

# DEPARTMENT OF MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

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5100 Horizon Hall  
Fairfax Campus

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## Undergraduate Programs

The department offers a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages with concentrations in Arabic, Chinese, French, Korean, and Spanish.

### Concentrations

The concentration in Arabic has an emphasis on developing strong language skills, including literacy and oral communication, along with an in-depth understanding of modern Arabic culture and society. Students concentrating in Arabic are expected to gain fluency in Modern Standard Arabic and a working knowledge of at least one Arabic dialect. Additionally, students will graduate with a strong background in Arab intellectual history, literature, and culture.

The concentration in Chinese enables students to become proficient in listening, speaking, reading, and writing Chinese while learning about Chinese literature, history, traditions, and culture. Students in this program are encouraged to study abroad or to do an internship. Students in Chinese are also encouraged to complete a double major.

The concentration in French is designed for students who want to increase their proficiency in French language and culture while learning about the history, politics, and economics of the many French-speaking countries around the world. Students can take a study abroad course or spend a summer in Paris or Quebec, earning credit towards their degree. They can participate in the many French-speaking activities sponsored by Mason's French Club.

The concentration in Korean prepares students to perform professional work in the field of translation, international relations, local and federal government, transnational enterprise, cultural industry, and teaching careers in Korea or at local public schools and to pursue graduate studies in Korean or Korean studies. The concentration in Korean has an emphasis on developing solid Korean language proficiency skills, technical translation skills, and in-depth understanding of both South and North Korean society and culture.

The concentration in Spanish enables students to become proficient in speaking, reading, and writing Spanish while learning about Latin American, Latino and Spanish languages practices, literatures, histories, and cultures. Students are encouraged to do an internship or service learning project, where they can draw on their knowledge of Spanish and gain valuable work experience while working for social change in their communities. Students have many opportunities to study Spanish abroad for as little as a week and as long as a semester and, at the same time, earn credit toward their degree.

All concentrations prepare students for teaching careers at the secondary school level, graduate study in languages, and research and professional work in government and private enterprise.

Faculty in the department participate in the interdisciplinary Russian and Eurasian Studies, BA (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/russian-eurasian-studies/russian-eurasian-studies-ba/>).

### Foreign Languages with a Second Major

Majors in foreign language are encouraged to complete a second major in another field. Students who want to pursue a second undergraduate major should plan a program of study in consultation with advisors from both degrees and be familiar with the relevant policies on more than one major. See the Academic Policies (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/#ap-5-3-3>) section of the catalog.

### Minors

Language majors are encouraged to complete a minor in another field.

The department offers minors in Arabic, Chinese, French, German Studies, Latin, Russian, Spanish, Classical Studies, Italian Studies, Japanese Studies, and Korean Studies. They are available to students in any major at Mason. Except for Classical Studies, all the minors have as a prerequisite the completion of 202 (or equivalent) in the relevant language.

### Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Programs

The department offers highly qualified undergraduates concentrating in Spanish the opportunity to apply to an accelerated master's degree program in Foreign Languages with a concentration in Chinese, Spanish, or a concentration in Spanish/bilingual-multicultural education (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/modern-classical-languages/foreign-languages-ba/#acceleratedmasterstext>). If accepted, students will be able to earn an undergraduate degree and a graduate degree in Foreign Languages after satisfactory completion of 138-144 credits, generally within five years.

## Graduate Programs

### Graduate Programs

The department offers an interdisciplinary master's degree in foreign languages as well as a PhD in Cultural Studies.

The MA in Foreign Languages is designed to meet the needs and interests of prospective and practicing teachers and other professionals. It also prepares students for doctoral study in Spanish at other institutions. Within the master's degree, students choose one of five concentrations: Chinese, French, Spanish, French and Spanish, and Spanish/bilingual-multicultural education. The Spanish concentration can be completed fully online. The department also offers an online Graduate Certificate in Spanish Heritage Language Education that can be taken as a stand-alone program or in combination with the MA.

