

I, Conxa Planas, Secretary of the University of Barcelona Language Policy Committee,

DO CERTIFY: that at the regular meeting held on 15 February 2008, the Language Policy Committee approved the following criteria for the use of languages in teaching, exams and other assessment activities

1. Language of instruction

- 1.1 The departments and faculties must ensure that Catalan, as the official language of the University and the preferred language for university activities, is sufficiently represented in the subjects they teach by offering groups in Catalan.
- 1.2 The faculties and departments must ensure that the presence of Catalan and Spanish in their programmes allows students to improve their skills in these languages, in accordance with the objectives defined in the curriculum, which may also include training in other languages.
- 1.3 In accordance with the principle of language transparency, approved by resolution of the Language Policy Committee on 24 February 2006, the language of instruction: must be publicly announced by the appropriate means prior to the start of classes so that students can make informed choices; shall be binding; and may not be changed over the course of the academic year.

2. Language of teaching materials

- 2.1 As a general rule, the resources used to support the teaching staff's oral explanations (blackboard notes, transparencies, slides, presentations, etc.) and study aids, whether on paper or in digital format (exercises, practical session guides, etc.), should be offered in the language in which the subject or class group is taught.

3. Language of exams and other assessment activities

Documents related to assessment play a dual role: first, as academic management documents linked to universities' role as accreditation bodies, through the departments; and second, as documents linked to teaching. In the continuous assessment system, in the context of the European Higher Education Area, the link between assessment and the teaching staff's teaching duties has been strengthened, but the institutional dimension of the assessment process has been maintained. In other words, although assessment methods have been diversified and are more likely to be linked to the group or class dynamic, the university's governing bodies are still ultimately responsible for student assessment.

- 3.1 Students may answer exam questions and submit papers and other assignments in either of the official languages of Catalonia or in other languages where specifically so agreed by the teaching staff or the relevant university bodies. This same principle

also applies to students' oral presentations, regardless of the language of instruction chosen by the teaching staff.

- 3.2 Exam questions and the instructions for other assignments, whether oral or written, should always be offered in the language of instruction of the subject or class group.
- 3.3 For subjects taught in Catalan and Spanish, depending on the class group, that use the same exam, the exam questions must be available in both languages.
- 3.4 For multiple-choice exams, students must be able to choose between a Catalan and Spanish version of the exam.
- 3.5 As a general rule, in subjects that integrate language into their content, or are intended to enable the study of a given language (philology subjects, foreign language subjects, legal Catalan, etc.), both the questions and students' answers must be given in that language.

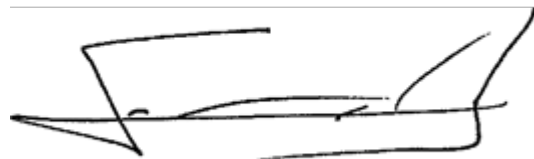
4. Considerations on language and students from non-Catalan-speaking areas

- 4.1 Mobility students and students from elsewhere in Spain (open-district students) have the same rights and obligations as the rest of the University's students with regard to languages. Depending on the academic organization of their programme, such students may have to attend classes taught in both Catalan and Spanish, even if they have only passive knowledge of either one of those languages.
- 4.2 This general rule does not preclude mobility students completing a temporary stay from receiving a version of the exam questions in a language other than the language of instruction, where so agreed in advance with the teacher of the class group or decided by the competent university bodies.

In witness whereof, and although the minutes containing this resolution will not be approved until the next meeting, I hereby sign this certificate with the Chair's approval in Barcelona on 18 February 2008.



Approved
The Chair



Jordi Matas Dalmases