

Academic Events and Placement Exams during First-year Orientation

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A note about placement exams. Placement exams fall into three basic types:

1. Summer online placement exams, offered between July 1-August 15
2. Face-to-face placement exams, offered during First-year Orientation
3. Oral interviews to supplement summer online placement exams, or make-up placement exams, offered during First-year Orientation

This document offers information on face-to-face placement exams, oral interviews, and make-up placement exams offered during First-year Orientation.

Be sure to read [information on summer online placement exams](#).

African Languages

Includes: Kiswahili, Yoruba, and Zulu

Placement examinations

Call 203-432-0110 for times and locations of placement examinations in African languages.

Art

Orientation Event

- [Orientation meeting with DUS](#), Tuesday, August 29, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Additional Information

Students wishing to elect Art courses are advised to go to the first class meeting.

Astronomy

Orientation Event

- Astronomy Department [kick-off](#), Wednesday, September 6, from 6:45 to 8 p.m

Biological Sciences and Biomedical Engineering

Orientation Event

- Biology, Chemistry, and Physics [orientation meeting](#), Monday, August 28, from 9 to 10:15 a.m.

Placement examination

Students with advanced preparation from high school may be eligible to place out of one or more of the BIOL101-104 modules only if they have received a score of 5 on the AP Biology exam (or its equivalent on other national standardized exams), and if they demonstrate adequate proficiency on the biological sciences placement examination. Information about the administration of this exam is posted at yalecollege.yale.edu/biology-1.

Additional Information

Prospective majors in the biological sciences and other students who would like a thorough foundation in the biological sciences should take the two-semester sequence BIOL101-104.

These courses are a prerequisite to most majors in the biological sciences. Students planning to major in Biomedical Engineering are required to take a one-semester biology course only; BIOL 101–102 is highly recommended

Chemistry

Orientation Events

- Biology, Chemistry, and Physics [orientation meeting](#), Monday, August 28, from 9 to 10:15 a.m.
- Chemistry [placement examination](#), Monday, August 28, from 10:30 a.m. to noon
- Chemistry [placement make-up examination](#), Tuesday, August 29, from 9 to 10:30 a.m.
- Chemistry [placement advising](#), Monday through Friday, August 28 through September 1, 1 to 4 p.m.

Placement examination

The placement of entering students in general chemistry is determined primarily on the basis of admissions and preregistration data. Initial placement information will be available in late August on the [Course Placement 2017](#) site.

Entrance to more advanced courses is determined through the use of a departmental placement examination. All first-years requesting to raise their placement level in general chemistry courses or wishing to enroll in organic or physical chemistry must take a departmental placement examination at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, August 28, in Room 110, Sterling Chemistry Laboratory.

Students with unavoidable schedule conflicts may attend a makeup registration and examination at 9 a.m. in Room 110, Sterling Chemistry Laboratory, on Tuesday, August 29. Ninety minutes should be set aside for the examination. Students should bring a nonprogrammable, non-graphing calculator and several #2 pencils with them to the examination. Revised placement information will be available through links on the [Course Placement 2017](#) site late in the day on Tuesday, August 29, allowing students to check their placement prior to attending the first regularly scheduled class meeting.

Students who believe they have been incorrectly placed may consult a Chemistry placement adviser. Advisers will be present in Room 248, Sterling Chemistry Laboratory, from 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday through Friday, August 28 through September 1.

Additional Information

Information about registration for laboratory sections is provided for each laboratory course in Online Course Information (OCI).

Classical Languages

Includes: Archaeological Studies, Classical Civilization, Greek, Latin

Placement examinations

There are no placement examinations in Greek or Latin. Students seeking advice about the course appropriate for them should consult with the director of undergraduate studies, [Professor Noel Lenski](#).

Additional Information

Registration is required for LATN 110 and will be held during the Academic Fair in Linsly-Chittenden Hall on Tuesday, August 29, 2–3:30 p.m. Professors from the Classics department will be on hand at the Academic Fair to discuss the full range of Greek and Latin language and literature courses.

