



# PLA Credit – Departmental Challenge Exam

## World Languages & Cultures

8600 University Blvd. Evansville, IN 47712 • Phone: 812-461-5220

Course-specific Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) credit may be granted to students who demonstrate achievement of course objectives. **Challenge exams** are metrics developed by faculty that measure the “whole of content” for a specific course. A student can earn PLA Challenge Exam credit in a **world language** if advanced placement is recommended. The student must earn a grade of "B" or better in the USI world language course into which they have been placed (ARAB, CHIN, FREN, GERM, JPN, LATN, or SPAN). After earning a "B" or better, the student must visit the World Languages and Cultures department to initiate the PLA Challenge Exam form to receive credit for the lower-level course(s). **A fee of \$50 per credit hour is required.**

A student who is a native (or near native) speaker of a language other than English and was educated outside the U.S. where the main language of instruction was not English *is not eligible* to earn Departmental Challenge Exam Credit for courses in their native language. A student who has questions about the applicability of credit earned by departmental exam should speak with their academic advisor before completing the departmental challenge exam credit form.

### Terms and policies for all forms of PLA credit at USI:

- Credits earned for prior learning are generally not transferrable to other institutions.
- Credits earned through any prior learning method do not fulfill USI residency requirements for degree completion.
- PLA credit shall not receive conventional A-F letters grades. PLA credit cannot be used as a course repeat (an A-F letter grade cannot be replaced by PLA credit). The transcript will not indicate unsuccessful attempts to earn PLA credit.
- Credit awarded by prior learning assessment may affect financial aid eligibility. Students should consult the Student Financial Assistance Office to determine the impact on financial aid eligibility *before* conferral of prior learning credit.
- Credit awarded for prior learning will be transcribed to indicate the method of prior learning assessment and will be awarded to the term in which the required records are received and processed by the Registrar’s Office.

### PART 1: Request for PLA-Challenge Exam Credit (WLC)

Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (MI) \_\_\_\_\_

Based on course results, USI is prepared to offer the equivalent credit indicated below, to be applied toward a degree at USI:

Qualifying course	Grade (B or better required)	Course credit to be awarded	Credit hours	Total hours to be awarded:

*I have verified the qualifying course and grade required to award PLA Credit. I approve the above course(s) to be awarded as PLA Challenge Exam credit at USI. The student has received counseling appropriate to situation from his/her academic advisor. I have verified that the student was not educated outside the U.S. where the language of instruction was not English, and that the student is not a native/near native speaker of the language for which challenge exam credit is being awarded.*

Department Chair’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part 2: Payment of PLA-Challenge Exam fee

*I acknowledge the terms and policies listed above and agree to pay the Challenge Exam fee. I certify that I was not educated outside the U.S. where the language of instruction was not English, and that I am not a native/near native speaker of the language for which challenge exam credit is being awarded.*

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Visit the [Prior Learning Assessment payment portal](#) and select Challenge Exam-World Languages and Cultures. Enter all required information, including the course(s) for which Challenge Exam-WLC credit is to be awarded (subject, course number, title, and credit hours for each course). **After paying the fee (\$50 per credit hour for each course), you must submit this completed form and a copy of the receipt to the Registrar’s Office for processing.**

Registrar’s Office Use Only		Qualifying course and grade verified by:		
EX014 PLA-Challenge Exam Credit	Credit hrs awarded:	Term:	By:	Date: