

## Preparatory Language Course Organization (Lettorati) for Degree Programs offered by the Department of Studies in Language and Culture

### GUIDELINES

#### Course Offerings

In order to graduate, some degree programs require students to achieve a language competence level as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. In detail:

- the “Lingue e Culture Europee Bachelor’s degree (LCE)” requires at least a C1 in the first language and B2 in another language
- the “Storia e Culture Contemporanee Bachelor’s degree (SCC)” requires at least a B2 English level
- the “Languages for Communication in international enterprises and organizations (LACOM)” Master’s degrees and “Lingue, Culture, Comunicazione (LCC)” require a C2 in the first language and at least a C1 in the second language

Any higher level will be a plus and may positively affect the final grade assigned by the teachers holding core courses.

The final language competence level is assessed through an exam named LANGUAGE COMPETENCE LEVEL (LCL) prepared by the University Language Centre (CLA)’s teachers and it is required by LCE, LACOM and LCC degree programs for graduation.

In order to achieve the language competence levels required, students attending LCE, LACOM and LCC courses will have to achieve a minimum level of language communicative skills by attending preparatory language courses (see table 1 for further details).

Students will join different preparatory language courses according to their preliminary language level, as reported by table 1. Second and third-year students will join preparatory language courses organized by the CLA according to the average students’ level for each course year. Preparatory language courses are full year courses with no more than 25 attendees per course.

#### Assessment methods

Both attending and non-attending students of LCE first and second year, SCC first year and LACOM and LCC first year will be evaluated through final or ongoing tests to check the achievement of the minimum language proficiency levels (see table 1).

**LCE students having an international language certificate** for the proficiency level required by the end of any of the three years are **EXEMPT from taking both the final test and LCL exam** in their first and second languages. However, **having a certificate does NOT exempt students from attending** any of the preparatory language courses of the three academic years. Students can submit more than one language certificate. LCE students who have an international language certificate and still would like to be assessed by their language instructors, will be given a mark adding up the grades of the corresponding core language courses for their degree.

**LACOM and LCC students having either two C2 language certificates or a C2 language certificate in their first language of study and a C1 language certificate in their second language of study, are EXEMPT from taking preparatory language courses final test and LCL exam.**

If the certificate refers to a lower proficiency level than the one required by the end of the year, **it does NOT exempt them from attending the first year preparatory language courses and from**

**taking the related final test.** In this case, at the end of the first year, students must prove that their language proficiency corresponds to the language competence level required, as listed in Table 1. Such proficiency will be assessed through ongoing tests for attending students and with a specific final test (prova sommativa) for non-attending students.

Preparatory language course attendance is **highly recommended** for all the students, including those who already have a certificate corresponding to the final proficiency level required.

**SCC** language entry level will be assessed with a specific test or after a language certificate is presented. The international certificate must be at least B2 and in its original copy, and it must be submitted to the instructor teaching the courses, providing that it is listed in the table of those accepted by CLA. Passing the test or presenting such a certificate will exempt students from compulsory attendance of the English preparatory language courses and from taking its related final test (first year). Students who fail the test or do not submit any certificate must attend preparatory language courses and pass their related final tests to have access to the English course exam.

### *Attending students*

70% course attendance is required to be considered an attending student.

Attending students will be assessed through in-class evaluations based on the skills required by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening, reading, writing, oral interaction and production.

Ongoing tests for attending students will be prepared by language instructors (CEL – Collaboratori ed Esperti Linguistici).

### *Non-attending students*

Non-attending students, fuori corso<sup>1</sup> students or those who have not been assessed will have to take a final test (prova sommativa) to be assessed on the skills trained during the full-year course.

### **Access to exams**

LCE students must achieve the required language level in order to have first- and second-year language exams registered. On the contrary, the LCE third year core language exam can be taken independently from LCL exams.

As mentioned above, SCC students are required to achieve at least B2 level to access the core language exam.

Languages for Communication in international enterprises and organizations (LACOM) and Lingue, Culture, Comunicazione (LCC) students must achieve a minimum language proficiency level by the end of the first year to have access to first and second language LCL exams. The minimum level achievement can be assessed through an ongoing or a final test, implying that the first chance to take the LCL exam is during the summer session (June) at the end of the first year.

