Modern Languages (including French, German, & Spanish majors)

Modern Language majors focus their studies on spoken and written language, and investigate the cultural and technical aspects of linguistics and literature, as well as how to provide professional interpretation and translation services. Study includes language development, and the relationships among languages and language groups. Students focus on one or more foreign languages and learn how to introduce students to language studies at the basic/elementary level, as well as other uses of language in different professional arenas.

Because foreign language study includes both the technical and cultural aspects of language, the skills acquired are relevant in a wide variety of professions. As the nation and the world becomes increasingly multicultural, both linguistic and cultural skills are in demand in a variety of industries.

Some career possibilities for Modern Languages majors:

- Actor/Actress
- Announcer
- Anthropologist
- Audiologist
- Bilingual Educator
- Bilingual Secretary
- Buyer
- Civil Service Worker
- College/University Faculty
- Copy Editor
- Customs Inspector
- Diplomat
- Editor
- FBI/CIA Agent
- Film Editor
- Flight Attendant
- Foreign News
- Correspondent
- Foreign Service Officer
- Historian
- Hotel Information Clerk
- Hotel Manager
- Import/Export Clerk
- Interpreter
- Journalist
- Lawyer
- Lexicographer
- Librarian
- Linguist
- Maitre’d (hotel)
- Missionary
- Museum Docent
- Producer
- Professor
- Proofreader
- Public Health Administrator
- Social Worker
- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Teacher (K-12 Bi-lingual)
- Teacher (K-12 Foreign Language)
- Technical Writer
- Textbook Publisher
- Translator
- Travel Agent
- Travel Guide
- VISTA / Peace Corps Volunteer
- Writer

Possible employers of Foreign Languages majors:

- Agencies Libraries
- Banks
- Businesses & Industry
- Colleges / Universities
- Foreign Language Textbook Publishers
- Hotel Chains
- International Airlines
- International Service Organizations
- International Trade Organizations
- Investment Firms
- Labor Unions
- Law Firms
- Magazines
- Military Services
- Museums
- Newspapers
- Non-profit Organizations
- Professional Journals
- Public / Private Schools
- Public Relations Firms
- Publishers
- Local, State & Federal Government
- Transportation
- Travel / Tourism Agencies
- U.S. Travel Service
- United Nations
- US Immigration Service

Professional Organizations & Additional Information:

Modern Language Association
26 Broadway, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10004-1789
www.mla.org

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
1001 N. Fairfax St., Suite 200 Alexandria, VA 22314
www.actfl.org

National Association for Bilingual Educators
1313 L Street NW, Suite 210 Washington, DC 20005
www.nabe.org

American Association of Teachers of Spanish & Portuguese
900 Ladd Road Walled Lake, MI 48390
www.aatsp.org

American Association of Teachers of French
AATF - Mailcode 4510 Southern Illinois University Carbondale, IL 62901
www.frenchteachers.org

German Studies Association
Kalamazoo College
1200 Academy Street Kalamazoo, MI 49006-3295
www.thegsa.org

Latin American Studies Association
416 Bellefield Hall University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA 15260
http://lasa.international.pitt.edu

American Association of Applied Linguistics
3416 Primm Lane, Birmingham, AL 35216
www.aaal.org

American Association of Teachers of French
AATF - Mailcode 4510 Southern Illinois University Carbondale, IL 62901
www.frenchteachers.org

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1200 Academy Street Kalamazoo, MI 49006-3295
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http://online.onetcenter.org