The Cultural Studies PhD educates academics and professionals to develop intellectual mastery, teaching expertise and professional competence in the study of cultural objects in relation to their conditions of existence. Most graduates go on to careers as university professors. Others pursue careers in cultural advocacy, museum work, and related areas.

## Funding

The department has a limited number of language teaching assistantships for highly qualified graduate students with excellent language preparation. Students develop valuable language teaching experience by working with faculty experts in language teaching pedagogy.

The Cultural Studies PhD program has a limited number of assistantships for doctoral students; please contact the Cultural Studies Director for Information.

## Faculty

### Department Faculty

#### Distinguished University Professor

Martin Winkler (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/mwinkler/>)

#### Professors

Natalia Dudnik (<https://historyarthistory.gmu.edu/people/alandsb1/>)  
 Roger Lancaster (Cultural Studies)  
 Jennifer Leeman  
 Esperanza Roman-Mendoza (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/eromanme/>)  
 Mohammad R. Salama (<https://culturalstudies.gmu.edu/people/psmith5/>)  
 Paul Smith (Cultural Studies)

#### Emeritus Professors

Rei Berroa (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/rberroa/>)  
 Julie A Christensen (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/jchrste/>)  
 Paula Ruth Gilbert (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/pgilbert/>)  
 James S. Levine (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/jlevin2/>)

#### Associate Professors

Carrie Bonilla (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/cbonill7/>)  
 Carla F Burns (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/cburns1/>)  
 Antonio Carreño-Rodríguez (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/acarreño/>)  
 Jianfei Chen (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/jchen52/>)  
 Nathaniel Greenberg (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/ngreenbe/>)  
 Naglaa F Mahmoud Hussein (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/nmahmou4/>)  
 Francien Markx (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/fmarkx/>)  
 Jihye Moon (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/jmoon9/>)  
 Kristina Marie Olson (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/kolson4/>)  
 Christy L Pichichero (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/cpichich/>)  
 Lisa M. Rabin (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/lrabin/>) (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/lrabin/>)  
 Jonathon Repinecz (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/jrepinec/>)  
 Raluca Romaniuc (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/rromaniuc/>)  
 Ellen Johnson Serafini (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/eserafi2/>)  
 Hongmei Sun (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/shongmei/>)  
 Colleen A Sweet (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/csweet2/>)  
 Ricardo F Vivancos-Pérez (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/rvivanco/>)  
 Andrea Zach (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/azach/>)  
 Karl Kuan Zhang (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/kzhang/>)

#### Assistant Professors

Olga Arans (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/oarans/>)  
 Sayed Elsisí (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/selsisi/>)  
 Paola Enríquez Duque (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/penrique/>)  
 Humberto González Chávez (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/hgonzal6/>)

Young A Jung (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/yjung3/>)  
 Hyun Seon Park (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/hpark63/>)  
 Jasmina Savic (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/jsavic/>)  
 Alexia Vikis (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/avikis/>)  
 Peiyu Yang (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/pyang21/>)

## Senior Instructor

Saima Ashraf-Hassan (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/sashrafh/>)  
 Xi Chen (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/xchen8/>)  
 Elena Guglielmi (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/hgugliel/>)  
 Dae Yong Kim (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/dkim88/>)

## Instructor

Patricia Gómez Gómez (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/pgomezgo/>)  
 Ayaka Mitsui (<https://mcl.gmu.edu/people/amitsui/>)

## Programs

- Arabic Minor
- Chinese Minor
- Classical Studies Minor
- Cultural Studies, PhD
- Foreign Languages, BA
- Foreign Languages, MA
- French Minor
- German Studies Minor
- Italian Studies Minor
- Japanese Studies Minor
- Korean Studies Minor
- Latin Minor
- Russian Minor
- Spanish Heritage Language Education Graduate Certificate
- Spanish Minor