LACOM and LCC students have access to first- and second-year core language exams independently from LCL exams.

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<sup>1</sup> Fuori corso: students that haven't completed their exams within the required deadlines

Language Competence Level (LCL) must be achieved and certified before graduation, both for bachelor's and master's degrees. In particular:

- B2 level for LCE second language
- C1 level for LCE first language, LACOM and LCC second language
- C2 level for LCC and LACOM first language

### Language Competence Level (LCL) final mark

The Language Competence Level (LCL) needed to graduate complies with the Common European Framework of Reference for language levels. It is assessed by CLA's teachers through an exam based on international language certificate tests. Proficiency in the required level will be recorded on Esse3.

Additional information about English, French, German and Spanish LCL exams can be found on the "LCL" section of the CLA website: <http://www.clamore.unimore.it/en/exams/lcl>  
LCL exams apply to LCE, LACOM and LCC degrees only.

### Other certifications

The final language competence level can be replaced by an international recognized certification for the same level. The minimum linguistic levels to be achieved are the following:

- B2 for LCE second language and SCC English language
- C1 for LCE first language, LACOM and LCC second language
- C2 for LCC and LACOM first language

Equivalent certifications can be found on the CLA website:

<http://www.clamore.unimore.it/en/certifications/info> (regularly updated).

The certifications replacing LCL tests that do not indicate any expiry date do not have any expiration.

### Third language (LCE students only)

The minimum final language competence level required for third languages is reported in Table 1 and cannot, in any case, replace the minimum level required by first and second languages.

Table 1  
LANGUAGE COMPETENCE LEVELS

PREPARATORY LANGUAGE COURSES OUTLINE for language degrees

### LCE

### FIRST AND SECOND LANGUAGES

LCE – 1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR				
1 <sup>ST</sup> LANGUAGE ENTRY LEVEL	2 <sup>ND</sup> LANGUAGE ENTRY LEVEL		1 <sup>ST</sup> LANGUAGE MINIMUM FINAL LEVEL	2 <sup>ND</sup> LANGUAGE MINIMUM FINAL LEVEL
Lower than C1	Lower than A2		B1/B2	A2
B1	A2		B2	B1

B2	B1		B2+	B1+
B2/C1	B1/B2		C1	B2
<b>LCE – 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR</b>				
1 <sup>ST</sup> LANGUAGE LEVEL	2 <sup>ND</sup> LANGUAGE LEVEL		1 <sup>ST</sup> LANGUAGE MINIMUM FINAL LEVEL	2 <sup>ND</sup> LANGUAGE MINIMUM FINAL LEVEL
B1/B2	A2/B1		B2	B1+
B2	B1		B2+	B1/B2
B2+/C1	B1+/B2		C1	B2
<b>LCE – 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR</b>				
1 <sup>ST</sup> LANGUAGE LEVEL	2 <sup>ND</sup> LANGUAGE LEVEL		1 <sup>ST</sup> LANGUAGE MINIMUM FINAL LEVEL	2 <sup>ND</sup> LANGUAGE MINIMUM FINAL LEVEL
B2 and higher	B1/B2 and higher		C1	B2

### THIRD LANGUAGES – LCE

LANGUAGE	1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR FINAL LEVEL	2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR FINAL LEVEL
French	A2	B1
Spanish	A2	B1
German	A2	B1
Arabic	A1	A2
Chinese	A1	A2
Russian	A1	A2

### SCC

LANGUAGE	1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR ENTRY LEVEL	MINIMUM FINAL LEVEL
ENGLISH	A1	B2

### MASTER'S DEGREES

<b>LACOM AND LCC – 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR</b>		
ENTRY LEVEL		MINIMUM FINAL LEVEL
B2		B2/C1
C1		C1/C2
<b>LACOM AND LCC – 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR</b>		
ENTRY LEVEL		MINIMUM FINAL LEVEL
B2/C1		C1
C1/C2		C2