

## ABSTRACT

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Title: SCSU's Tier 1 Multilingual Communication Requirement and the Argument for Language Education

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This thesis explores the implications of maintaining or reducing a university language requirement at Southern Connecticut State University, a public regional comprehensive institution of access, on its social justice initiative. This thesis argues that because of the racist and intolerant history of the United States towards multilingualism and multiculturalism, one way the university's social justice mission can be upheld is by preserving its language requirement. This thesis further explores concepts of intercultural competence and benefits of multilingualism that should be taught to and discussed with students, particularly in the context of general education requirements in an era of global interconnectedness and social awareness.