

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

336 Aquia Building
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.

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 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 Spanish or a concentration in Spanish/bilingual-multicultural education. If accepted, students will be able to earn an undergraduate degree and a graduate degree in Foreign Languages after satisfactory completion of 144-150 credits, generally within five years.

Graduate Programs

The department offers a distinctive interdisciplinary master's degree in foreign languages designed to meet the needs and interests of prospective and practicing teachers and other professionals. It also prepares students for doctoral study at other institutions. Within the master's degree, students choose one of four concentrations: French, Spanish, French and Spanish, and Spanish/bilingual-multicultural education.

Funding

The department has a limited number of 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.

Faculty

Department Faculty

Professors

Berroa (chair), Winkler

Associate Professors

Carreño-Rodríguez, Leeman, Levine, Markx (associate chair), Olson, Pichichero, Rabin, Roman-Mendoza, Vivancos-Pérez, K. Zhang

Assistant Professors

Arans, Burns, Chanethom, J. Chen, Greenberg, Hemmann, Jeck, Mahmoud Hussein, Mulholland, Quintana, Repinecz, Serafini, Serigos, Sun, Zach

Term Assistant Professors

Bonilla, Dudnik, Fujiwara, Jung, Romaniuc, Sweet, Vikis

Term Instructors

Aldhobhani, Ashraf-Hassan, Ay, Bollen, Brody, Carey, X. Chen, Cornejo, DeMonte, Gonzalez, Guezzuez, Guglielmi, He, Iampramoon, Jones, D. Kim, Lamothe, Linares, J. Liu, Luna, Milovanovic, Mirsharif, Moon, Muravchik, Poliakoff, Queenan, Rabinowitch, Ruiz Alonso Bartol, Saito Kobayashi, Saltzman, Samaha, Santoro, Shin, Skooti, Tritt, Valamotamed, Velasco, Wright, Yoo, Zayed, Zelensky, P. Zhang

Programs

- Arabic Minor
- Chinese Minor
- Classical Studies Minor
- 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 Minor