

WHERE WORDS CONNECT WORLDS

IOWA

**Department of
Languages, Linguistics,
Literatures, & Cultures**



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DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LINGUISTICS, LITERATURES, & CULTURES

The Department of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures, and Cultures offers 14 distinct programs that foster critical inquiry into language—how it shapes and is shaped by culture, cognition, and global forces.

With faculty expertise in language acquisition, applied linguistics, literary history, cultural politics, translation, and international studies, the department fosters an environment of inquiry that encourages students to explore how language shapes human experience.

Whether examining global media landscapes, engaging with literary and cultural histories, or investigating how language is processed in the human mind, students gain a multidisciplinary perspective on communication and culture.

The LLLC Department offers...

- Nine BAs
- Twelve minors
- Courses in Swahili
- Interdisciplinary research
- Immersive learning
- Study abroad
- Community engagement
- Preparation for careers in education, government, translation, business, media, and more!

GETTING STARTED WITH LANGUAGE STUDY

WORLD LANGUAGE PATHWAYS

Students can follow one of three pathways to complete the World Language General Education Requirement for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Fourth Level Proficiency

Complete four levels of a world language through high school, college coursework, or proficiency testing.

Third Level + Cultural Exploration Course

Complete three levels of language in high school or college, plus an approved World Language and Cultural Exploration course.

Second Level of Two Languages

Complete 2nd level coursework in 2 different languages, equivalent to 2 years in HSI or 2 semesters in college for each.

WORLD LANGUAGE PLACEMENT TESTING

Who Should Take Placement Test?

- If you completed 4 years of a language, no test is needed, unless you want to continue studying that language.
- If you completed fewer than 4 years, check with your advisor to determine how to meet the Gen Ed requirement.
- If you plan to continue studying your HS language, take the test to be placed in the right course.

When Should You Take the Placement Test?

- At least 2 weeks prior to your orientation session.

Where? How?

- Multiple-choice, adaptive online test covering grammar, reading, and vocabulary. No external resources are allowed. It takes about an hour.

Scoring

- Your score appears at the end—save or print a copy. The test results will help you and your advisor determine the best level for your first enrollment in a language course.
- Each program has different recommendations for placement scores.

FLIP CREDIT

The **Furthering Language Incentive Program (FLIP)** allows students who've met the CLAS General Education World Languages requirement to earn up to 8 additional credits while studying a language.

For more information on how to qualify, see [here](#).

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences benefit from approximately \$1 million in annual student scholarships thanks to generous alumni and donors who support and value our mission, making a liberal arts education more financially accessible to students.

Explore the Iowa Scholarship Portal for Opportunities Like These:

- **Kala Mandali/Friends of South Asian Arts Scholarship:** \$250/semester for an undergrad and grad student based on scholarship and interest in South Asian arts and culture.
- **Stanley Summer Scholarship for Asian Language Study:** Up to \$5,000 for intensive language study, open to undergrad and grad students in Asian Languages and Literatures/Asian Civilizations.
- **Tsara Ann Hinman Chinese Award:** \$75/semester for female students enrolled in a Chinese language class.
- **Cheng/Liu Chinese Scholarship:** Up to \$1,500 for undergrad and grad Chinese majors planning to continue at UI.
- **Helene Scriabine Undergraduate Prize in Russian Studies:** Up to \$1,500 for a Russian or Russian Studies major/minor.
- **Mary Susan Morse Iosue Memorial Scholarship:** \$875/semester for a French major in their junior year or later.
- **Richard J. Tyner Scholarship:** Up to \$3,000 for prospective French majors.
- **Charles Bundy Wilson Prize:** \$100 for an outstanding graduating senior.
- **German Book Prize:** \$50 for a German major with strong commitment and promise.
- **Erich Funke Memorial Prize:** Up to \$700 for a student of German.
- **Miriam Gelfand Scholarship and Translation Awards**
 - **First-Year Translation Scholarship:** \$500 (2 awards) for first-year students planning to declare the BA in Translation
 - **Second-Year Translation Scholarship:** \$750 (2 awards) for declared Translation majors.
 - **Gelfand Translation Essay Award:** \$1,500 for a scholarly or creative essay
 - **Gelfand Translation Award:** \$1,500 for a 2,500-word max translation into English by a Translation major.

