



MARIANOPOLIS  
COLLEGE

## LANGUAGE POLICY

### 1. DATE

Adopted by the Board of Governors on January 28, 2002.

### 2. PURPOSE

A recognition of the dynamic interrelationship of thought and language is at the heart of the College's Mission and Vision. The objectives related to knowledge, critical thinking, effective communication and social interaction and commitment extend beyond the immediate preparation of students for college and university studies. The Marianopolis graduate shall be prepared to bring the powers of thought and language not only to the challenge of academic studies but also to that of personal and public leadership in the contemporary world.

This policy provides a framework for the use of English as the official language of education, the teaching of French as a second language, and the use of the French language by the College's administration in written communications with the civil administration and legal persons established in Québec.

### 3. ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The official language of education at Marianopolis College is English. The following measures are designed to foster the intellectual and personal development of each Marianopolis student through mastery of language:

- Efforts shall be made to place students in an appropriate level of study in first language English courses in their first term.
- In the English courses of General Education, the students shall be prepared to attain the objectives outlined by the Ministry. The students shall be challenged and supported to go beyond standard or individual levels of understanding and performance in both written and oral presentations.
- In the French second language courses of General Education, efforts shall be made to place students in an appropriate level of study. Advanced courses are designed for those proficient in the language. The students shall be supported and challenged to go beyond their present levels of competency to ensure responsible and meaningful participation in the society and culture of Quebec.
- In all discipline courses of general and specific education, attention shall be paid to the structure of thought and the language characteristic of the discipline; to reinforcing and integrating the language objectives of the different programs; and to

the criteria of the ministerial exit examination in language: comprehension and insight, organization of response, and expression. High standards in the quality of written and spoken language shall be maintained.

- The nature and balance of the written and oral components in the structure of a course and the evaluation of student achievement shall be determined by Curriculum Committees subject to the approval of Academic Council and in conformity with the stated objectives of the Ministry and Marianopolis College.
- The Writing Centre shall provide tutoring for students experiencing difficulty in language. Priority shall be given to students referred by their teachers.
- Initiative and participation in literature, music, art, science, commerce and political and social concerns within the college and local communities shall be supported and encouraged.
- In all extracurricular activities within the College, high standards in the quality of language shall be supported and encouraged.
- The personnel in all the services of the College shall support and encourage high standards in the quality of language related to their areas.
- In official college publications, high standards in the quality of language shall be maintained.

#### **4. FRENCH LANGUAGE**

The Charter of the French Language (C-11, a.88.1 & 88.2) stipulates that institutions that provide college or university instruction in English to the majority of its students must establish a language policy pertaining to the teaching of French as a second language, the language used by the administration of the institution in its written communications with the civil administration and legal persons established in Québec. As such:

- All students shall be required to complete successfully at least two college-level French courses, or their equivalent, as part of their DEC program.
- All students shall be required to meet the exit standard established for French Second Language.
- All students shall have to meet the French language competency requirements related to their program of study in order to graduate.
- Official written correspondence with the civil administration of Québec and with legal persons established in Québec will normally be in French. However, this correspondence may be accompanied by documentation (by-laws, policies, reports, appendices, etc.) that, by the nature of its development, adoption, presentation and conservation, exists in English only.
- Official written correspondence with legal persons established in Québec that, by their nature retain a special or bilingual status under the preamble or any article of the Charter of the French Language, may be in English.
- Notwithstanding the above, official written correspondence received in English from a member of the civil administration of Québec or from legal persons established in Québec will be responded to by the College in English.
- The Academic Dean and the Director General are responsible for monitoring the application of this policy.