All first-years interested in taking courses in Classical Civilization (including ancient Greek and Roman art and archaeology, ancient Greek, Roman, and comparative Mediterranean history, and Greek and Roman philosophy) are invited to attend the Academic Fair, Tuesday, August 29, to discuss course selection with faculty members.

Directed Studies

Orientation Events

- [Meet-and-greet](#) with Directed Studies' student "ambassadors," Saturday, August 26 from 10 to 11 p.m.
- Mandatory Directed Studies [orientation](#), Tuesday, August 29, from 11 a.m. to noon

East Asian Studies

Includes: Chinese, Japanese, Korean

Orientation Events

- Chinese oral placement [15-minute interviews](#), Sunday, August 27, from 8:30 a.m. to noon
- Japanese oral placement [15-minute interviews](#), Sunday, August 27, from 8:30 a.m. to noon
- Korean oral placement [15-minute interviews](#), Monday, August 29, from 9 a.m. to noon

Placement examinations

Students who have studied Chinese, Japanese, or Korean before and who wish to continue their studies at Yale are required to complete placement examinations to determine proper placement.

The first part of this exam should be completed online between July 1 and August 15, through links available at eall.yale.edu/academics/language-programs. Fifteen-minute oral interviews in Chinese and Japanese will be conducted on campus on Sunday, August 27, from 8:30 a.m. to noon (Chinese, at 370 Temple Street, the Center for Language Study; and Japanese, at 432 Temple Street, Room 102). Fifteen-minute oral interviews in Korean will be conducted on Monday, August 29, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Center for Language Study, 370 Temple Street.

Economics

Placement Information

There is no placement examination.

All incoming first-years receive a customized recommendation in early August about the best starting point for the study of economics at Yale. This recommendation is based on AP scores for economics and calculus, as well as IB and GCE scores.

In general, students who receive a 5 on the Microeconomics or Macroeconomics AP exam and a 5 on the Calculus BC exam are allowed to place out of the corresponding introductory course and instead enroll in intermediate-level courses (ECON 121 or 125 for microeconomics, ECON 122 or 126 for macroeconomics). First-year students who have the requisite economics AP score but not the AP calculus score may take calculus (e.g., MATH 115, 118, or 120) and then place out of the corresponding introductory economics class. Students may substitute a score of 7 on the International Baccalaureate higher-level economics examination or A on the GCE A-level economics examination for AP test scores in economics. In addition, a score of 7 on the International Baccalaureate higher-level mathematics examination or A on the GCE A-level mathematics examination may be substituted for the AP calculus score.

All other students must take the introductory courses.

ECON 108, 110, and 111 are limited-enrollment alternatives to econ 115 and 116, and preregistration is required.

Additional Information

View preregistration information at economics.yale.edu/undergraduate-program.

More details about the placement process are on the department of Economics "[Placement for First-years](#)" Web page.

Engineering and Applied Science

Includes: Computer Science

Orientation Events

- [Advising meetings](#), Monday, August 28, from 1 to 2 p.m.
- [Address](#) for students interested in engineering and computer science, Tuesday, August 29, from 11 a.m. to noon
- See also Biology, Chemistry, and Physics [orientation meeting](#), Monday, August 28, from 9 to 10:15 a.m.
- See also Chemistry [placement examination](#), Monday, August 28, from 10:30 a.m. to noon

English

Orientation Event

- English [drop-in course selection hours](#), Monday, August 28, between 9 a.m. and noon

Placement Information

Information about placement and courses available to freshmen can be found under English in the "[Programs of Study](#)" section of the Class of 2021 website.

Additional Information

All students who wish to enroll in an introductory English course must preregister online between Wednesday, August 23, at 9 a.m. and Monday, August 28, at 5 p.m. Details about the preregistration process will be available at yalecollege.yale.edu/preference-selection.

