

28 March 2018

Mr. Ryan Rumpf
Director of ELL and WL Curriculum
Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
205 Jefferson Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Mr. Rumpf:

Evangel University enthusiastically endorses the Missouri Seal of Biliteracy and the Distinguished Missouri Seal of Biliteracy as major placement advantages to students wishing to add foreign-language programs to their undergraduate careers. We offer French and Spanish programs on campus as well as courses in eight less-commonly-taught languages by means of our close consortium agreement with neighboring Missouri State University: Arabic, Chinese, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, and Russian. Evangel students with ACTFL Intermediate Mid-level proficiency in French or Spanish can receive 14 advanced placement credits free of charge, and those with such proficiency in a less-commonly-taught language on our consortium schedule can receive up to 12 such credits.

As Evangel welcomes increasing numbers of high-performing students, we are aware that many such individuals have two to four years of French or Spanish experience already. If they come with the Seal of Biliteracy on their transcripts, we can streamline their placement in our programs, and many of them can be well on their way to acquiring a French or Spanish major or minor when they arrive as freshmen. In terms of saving time, saving money, and increasing prospects for intercultural competence in any professional field, such a head start will be invaluable for those students; thus, we strongly encourage college-bound high-schoolers to seek to achieve the Seal. Because increasing enrollments in high-school foreign-language classes can lead to increasing enrollments in ours, we think that the Seal of Biliteracy has great potential to drive up interest in foreign-language study across Missouri.

Evangel wishes to compliment the Foreign Language Association of Missouri and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for their successful efforts to make the Seals of Biliteracy available in our state. We would be pleased if you would post this letter on DESE's Seal webpage. Thank you for your help in that regard as well.

Sincerely,



Nathan H. Nelson, PhD
Professor of English
Chair, Department of Humanities



YOUR CALLING OUR PASSION

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