ARABIC



Why Study Arabic at the University of Iowa?

- Small, interactive classes where you get to know your professors.
- Hands-on topics like music, film, media, and contemporary culture.
- Study abroad options in [Morocco](#) or [Jordan](#).
- **A welcoming community—connect with students who share your interests**

Arabic Minor Requirements

- Intermediate Arabic I & II (Modern Standard Arabic).
- Two more 2000+ level Arabic courses.
- One advanced course, like Media Arabic or Arabic-English Translation.
- One course taught in English allowed, with options like Modern Palestinian Literature or Arab-American Immigration.



Learning Arabic opens doors to exciting careers, global experiences, and unique opportunities.

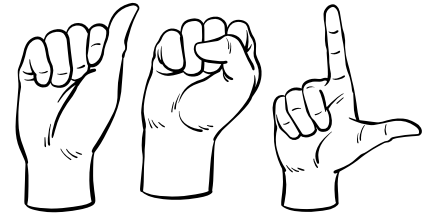
- 90% of U.S. employers look for candidates with language skills.
- Arabic complements any major—from Social Work and Education to Finance, Pre-Med, and Creative Writing.
- Employers value language learners for their cultural awareness, adaptability, critical thinking, and collaboration skills.

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Want to stand out in college and beyond? Arabic can take you there!

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE



Why Study ASL?

ASL is a visual language that fosters connection and inclusion.

Learning ASL enhances memory, problem-solving, and spatial skills.

ASL opens doors to careers in healthcare, education, counseling, advocacy, and technology.

Why Study ASL at the University of Iowa?

- **Immersive Learning:** Small classes where you'll start signing from Day 1, and learn about Deaf Culture, media, and history.
- **Expert Faculty:** Professors are members of the Deaf community, with educational backgrounds from many renowned Deaf institutions.
- **Events:**
 - **Deaf Awareness Week**—public discussions, lectures, library programming; **film series** promoting Deaf actors and American Sign Language; **ASL club events**. And more!!



Conversation & Cultural Immersion

- Regular ASL conversation hours provide students with opportunities to practice outside of class.
- Faculty keep students informed about a variety of ASL events, both locally, statewide, and in neighboring regions.
- Students are encouraged to attend Deaf events hosted by Cedar Rapids Association of the Deaf or attend Deaf Capitol Day in Des Moines.

ASL Minor Requirements

- ASL IV or demonstrated proficiency.
- 12 additional credits in courses like Deaf Culture, ASL Literature, or Deafness in Media.
- One course can be taught in English.

An ASL Minor Pairs Well With...

Speech Pathology, Education, Psychology,
Pre-Med, Disability Studies

**ASL unlocks a world of visual language,
culture, and connection!**

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CHINESE

Why Study Chinese at the University of Iowa?

Learning Chinese opens a world of cultures, histories, food, music, art, and friendships. At Iowa, you'll experience an immersive and comprehensive approach to language learning by:

- Discovering a language with straightforward grammar and build proficiency in small classes with dedicated faculty.
- Participating in cultural events like the Mid-Autumn Festival, Speech Contest, and Chinese Corner conversation hours.
- Studying abroad in Taiwan and explore post-graduate teaching opportunities in China.
- Gaining an edge in global business, diplomacy, education, and technology.

The world is waiting—where will Chinese take you?



Chinese Major Requirements

- Introductory Courses on Chinese culture, history, and arts
- Advanced Language Courses
- Literature & Culture Courses
- Chinese literature, film, and cultural analysis
- Linguistics & Advanced Studies
- Chinese linguistics, classical language, and advanced writing

Chinese Minor Requirements

- Introductory Courses on Chinese culture or arts
- Advanced Language Courses
- Literature & Culture Course
- Chinese literary and cinematic works
- Linguistics & Advanced Studies
- Language structure and advanced writing

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FRENCH

Why Study French at the University of Iowa?



