Memorandum

Date: November 20, 2013

To: System Colleges and Universities

From: John O’Brien, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

Subject: ASA-2013-08: Minnesota Transfer Curriculum: Recognition of World Languages Courses

Effective immediately, all beginning and intermediate level world languages, including American Sign Language and Native American languages such as Anishinaabe and Ojibwe, may be included in any of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum goal areas, subject to the learning outcomes met by the course. World language courses shall no longer be restricted to Goal 8, and any world language course, like other courses, may meet the competencies for up to two goal areas (or three goal areas if one of them is Goal 2). This memorandum supersedes all prior memoranda regarding world languages sent in 2002, 2005, and 2008 by the Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs.

This addition comes after strong recommendations from faculty and administration throughout the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities system. The change also received the unanimous support of the students, faculty, and staff serving on the MnSCU Transfer Oversight Committee in 2013.

System college and university curriculum committees are reminded that in approving any courses for inclusion in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum, they shall, as stated in System Procedure 3.371, use the criteria detailed in the following documents to ensure consistency of implementation across the system.

1. Checklist of Criteria for Evaluation of Courses Included in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum
2. Guidelines for the Review and Design of a Minnesota Transfer Curriculum
3. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Agreement

In addition, Board Policy 3.37 and System Procedure 3.371 require each college and university to disseminate information to students regarding its Minnesota Transfer Curriculum and the impact of decision regarding included courses.

Once a Minnesota state college or university has included a world language course in a Minnesota Transfer Curriculum goal area, the “course must be accepted for full credit in that area of emphasis at all Minnesota state colleges and universities.” This language is found in the 2001 Omnibus Higher Education Bill.
The University of Minnesota will accept the entire Minnesota Transfer Curriculum as determined and documented by a Minnesota state college or university. **If a student has not completed the entire Minnesota Transfer Curriculum at a system college or university, the University of Minnesota shall determine how each course meets Minnesota Transfer Curriculum requirements, and therefore the student may not receive credit towards the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum for a world language course.**

Please share this memo with faculty, curriculum committee chairs, administrators, transfer specialists, advisors and other appropriate staff at your college or university who are involved with determining the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum and with communicating that to students. We appreciate your guidance and cooperation in the implementation of this change.

The Program Collaboration and Transfer staff at the system office will continue to provide support for implementation of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum. For more information or assistance please contact the following staff:

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