

**APPLICATION**  
**Directed Independent Language Study (DILS)**  
**University of Miami College of Arts and Sciences**  
**Not-for-Credit Language Program for Undergraduate and Graduate Students**  
**Application Deadline: MONDAY April 23, 2016**  
Please email your completed application to [DILS@miami.edu](mailto:DILS@miami.edu)

---

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**I. LANGUAGE YOU WANT TO STUDY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Current Level of Proficiency in the Language (Please mark with an "X"):**

Beginning \_\_\_\_\_  
Beginning Intermediate \_\_\_\_\_  
Intermediate \_\_\_\_\_  
Intermediate to Advanced \_\_\_\_\_  
Advanced \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**II. PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

**APPLICANT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICANT C #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL ADDRESS: Preferred: *the one you use most frequently, and you are sure it works*):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE NUMBER Current (*where you can be the most easily reached*):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING ADDRESS Current:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING ADDRESS permanent: if different from above:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE NUMBER, permanent, if different from above:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**III. ACADEMIC/EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:**

**YOUR STUDIES and/or RESEARCH at the UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI**

**(a) If you are an UNDERGRADUATE at UM\*, please indicate your**

College or School: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Projected Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

**(b) If you are a GRADUATE STUDENT at UM, please indicate your**

School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department: \_\_\_\_\_  
Field of \_\_\_\_\_ Study: \_\_\_\_\_  
Projected Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Undergraduate students must be in good academic standing and will need the approval of an Academic Advisor.

---

---

**IV. EDUCATIONAL PLANS and OBJECTIVES; *please give the specific reasons why you are applying to study the language of your interest in the DILS program.***  
**(Please read all four questions carefully before responding, and be as specific as possible)**

- **Why/how did you become interested in learning the language for which you are applying:**

\_\_\_\_\_

- **What are your *short-term academic goals for learning this language?* What will language study through the DILS program help you to achieve (1) while you are still at UM?**
- **(2) after you will have left UM?**

\_\_\_\_\_

- **What are your *long-term goals/plans* related to the learning of this particular language?** (These might include but are not limited to academic, professional, community service, summer study or summer work abroad; study or work abroad after graduating from UM).

\_\_\_\_\_

- **Why would language study through the DILS program be beneficial to you *AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME in your academic career?* i.e. why will studying the language *NOW* be advantageous? If you had to, could you postpone your language study another semester?**

---

**V. LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE**

- 1. Your Primary Language \_\_\_\_\_**

*(Primary Language is the language in which you have the greatest fluency; **please indicate if your 'first' or 'native' language differs from your 'primary language'** and if yes what it is.*

- 2. Do you have any previous experience with *the language for which you are applying?***

\_\_\_\_\_

**If YES, please be specific:**

- **Elementary or secondary school?** *If yes, state number of years:* \_\_\_\_\_
- **College?** *If yes, state number of years:* \_\_\_\_\_

- **Graduate school?** *If yes, state number of years:* \_\_\_\_\_
- **Family background?** *(is the language you want to study spoken at home?):* \_\_\_\_\_
- **Other:** *travel, study, work in the country where the language is spoken* \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. What is your experience with other foreign languages:

Please specify: when and under what circumstance did you study languages other than the one for which you are applying?

*(Elementary school? Secondary school? College? Travel? Family background? Independent study?):*

**What do you think is your proficiency level in the languages you listed above?** *(listening, speaking, reading, writing):* \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you interested in professional or discipline specific language skills in the language you will be studying?**

(e.g. legal, health profession related, business, etc.)

*If yes, please explain:* \_\_\_\_\_

### VI. Further considerations and questions.

**1) DIRECTED INDEPENDENT LANGUAGE STUDY** requires motivation, sense of commitment and self-sufficiency on the part of students. You must be an independent learner.

There is no regular teacher to provide clarification, daily structure, or graded feedback on progress. 'Language Partners' are peers who are native speakers and who are there to help you **practice using** the language. They do not provide grammar lessons, structure your study or grade your performance.

**Discuss** how you see yourself functioning in this type of **entirely student-centered, independent learning environment.**

**1) SCHEDULING.** Will you have the necessary time to study this language in the upcoming semester and participate in a DILS language program given your very busy schedule? it has become extremely difficult to schedule DILS class times. **You** will have to decide: **(1) is your schedule so busy that you will have no available time to attend DILS sessions; or, if you really want to learn the language, will you make sure that there will be times in the day when you can enroll in a DILS program. (2) Will you have the necessary time to study the language?** As with all language courses, studying in DILS requires a **significant time commitment during the semester. It takes many hours of consistent practice to develop proficiency.** You should expect to study the language at least one hour per day or 7- 8 hours per week.

**Discuss** how you will integrate a DILS language program into your semester; how you will coordinate your language study with the rest of your schedule: remember the number of courses/credits you will be taking and the club and other extracurricular activities you will be pursuing, all of which will require your time and energy.

Thank you for completing the DILS Application