Date: August 26th, 2019

To: Graduate Advisors & Graduate Coordinators of Departments with Foreign Language Requirements

From: Dr. Carrie Smith, Chair
Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies
200 Arts

Re: Graduate Language Proficiency Examination Procedure

Please find enclosed all the pertinent information you will need to prepare your students to meet their foreign language requirements. Please share this information with faculty members in your department so they can advise their students appropriately.

Please note that the Fall Exam is now scheduled for October.

Thank you.

[Signature]
Graduate Language Proficiency Examination for courses taught by MLCS

Graduate Students are reminded that in accordance with regulations outlined in the Calendar of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, section 203.7, they may have to meet a language requirement. This requirement may be met in one of the following ways:

- A student may have taken and obtained a grade of C+ or better in any 212 intermediate level language or the equivalent, other than English. The course(s) must not have been taken more than three years prior to admission as a provisional PhD or MA candidate.
- Students may take the appropriate undergraduate course(s) but with a graduate course number and must receive a minimum grade of C+. Please contact our Undergraduate Advisor, to request an upgrade to a graduate course number. The student will continue to attend the undergraduate course section and complete all course requirements. The grade received will show as CR or NC.
- If students have a reading knowledge of the language, they may take the Graduate Language Proficiency Examination given by MLCS.

For the Proficiency Examination, students will demonstrate their ability to comprehend written material in the target language at the intermediate level. Students will be provided with a written passage (approximately 1200-1500 words in length) and a series of reading comprehension questions. With the help of a dictionary, the student must read the text and provide written answers in English. The time allowed for the examination is two hours. If the student does not pass the exam, he or she may attempt writing it a second time.

Upon completion of the examination, notification will be sent to the Graduate Contact of the student’s department. Students who are not successful in the examination may present themselves at any subsequent date listed below or consider taking one of our language courses.
Students who speak another language fluently should contact their own department about waiving the requirement. **Please note that MLCS no longer offers an Advanced Language Proficiency Examination.**

STUDENTS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT, IF THEY DO NOT SATISFACTORILY COMPLETE THE LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION WELL IN ADVANCE OF THEIR CANDIDACY EXAMINATION, THEY RUN THE RISK OF HAVING INSUFFICIENT TIME TO MEET THE LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT.

**Graduate Language Proficiency Examination Dates and Deadlines**

The Proficiency Examinations are held twice a year during the months of October and March. Please email mlcs@ualberta.ca to make an appointment to write the exam. You must register at least one week in advance.

**Next scheduled sessions:**

Date: Wednesday, October 23rd, 2019  
Time: 09:30 or 13:30  
Registration deadline: October 16th, 2019

Date: Wednesday, March 18th, 2020  
Time: 09:30 or 13:30  
Registration deadline: March 11th, 2020