

FOREIGN LANGUAGES, MA

Banner Code: LA-MA-FRLN

Academic Advising

336 Aquia Building
Fairfax Campus

Email: language@gmu.edu

Website: <https://mcl.gmu.edu/programs/la-ma-frln>

The foreign languages MA aims to enhance the linguistic and cultural proficiency of students through courses in sociolinguistics and second language acquisition, film studies, cultural studies and literary studies. Students may select from four concentrations: French, Spanish, French and Spanish, and Spanish/bilingual-multicultural education. Located only miles from Washington, D.C., students take advantage of the program's existing relationships with schools, embassies, federal agencies, and international businesses—providing opportunity for internships and other educational experiences outside the classroom.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For specific information, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://mcl.gmu.edu/programs/application/LA-MA-FRLN>) on the departmental website.

Policies

For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: 30-42

For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Each concentration has a different number of required credits. In all four concentrations, 6 of the total credits may be earned with a thesis. Regardless of the concentration selected, all students must meet the core and distribution requirements given below and pass a comprehensive exam or write a thesis.

Concentration in French (FRN)

18 credits must be in courses with the subject code FREN.

Code	Title	Credits
Literature		
	Select two courses in literature chosen in consultation with an advisor and cover two different literary periods or Francophone regions.	6
French Language and Linguistics		
	Select two courses in French language and linguistics chosen in consultation with an advisor.	6

French

Select two additional courses in French literature or language in consultation with an advisor. 6

Electives

Select four electives in consultation with an advisor. A maximum of 6 credits may be used for directed reading and research or thesis. 12

FREN 798	Directed Reading and Thesis Research	
FREN 799	Thesis	

Total Credits 30

Concentration in Spanish (SPN)

Code	Title	Credits
Required Core Courses ¹		
SPAN 502	Hispanic Sociolinguistics	3
SPAN 510	Methods of Literary and Cultural Studies	3
Latino, Latin American, or Spanish cultures, literatures, or linguistics		
Select any five courses with the SPAN subject code.		15
Electives		
Select three electives in consultation with an advisor. ²		9
SPAN 798	Directed Reading and Research	
SPAN 799	Thesis	
Total Credits		30

¹ Students must take the core courses within their first 15 credits.

² They can include additional courses in Latin American or Spanish culture, linguistics, or literature, courses with the subject code FRLN, up to 6 credits of courses in related fields, and up to 6 credits of thesis research and writing. Students who do not complete their thesis during one semester of SPAN 799 will need to register for additional credits. Independent studies courses are not available for graduate students of Spanish.

Concentration in Spanish and French (SF)

Code	Title	Credits
French		
Select six required courses (not electives) specified under the concentration in French.		18
Latino, Latin American, or Spanish cultures, literatures, or linguistics		
Take the two required core courses specified under the concentration in Spanish, plus four electives with the SPAN subject code.		18
Electives		
Select two electives with the FREN, FRLN, and SPAN subject codes. ¹		6
FREN 798	Directed Reading and Thesis Research	
SPAN 798	Directed Reading and Research	
FREN 799	Thesis	
SPAN 799	Thesis	
Total Credits		42

¹ Students who elect to complete a thesis may apply 6 credits of 798 and 799 to fulfill this requirement.

Concentration in Spanish/Bilingual-Multicultural Education (SBM)

Code	Title	Credits
Required Core Courses ¹		
SPAN 502	Hispanic Sociolinguistics	3
SPAN 510	Methods of Literary and Cultural Studies	3
Latino, Latin American or Spanish cultures, literatures, or linguistics		
Select four courses with the SPAN subject code.		12
Education Courses		
Select two courses from the following list in consultation with an advisor.		6
EDUC 511	Child and Adolescent Development in Global Contexts	
EDUC 537	Introduction to Culturally Linguistically Diverse Learners	
EDCI 516	Bilingualism and Language Acquisition Research	
EDCI 520	Assessment of Language Learners	
EDCI 560	Methods of Teaching in Foreign/World Languages	
EDCI 684	Advanced Methods of Teaching Foreign/Second Languages in PK-12 Schools	
EDRD 620	Reading/Writing in Foreign/World Languages	
Electives ²		
Select four electives in consultation with an advisor.		12
Total Credits		36

¹ Students must take the core courses within their first 15 credits.

² Students who elect to complete a thesis may apply 6 credits of 798 and 799 to fulfill this requirement.

Dual Degree Options

Foreign Languages, MA and Global Affairs, MA Dual Degree

Students interested in pursuing a dual master's program linking foreign languages or global affairs with another discipline should discuss their interest with the graduate program directors of both programs and review the university policies regarding Individualized Dual Master's Degree Programs.

Students approved to pursue a dual master's program linking the foreign languages MA with a concentration in French, Spanish, or Spanish bilingual/multicultural education with the global affairs MA can share 12 credits between the two programs. Application to the second master's program should be pursued with consultation of the directors of both programs. Admission to the second master's program will require that the student has met the minimum prerequisites for admissions to the second program.

Accelerated Master's

Foreign Languages, BA (Spanish Concentration)/Foreign Languages, Accelerated MA (Spanish Concentration)

Overview

Highly-qualified Mason undergraduates may apply to the accelerated master's degree. If accepted, students may earn both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in foreign languages with a concentration in Spanish after satisfactory completion of 144 credits.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MA in Foreign Languages (Spanish concentration), see Application Requirements on the departmental website (<http://mcl.gmu.edu>).

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses (SPAN 510 Methods of Literary and Cultural Studies and SPAN 502 Hispanic Sociolinguistics) as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of B in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. On completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form.

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.

Foreign Languages, BA (Spanish Concentration)/Foreign Languages, Accelerated MA (Spanish/Bilingual-Multicultural Education Concentration)

Overview

Highly-qualified Mason undergraduates may apply to the accelerated master's degree. If accepted, students may earn both a bachelor's degree in foreign languages with a concentration in Spanish and a master's degree in foreign languages with a concentration in Spanish/Bilingual-Multicultural Education after satisfactory completion of 150 credits.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MA in Foreign Languages (Spanish/Bilingual Multicultural Education concentration), see Application Requirements on the departmental website (<http://mcl.gmu.edu>).

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses (SPAN 510 Methods of Literary and Cultural Studies and SPAN 502 Hispanic Sociolinguistics) as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of B in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. On completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

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