

# AACR 6

Office of the President  
June 14, 2005

Members, Board of Trustees:

## MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING WORLD LANGUAGES

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Arts in Teaching World Languages degree program in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Background: It is generally acknowledged that certified teachers are in short supply nationwide in a number of subject areas. This shortage is particularly acute in the area of world languages as globalization in its various forms has heightened awareness of the importance of this general subject area in P-12 curriculum. While world languages are not currently considered part of the academic core curriculum in Kentucky schools, there is a statewide mandate that as of 2003-04 all college-bound high school students are expected to have completed two years of a world language successfully as a condition of their admission to Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions. This mandate has exacerbated an already existing shortage of teachers in this subject area. To help meet the critical need for more world language teachers in Kentucky schools, the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures, in cooperation with the Department of Hispanic Studies and the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, proposes the new degree program. The proposed program is also in keeping with the prioritization of international studies and teacher preparation as areas for future development in the current strategic plan.

The proposed program will be centered in the College of Arts and Sciences rather than the College of Education though faculty in the College of Education will continue to teach a number of the courses that are required of students enrolled in the program. This shift reflects a greater emphasis on content-based courses in the curriculum as well as the fact expertise in world language education and second language acquisition is already concentrated in the two language departments and the Program in Linguistics. The program initially provides for certification of teachers in French, German, Latin, Russian, and Spanish, making it the only program in the state that will offer certification in Latin and Russian.

This program has the approval of the Graduate Council and Senate Council and has completed the forty-five day review by the Council on Postsecondary Education. The Interim Provost of the university supports this recommendation.

---

Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_