 semesters Spanish	Spanish 25						
Portuguese**	1 year of university-level Portuguese	2 semesters Portuguese	Portuguese 50						

*If you've taken coursework beyond the level of the Berkeley courses listed in the equivalencies chart above, then you have satisfied the language prerequisite. For example, if the first Spanish class you took at Berkeley was Spanish 25, then you have progressed beyond the equivalent of 2 years of university-level Spanish.

The language prerequisite for the immersion tracks in Brazil can be satisfied with either Portuguese **or twice the amount of university-level Spanish. For example, the 1 year of university-level Portuguese prerequisite can be satisfied with 2 years of university-level Spanish. For more information please contact the BSA Adviser working with UCEAP Brazil programs.

Satisfy the Language Prerequisite with a UCEAP Program

Some UCEAP programs can be used to fulfill the language requirement for another UCEAP program. Please check with the EAP Adviser for further details.

1. Coursework

Most students satisfy the language prerequisite with coursework. This is the preferred method. Some important things to consider:

- **Classes taken P/NP**

If you've taken a language course at UC Berkeley or at another college on a Pass/Not Pass basis, please ask your instructor to provide a written statement of your letter-grade equivalent for the class. This can be written in a letter format to be included with your application or the information can be emailed to the BSA adviser by your instructor by the application deadline.

- **Time elapsed since your last language course**

If by the time the UCEAP program starts, it will have been more than two years since your last language course, you may be required to take an additional course to refresh your proficiency.

- **Using courses taken at another institution or high school to satisfy the language prerequisite**

- **You must provide documentation in your application to verify completion of the course(s)**

Unofficial copies of your non-UCB or high school transcript (e.g. a photocopy or online print out with your name clearly stated) are acceptable. Submit these with your UCEAP application.

- The BSA Adviser will review the course description(s), use [ASSIST.org](https://assist.org), and/or consult with the Spanish and Portuguese Department to confirm that the courses you've taken are considered equivalent to the Berkeley courses which satisfy the language prerequisite.

If you have any questions about whether the coursework you have completed at another institution is equivalent to Berkeley coursework, consult with the BSA Adviser before applying.

2. Exam Scores

If you have not taken the courses necessary to fulfill the language prerequisite, you may be able to satisfy the prerequisite with scores you received on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam, SAT II exam, or International Baccalaureate (IB) exam. Some important things to consider:

- **You must provide documentation to verify your exam score**

If your exam score appears on your CalCentral Transfer Credit report, you do not need to submit additional documentation. If your exam score is *not* listed on your CalCentral Transfer Credit report, you must submit an unofficial copy of your score report (e.g. a photocopy or online print out with your name clearly stated).

- **Time elapsed since you took the exam**

If by the time the EAP program starts it will have been more than two years since you took the exam, you may be required to take a course to refresh your proficiency.

3. Language Evaluation

If you feel that you have the degree of language proficiency necessary for the program because you are a heritage speaker, you have studied the language independently, etc., you must provide verification of this by completing a Language Evaluation.

How to schedule a Language Evaluation with the Spanish and Portuguese Department

1. Email your [Berkeley Study Abroad Adviser](#) with the following information well in advance of the application deadline.
 - Your name
 - UCEAP program of interest
 - A brief 1-2 paragraph description of your Spanish or Portuguese language background and training (number of years, level, gaps in study)
2. Your request will be shared with UCEAP staff who will connect you with an evaluator.
3. Upon completion of the assessment, the results will be shared with UCEAP. If you receive the results via email, save the email as a PDF to upload onto your BSA and UCEAP application portals.