French

Placement Examination

The French placement examination will be administered online from July 1 through August 15. Information about the examination is posted on the [French department website](#). Please note that all students who have ever studied French before, whether formally or informally, and who wish to enroll in a French course, must take the placement examination. Students who demonstrate advanced proficiency through high scores on a standardized examination (e.g., AP or IB) are eligible to enroll directly in L5 French courses, but they should still take the placement examination to determine which L5 course they should take (FREN 150, 160, 170, or higher). Consult the departmental website for additional information.

Students who have not studied French before will automatically be placed into FREN 110. Students who have questions about their placement should speak with advisers from the French department during the Academic Fair on Tuesday, August 29.

Additional Information

The departmental website will also provide information on how to preregister for a section of FREN 110, 121, 130, or 140. Online preregistration will take place between Wednesday, August 23, at 9 a.m. and Monday, August 28, at 5 p.m.

German

Placement Examination

Students who have previously studied German formally or informally are required to take the German placement exam. This exam will help determine which German class best fits each student's background. Placement can be adjusted at the beginning of the semester if the student or the instructor feels that it is inopportune.

The German placement examination will be administered online from July 1 through August 15. Students will find the link to the German placement exam on the [German department website](#), under News, or at

program/placement-test

Additional Information

Once the placement test has been completed, students may preregister for German courses. Information about the preregistration process is listed on the departmental website. Students who have demonstrated advanced proficiency by a score of 5 on the AP German exam are eligible to enroll directly in L5 German courses. Students who are beginners with no prior knowledge of German do not need to take the placement exam but may preregister for any German L1 class.

See german.yale.edu/academics/undergraduate-program/language-program/placement-test for updates and more information.

Italian

Placement Examination

The Italian placement examination will be administered online from July 1 through August 15. Information about the examination is posted on the [Italian department website](#).

Please note that all students who have ever studied Italian before, whether formally or informally, and who wish to enroll in an Italian course must take the placement examination. In addition, you will be required to take an oral test. You will be contacted directly by the language program director to set up a time to meet.

Students who demonstrate advanced proficiency through high scores on a standardized examination (e.g., AP or IB) are eligible to enroll directly in L5 Italian courses, but they should still take the placement examination to determine which L5 course they should take (ITAL 150, 160, 170, or higher).

Students who have questions about their placement should speak with advisers from the Italian department during the Academic Fair on Tuesday, August 29.

Additional Information

The departmental website will also provide information on how to preregister for a section of ITAL 110, 120, 130, 140, or 150. Online preregistration will take place between Wednesday, August 23, at 9 a.m. and Monday, August 28, at 5 p.m.

Students who have not studied Italian before will be placed automatically into ITAL 110.

Mathematics

Orientation Event

- Math [placement advising session](#), Monday, August 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m

Placement Examination

All students planning to enroll in one of the introductory calculus courses (MATH 110, 112, 115, 116, or 120) are required to take an online placement examination, which can be found [online](#). After completing the examination, students will immediately receive an automated placement into MATH 110, 112, 115, 116, or 120. Students who have questions about their results should come to the Math Placement Advising Session on Monday, August 28, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. in Room 432, Dunham Laboratory, 10 Hillhouse Avenue.

Additional Information

Online preregistration for sections of MATH 112, 115, or 120 will take place between Wednesday, August 23, at 9 A.M. and Monday, August 28, at 5 P.M.

Music

Orientation Events

- Music [placement examination](#), Tuesday, August 29, from 10 a.m. to noon
- Music [placement make-up examination](#), Wednesday, August 30, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Placement Examination

Students seeking admission to MUSI 210, 211, 218, or 219 must take a placement examination on Tuesday, August 29, at 10 a.m. in Room 119, William L. Harkness Hall, 100 Wall Street. A makeup examination will be administered on Wednesday, August 30, from 7 to 9 p.m. in 106 Stoeckel Hall. The Music department will participate in the Academic Fair on Tuesday, August 29.

Additional Information

Students interested in taking individual vocal or instrumental instruction, either for credit in MUSI 360 or for a fee, must [sign up online](#) for an audition. Information on auditions is available on the same site. Please note that no auditions are held in January.

