

Accessibility Services Office

Foreign Language Substitution Petition Process (FLS)

Students who have a diagnosed learning, speech, or hearing disability may qualify for a Foreign Language Substitution (FLS). The required documentation shows, quantitatively and qualitatively, that foreign language learning is impossible due to the student's functional limitations. Decisions regarding FLS are made following an interactive process with the student, following documentation review.

What are the directions for completing the FLS petition process?

1. Begin the FLS the first semester of enrollment at Ohio Wesleyan University. The process should be completed prior to the third semester of enrollment.
2. Provide the Accessibility Services Office (ASO) with professional documentation of your disability. This is required for any FLS requests. Documentation may include:
 - a. A complete psycho-educational battery of tests, including testing that substantiates a language-based learning disability.
 - b. A recommendation for a foreign language substitution.

Note: Requests to substitute foreign language requirements which do not contain all required information may result in automatic denial.

Note: Documentation of the disability should be submitted to the Accessibility Services Office in Hamilton-Williams Campus Center, Suite 324.

3. Write a Personal Statement describing your history with regard to foreign language learning and how your disability condition(s) make(s) it difficult or impossible for you to learn an additional language. You may submit the personal statement as a word or google document. The Accessibility Services Office and Writing Center Tutors (within the Sagan Academic Resource Center) are available for assistance with this step.

Note: Link the impact of your disability to your ability to learn a language. Describe previous attempts at learning a foreign language and the results, including the input you received from support professionals and your family.

4. Submit your completed Personal Statement, and any additional documentation of your disability (optional if you are already registered with the (ASO) to the Accessibility Services Office.

Note: The ASO Director needs to know if you were exempt in high school. If not exempt, a description of how you were successful in the foreign language courses.

5. The ASO Director will request a follow-up meeting with the student to review the language learning concerns, as part of the individualized process to consider necessary accommodations for access.

Note: The ASO Director may ask for further documentation to identify the impact of your disability on language acquisition.

6. You will receive notification of the ASO Director's decision by way of your OWU email account, so check it often. If your FLS request is not granted, you may appeal the decision, but additional documentation may be required as part of the ongoing interactive process.
7. Meet with your faculty advisor immediately upon receiving the decision regarding your FLS request.
 - a. If your FLS request is granted, identify two courses to substitute for the foreign language requirement. The list of approved courses is below.

Note: Replacement courses may not be used to meet distribution requirements, to count toward a major or minor, or to fulfill any University requirement other than as a substitute for foreign language competency. Upper level (300+) courses taken as FLS will count toward the total number of upper level course credits attained. FLS courses can also be taken as a Writing Intensive, should that be an option for the course, and should the student add that option.

- b. If you successfully complete one language course, you need to select only one course as a substitution. If you attempt a language course and later seek the FLS, the originally-attempted course grade will **not** be deleted from your transcript. Also, students cannot have a language substitution approved late in the semester and be approved to withdraw from a language course after week 10.
 - c. The Registrar's Office will need to manually update your degree audit for every class taken as a substitution. You will need to inform the office with your class choice every time.

Course substitution options are listed below. If you have any questions or concerns about the FLS Process, please consult with Amanda Rodenburg, Director of Accessibility, at anrodenborg@owu.edu or 740-368-3990.

Approved Foreign Language Substitution Options:

- ART 300_3 Romanticism to Realism: European Art 1750-1850 Modern Europe
- ART 341 Classical Art Classical Europe
- ART 348 Asian Art
- ART 349 Islamic Art Middle East
- BUS 476 International Business Management
- BWS 300_3 East African Culture Africa
- BWS 300_5 African Medical System Africa
- BWS 305 Contemporary Africa in Focus Africa
- CLAS 122 Classical Mythology Classical Europe
- CLAS 251 Women in Antiquity Classical Europe
- CLAS 310 Archaic and Classical Greece Classical Europe
- CLAS 321 The Roman Republic Classical Europe
- CLAS 322 The Roman Empire Classical Europe
- COMM 300_2 Intercultural Communication Unspecified
- GEOG 333 Latin American Geographies Latin America
- HIST 110 Introduction to Ancient History Classical Europe
- HIST 112 Introduction to Modern European History Modern Europe
- HIST 115 Introduction to Latin American History Latin America
- HIST 116 Introduction to Pacific Asia
- HIST 275 Modern China Asia
- HIST 320 Middle East Middle East
- HIST 325 Modern Japan Asia
- HIST 332 Argentina, Brazil, and Chile Since Independence Latin America
- HIST 333 Modern Latin America: 1800 to Present Latin America
- HIST 352 20th Century Europe Modern Europe
- HIST 362 Imperial Russia and the Soviet Union since 1801 Modern Europe
- HIST 324_C Intellectual History of Modern China Latin America
- HIST 335_A Latin America in Revolution Latin America
- PG 346 European Politics Modern Europe
- PG 348 Latin American Politics Latin America
- PG 349 East Asian Politics Asia
- REL 104 Mystical Religions of the East Asia
- REL 141 Islam: An Introduction Modern Europe
- REL 300_4 Modern Islam Middle East
- REL 300_6 Medieval Islamic Societies Middle East
- REL 343 Hindu Gods, Goddesses, and Goodnesses Asia
- REL 346 Chinese and Japanese Religions Asia
- SOAN 293 People and Cultures of Southeast and East Asia Asia
- SOAN 294 Societies and Cultures of the Middle East Middle East