

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES

ORAL PROFICIENCY INTERVIEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

During their final semester before graduation, all French and Spanish majors and double majors are required to do an oral proficiency interview (OPI) with a certified faculty tester. This test constitutes an assessment device only. A weak performance will not prevent a student from graduating.

It is the responsibility of the student to schedule the OPI in a timely manner. Please contact Dana Frase, the Modern Languages Administrative Assistant, at 330-972-7486 for information about scheduling.

For its graduating majors, *graduate students, and for non-native Spanish speaking applicants to the Masters Program in Spanish, the Department of Modern Languages provides an OPI and rating administered by an ACTFL certified departmental tester. Students who wish a second rating will have the privilege of being administered another OPI by a departmental tester only after having made a significant effort to improve their oral proficiency through engaging in a minimum of one month of departmentally approved study abroad or the equivalent. The student must submit in advance to the department chair a letter requesting approval of the study plan accompanied by documentation. Verification of satisfactory completion of the proposed study must be provided before a second departmental OPI will be granted. In all instances, the option also is available for any student to arrange on his/her own for a paid OPI directly through ACTFL – www.languagetesting.com*

PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING AN OFFICIAL ACTFL CERTIFICATE: For students desiring an official ACTFL OPI rating certificate based on a second rating done by a certified external examiner, the following policy and procedures apply:

- a. The department will provide two tapes: One for the original recording that will be sent to ACTFL, and one for the department to keep on file.
- b. If the student desires a personal copy of the recorded interview, he/she must provide an additional tape.
- c. The student must provide the department with a photocopy of a picture ID.
- d. The student will be assessed a \$5.00 fee to cover the cost of the tapes, processing and mailing. The fee must be paid in the form of a personal check or money order made out to “The University of Akron.” The check must be delivered to the departmental administrative assistant. NO CASH.
- e. The student also must provide a personal check or money order in the amount of \$30.00 made out to LTI (the ACTFL testing office).
- f. The department will provide the padded envelope for mailing the tape and necessary forms to ACTFL.
- g. The Department will mail the sample to ACTFL, together with the required forms, paying the postage.