

ACTFL

The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages is the only national organization dedicated to the improvement and expansion of the teaching and learning of all languages at all levels of instruction. ACTFL is an individual membership organization of more than 7,000 foreign language educators and administrators from elementary through graduate education, as well as government and industry.

ACE

The American Council on Education is an independent, nonprofit organization founded in 1918 as an umbrella organization of approximately 1,800 U.S. colleges and universities. It provides a forum for discussion and decision-making on education issues of national importance and seeks to coordinate the interests of all segments of the higher education community into a single voice.

The ACE College Credit Recommendation Service, founded in 1974, assists adult learners in gaining academic recognition for formal learning acquired outside the traditional college or university setting. The ACE college credit recommendations are published in The National Guide to Educational Credit for Training Programs and the Guide to Educational Credit by Examination.



American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
LTI: The ACTFL Testing Office
95 Church Street - Suite 310
White Plains, NY 10601
(914) 948-5100
E-mail: testing@languagetesting.com
www.languagetesting.com

© 2001 by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages



The ACTFL
Oral Proficiency
Interview

The ACTFL OPI
for ACE
College Credit
Recommendation



*For Speaking Proficiency
in 37 World Languages*

CREDIT™

The ACE College Credit
Recommendation Service



AMERICAN COUNCIL
ON THE TEACHING
OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

About the ACTFL OPI

The ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) is a valid and reliable means of assessing how well a person speaks a language. It is a face-to-face or telephonic interview between a certified ACTFL tester and an examinee. The interview is interactive and continuously adapts to the interests and the abilities of the speaker. The speaker's performance is compared to the criteria outlined in the *ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines – Speaking* (Revised 1999) and a proficiency rating is assigned.

ACE Credit Recommendation

The ACTFL OPI has been favorably reviewed by the American Council on Education (ACE) College Credit Recommendation Service. This means that students who have spoken language proficiency in one of 37 world languages may have the opportunity to be awarded college credit for that competency whether they learned the language in a classroom or non-classroom setting.

To Measure Language Proficiency Gained through Non-Traditional Means

Because the ACTFL OPI is a holistic assessment that acknowledges language proficiency regardless of where or how it is gained, OPI testing recognizes speaking competence gained outside of traditional college or institutional settings, e.g., heritage speakers, Peace Corps volunteers, missionaries, and others who have lived abroad for extended periods of time.

Speakers of Less Commonly Taught Languages

The ACTFL OPI offers students of less commonly taught languages the same advantages as those made available to students of French, German, and Spanish, who historically have had a variety of ACE recommended standardized testing options to gain credit for demonstrated language competence.

ACTFL OPI Testing in 37 World Languages

As of the printing of this brochure, OPI testing is available in the following languages:

Arabic	Hindi	Serbian
Cambodian	Hmong	Slovak
Cantonese	Indonesian	Spanish
Croatian	Italian	Swahili
Czech	Japanese	Swedish
Dutch	Korean	Tagalog
Egyptian	Lao	Thai
English (ESL)	Mandarin	Turkish
French	Norwegian	Ukrainian
German	Polish	Urdu
Greek	Portuguese	Vietnamese
Haitian Creole	Punjabi	
Hebrew	Russian	

Scheduling an ACTFL OPI

LTI, The ACTFL Testing Office, schedules Official ACTFL OPIs to be conducted either face-to-face or telephonically between the test candidate and an ACTFL Certified Tester. The interview lasts 15-30 minutes and results are available within one to three weeks of the interview.

The ACTFL Testing Office can also assist candidates in registering for official transcripts with ACE's Transcript Service.

For more information about the ACTFL OPI and scheduling an OPI, visit the ACTFL Testing Office website at www.languageTesting.com, or call: 800-486-8444 Ext. 20.

For more information about the ACE College Credit Recommendation Service, please visit their website at www.acenet.edu/calec/corporate.

Summary of ACE Credit Recommendations for Official ACTFL OPI Ratings

Official OPI Rating	Category I <i>Dutch, English* , French, Haitian Creole, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish, Swahili and Swedish.</i>	Category II <i>German, Modern Greek, Hindi, Indonesian, Punjabi and Urdu.</i>	Category III <i>Cambodian, Czech, Hmong, Hebrew, Hungarian, Lao, Polish, Russian, Serbo-Croatian**, Slovak, Tagalog, Turkish, Thai, Ukrainian and Vietnamese.</i>	Category IV <i>Arabic, Cantonese, Japanese, Korean and Mandarin.</i>
Novice High/ Intermediate Low	2 LD	2 LD	3 LD	3 LD
Intermediate Mid	4 LD	5 LD	6 LD	6 LD
Intermediate High/ Advanced Low	8 LD	8 LD + 2 UD	6 LD + 3 UD	6 LD + 3 UD
Advanced Mid	10 LD	8 LD + 4 UD	6 LD + 6 UD	6 LD + 6 UD
Advanced High/ Superior	10 LD + 2 UD	8 LD + 4 UD	6 LD + 6 UD	6 LD + 6 UD

Legend

*English is treated as a foreign language.

** Serbian and Croatian have been combined to Serbo-Croatian.

Credit recommendations are based on a semester hour.

LD = Lower division baccalaureate/associate degree category.

UD = Upper division baccalaureate degree category.

The 10 ACTFL OPI language proficiency ratings are: Superior, Advanced High, Advanced Mid, Advanced Low, Intermediate High, Intermediate Mid, Intermediate Low, Novice High, Novice Mid, Novice Low.