Some music courses are open by audition only. Students who wish to enroll in music performance courses should sign up for auditions at the Department of Music, 469 College Street. For more information on auditions, see [Online Course Information](#) for each of the courses listed below:

- MUSI 220 and 221, The Performance of Chamber Music
- MUSI 222, The Performance of Vocal Music
- MUSI 223, The Performance of Early Music
- MUSI 228 and 229, The Performance of Musical Theater I and II

Near Eastern Languages

Includes: Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, Turkish

Orientation Events

- Hebrew [placement exam](#), Sunday, August 27, from 9:30 a.m. to noon
- Arabic [oral placement interviews](#), Monday, August 28, from 10 a.m. to noon

Placement Examinations

The Arabic placement exam will be available online from July 1 to August 15. The interview portion of the Arabic placement exam will be held from 10 A.M. to noon on Monday, August 28, in HGS B64, 320 York Street.

The Hebrew placement exam will be held from 9:30 A.M. to noon on Sunday, August 27, at the Center for Language Study, 370 Temple Street. Students are asked to bring a laptop and headphones to the exam. For more information, see hebrew.yale.edu.

Entering first-year students who have some knowledge of Persian or Turkish should contact [Farkhondeh Shayesteh](#) (Persian) or [Ozgen Felek](#) (Turkish) to arrange to take a placement examination.

Students with questions may go to the NELC office in Room 314, Hall of Graduate Studies, or call 203-432-2944 for assistance.

Physics

Orientation Event

- Biology, Chemistry, and Physics [orientation meeting](#), Monday, August 28, from 9 to 10:15 a.m.

Placement Information

On Monday, August 28, from 9 to 10:15 a.m. in Room 110, Sterling Chemistry Laboratory, the

director of undergraduate studies will be on hand to introduce the various lecture and lab courses in physics and to describe the placement process. This meeting is open to all, but will be of particular interest to prospective science and engineering majors.

Portuguese

Orientation Event

- Portuguese [placement examination](#), Sunday, August 27, from 10 a.m. to noon

Placement Information

No preregistration is required for Portuguese courses, although students with any previous knowledge of Portuguese should take the Portuguese placement test before enrolling in a course. Please check the [Spanish and Portuguese department website](#) for information about the placement test.

Slavic Languages

Includes: Czech, Russian, Polish

Placement Information

Students who have previously studied Russian formally or informally are required to take the Russian placement exam. This exam will help determine which Russian course best fits each student's background. Contact the language coordinator, Irina Dolgova, for information about placement and preregistration. She may be reached via e-mail at irina.dolgova@yale.edu or by telephone at [203-432-1307](tel:203-432-1307).

Entering first-year students who have some knowledge of Czech or Polish should contact [Krystyna Illakowicz](#) (Polish) or [Karen von Kunes](#) (Czech) to arrange to take a placement examination.

Southeast Asian Languages

Placement Examinations

Vietnamese and Indonesian placement examinations will take place by appointment in Room 311, Luce Hall, during the week of August 29.

For Vietnamese, call 203-432-5097 or e-mail [Quang Van](mailto:Quang.Van); for Indonesian, call 203-436- 4192 or e-mail Indriyo Sukmono.

Additional Information

For additional information, e-mail seas@yale.edu after August 1.

Spanish

Orientation Event

Spanish information session, Tuesday, August 29, from 2 to 2:15 p.m.

Placement Examination

The Spanish placement examination will be administered online from July 1 through August 15. Information about the examination is posted on the [Spanish and Portuguese department website](#).

Please note that all students, including native speakers, who have ever studied Spanish, whether formally or informally, and who wish to enroll in a Spanish course, must take the placement examination. Students who demonstrate advanced proficiency through high scores on a standard-examination (e.g., AP or IB) may be eligible to enroll directly in L5 Spanish courses. Consult the departmental website for additional information.

Additional Information

The departmental website will also provide information on how to preregister for a section of a Spanish language course in levels L1 to L4 (SPAN 110, 120, 130, or 140).

Online preregistration will take place between Wednesday, August 23, at 9 a.m. and Monday, August 28, at 5 p.m.