All entering freshmen, as well as transferring students, are required to demonstrate competence in basic skills of reading and mathematics. Foreign language placement testing is required for placement into some French, German or Spanish classes.

**Mathematics:** TU requires all entering freshmen and most transfer students to take the online ALEKS Placement, Preparation and Learning (ALEKS PPL) Assessment to ensure the best chance of success in an appropriate mathematics course.

Students with college level mathematics course credit (AP or transfer coursework) may be exempt from taking the mathematics placement test:

- If a chosen major has no specific mathematics requirement and the AP/transfered college level mathematics coursework satisfies Core 3 of TU’s Core Curriculum (https://www.towson.edu/academicadvising/current/curriculum.html), the student is exempt from taking ALEKS.

- If a chosen major requires only MATH 231 or MATH 237 and the AP/transfered college level mathematics coursework satisfies Core 3 of TU’s Core Curriculum (https://www.towson.edu/academicadvising/current/curriculum.html), the student is exempt from ALEKS.

- If transferred coursework either satisfies the specific mathematics course required of the major, or it satisfies the prerequisite course for mathematics requirements, the student is exempt from ALEKS.

- If AP credit is awarded for Calculus or transferred credit is equivalent to TU’s College Algebra or Pre-Calculus (or higher), the student is exempt from ALEKS.

- If none of the above applies, the student must take ALEKS.

- Even if exempt from taking ALEKS, the student may choose to take the assessment for their own advisement and at no risk. Additionally, after taking ALEKS for the first time, the system generates a learning module tailored to the student’s needs, having identified gaps in the learner’s knowledge base during testing. The student is then welcome to work in the learning module and has a year to do so.

Updates and exemptions regarding the Reading Placement Test will be reflected on the students “To Do List.”

For additional information, please refer to the Reading Placement Testing website (https://www.towson.edu/tutoring-learning/reading-placement-testing).

*The SAT and ACT scores must be officially submitted to TU’s Office of Admissions.

**Foreign Languages:** Students wishing to enroll in Spanish classes at the 100 or 200 level as well as in 301 who do not already have college credit for the language must take the online placement test administered by the Foreign Languages Department. The link to the placement test can be found on the department website (https://www.towson.edu/cla/departments/foreignlanguages).