

We are a proficiency oriented program!

Placement:

Students can enter the CSU-Pueblo Foreign Language Program at their level of proficiency. All students with prior knowledge of the target language (high school, living abroad, native or near-native speakers) are required to consult with an advisor to be placed into the appropriate course level. Assessment may consist of one or more of the following: an interview, a written placement exam, a written essay.

In First Year Courses: Students develop the five language skills to the point where they can survive and cope in a second language speaking environment.

In Second Year Courses: Students progress in the functional linguistic proficiency to the point where they have limited work ability in the foreign language.

In Third Year Courses: Courses at the 300 level help students improve in the five language skills to a point at which they can satisfy most work requirements and feel relatively comfortable in a target language speaking environment.

Fourth Year: Courses at the 400 level push students to the highest levels of linguistic proficiency in all five language skills and in a variety of linguistic functions such as abstract thinking, statement and defense of opinions, argumentation, detailed explanation, persuasion, etc. Students who complete these courses are prepared to teach Spanish in K-12 programs, to attend graduate school, and to work successfully at a high level of proficiency in government and in the private sector.

A little more about proficiency...

What is proficiency? A holistic measure of a speaker/listener/writer/reader's functional and cognitive ability to perform linguistic tasks.

How do we know if our students are achieving proficiency in our program? Through the ACTFL proficiency guidelines and the ACTFL rating scale.

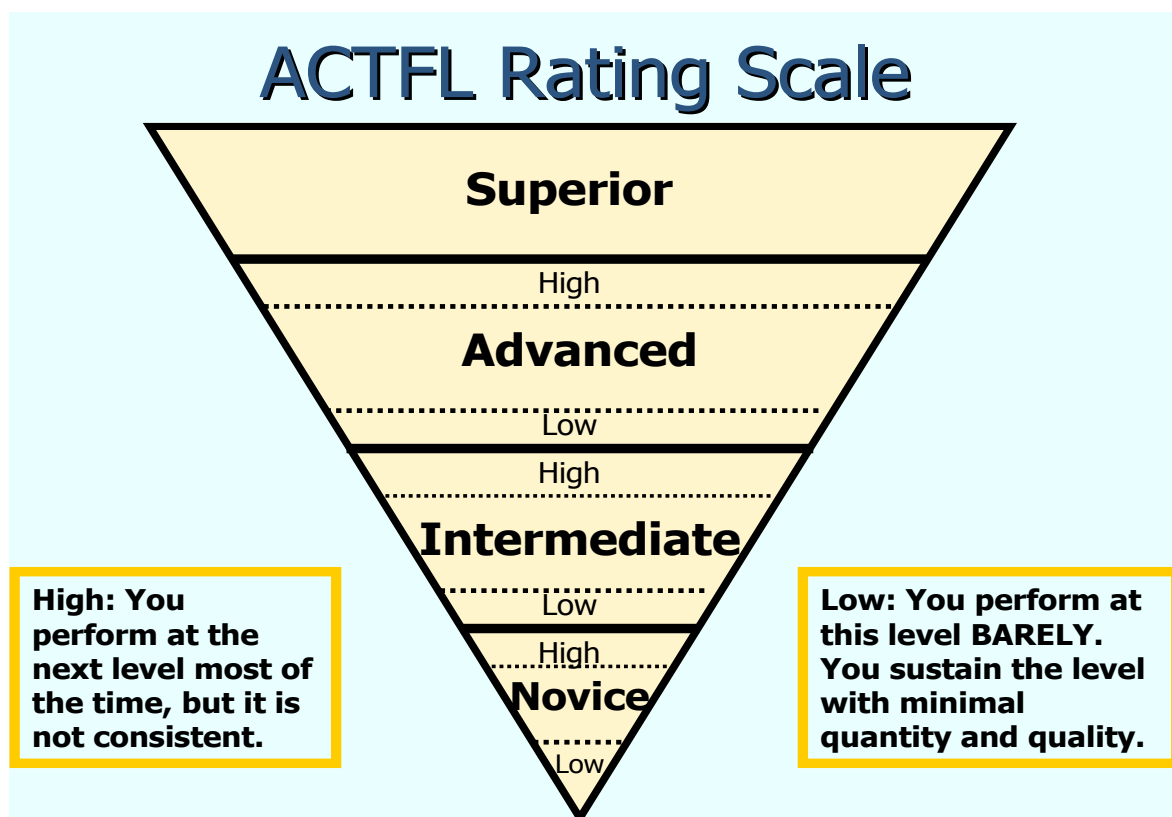
What is ACTFL? The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. It is a national membership organization dedicated to promoting the study of languages and cultures as an integral component of American education and society.

What are the proficiency guidelines based on? They are based on the language skill level descriptions used by the Foreign Service Institute and the Interagency Language Roundtable.

How do they work? They measure language production **holistically**:

1. Global Tasks = What the student can do with the language.
2. Content and Context = Subjects the student can talk about/ Contexts where s/he can function.
3. Accuracy = How much do errors interfere with how s/he can be understood.
4. Text type = What kind of text does s/he use (words, sentences, paragraphs...)

What are the levels?



Our classes are aligned with ACTFL proficiency guidelines. Each class has a specific proficiency goal:

Course	Title	Proficiency Goal	Prerequisites
FRN/GER/ITL/SPN 101	Beginning class I	NH-IL	No prior experience with the language
FRN/GER/ITL/SPN 102	Beginning class II	IL - IM	101 or placement
FRN/GER/ITL/SPN 201	Intermediate class I	IM	102 or placement
FRN/GER/ITL/SPN 202	Intermediate class II	IM – IH	201 or placement
SPN 203	Intermediate Proficiency Building	IM – IH	102 or placement
SPN 300	Phonetics and Phonology	IH – AM	202 or placement
FRN/GER/ITL/SPN 301	Advanced Grammar	IH – AM	202 & 203 (for SPN) or placement
FRN/GER/ITL/SPN 302.303/304/305/306	Conversation & Composition	IH – AM	202 & 203 (for SPN) or placement
SPN 331	Spanish for Business	IH – AM	SPN 202 & 203 or placement
SPN 310	Intro to Hispanic Literature	IH- AH	SPN 301 & a Conv & Comp or placement
SPN 400 level		AL- S	SPN 310 or placement