French Major Requirements

- Core Courses – courses focus on phonetics and spoken French, including grammar, reading, writing, and linguistics
- Electives – Topics like French civilization, media, business French, advanced literature and culture, specialized topics, and more
- Study Abroad Encouraged – Credits can be applied to the major

French Minor Requirements

- Intermediate French Completion – Required before beginning minor coursework
- Five Courses at 3000+ Level – Focused on language, culture, or literature and all taught in French to ensure language immersion
- Study Abroad Option – Can earn credit towards the minor
- AP Credit Accepted – Score of 4+ can count toward requirements

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Learning French connects you to global communities, rich histories, and diverse career opportunities. At Iowa, you'll experience an immersive and interdisciplinary approach to language learning through:

- Small, engaging classes with dedicated faculty to strengthen your language skills.
- Classes on the literature, film, and cultural history from France and the Francophone world.
- Conversation hours, tutoring, and student-led events to practice beyond the classroom.
- Study abroad in Rennes, Pau, Lyon, or Paris for full immersion.
- Engage with Iowa's French-speaking West African community.
- Gain a career edge—French is the 3rd most in-demand language in the U.S. job market.
- Pair French with fields like international relations, business, CS, public health, and engineering for expanded opportunities.

Expand your world—where will French take you?



La Chandeleur Crêpe-Making Soirée

GERMAN

Studying German deepens your understanding of German-speaking cultures and opens doors to global opportunities. At Iowa, you'll experience:

- Small, engaging classes with strong faculty support.
- Weekly Kaffeeklatsch and film series for immersive language practice.
- Study abroad in Freiburg, Lüneburg, or Dortmund.
- Celebrate German traditions at Winterfeier and Maifeier.
- Diverse courses in film, business German, literature, and more.
- Undergraduate research and the Anne Frank Initiative.
- Career-ready skills—German is highly sought by U.S. employers, with alumni at Microsoft and Boeing. Pair it with business, engineering, medicine, or music for even more opportunities.

Unlock new opportunities—where will German take you?

German Major Requirements

- Six advanced German courses
- 3 Language Core Courses
- 2 Cultural Core Courses
- 1 Linguistics Course
- Maximum of 3 courses taught in English
- May include Intermediate German -OR- AP scores 4+ -OR- FLIP Credit



German Minor Requirements

- At least 3 advanced courses
- Up to 1 course taught in English
- May include Intermediate German -OR- AP Scores 4+ -OR- FLIP Credit
- Approved study abroad or transfer courses can apply!

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INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

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International Studies prepares you to navigate a globalized world and tackle pressing challenges. Gain cross-cultural skills and real-world experience through

- Interdisciplinary courses on human rights, climate change, migration, and diplomacy
- Study abroad & internships for firsthand global engagement
- Hands-on learning with refugee and immigrant communities in Iowa
- Research & honors theses on international issues
- Specialized tracks in Global Business, Human Rights & Public Service, or Sustainable Development
- Scholarships & fellowships
- Diverse career paths in government, diplomacy, nonprofits, journalism, and business.

Think globally, act locally—where will International Studies take you?

International Studies Major Requirements

- Core Courses: Intro to International Studies, Cross-Cultural Skills, World Events Today
- Language Requirement: Two courses beyond general education
- Capstone: Community engagement or global citizenship studies
- Global Perspectives: Two+ courses (2000+ level) from various departments
- World Cultures & Societies: Two+ courses (2000+ level)
- Optional Concentrations: Global Business & Communication, Human Rights & Public Service, Sustainable Development



International Studies Minor Requirements

- Introductory Courses: World travel skills, working internationally
- Global Perspectives & World Cultures: 2000+ level courses from various disciplines
- Experiential Learning: Study abroad, community engagement, or an advanced course

ITALIAN

Why Study Italian at Iowa?

Studying Italian connects you to a world of art, culture, and global industry through immersive learning and career-building opportunities:

- Small, engaging classes that build fluency in language, literature, and culture
- Tavola Italiana conversation practice to refine speaking skills
- Study abroad in Milan, Torino, Viterbo, Verona, Reggio Emilia, or Rome
- Faculty-led Sicily program on organized crime and social sustainability
- Experiential learning—study art in Florence, explore Pompeii, or analyze Italian literature and film
- Employer-valued skills—adaptability, cultural awareness, critical thinking
- Diverse career paths in art, business, education, tourism, and international relations

Italy is calling—when will you go?

Italian Major Requirements

- Core Language Courses: Intermediate and advanced proficiency
- Specialized Courses: Literature and cultural studies, including Dante's *Inferno*, transcultural texts, and modern Italian fiction
- Study Abroad: Credits applicable to the major
- AP Credit: Scores of 4+ count toward requirements.

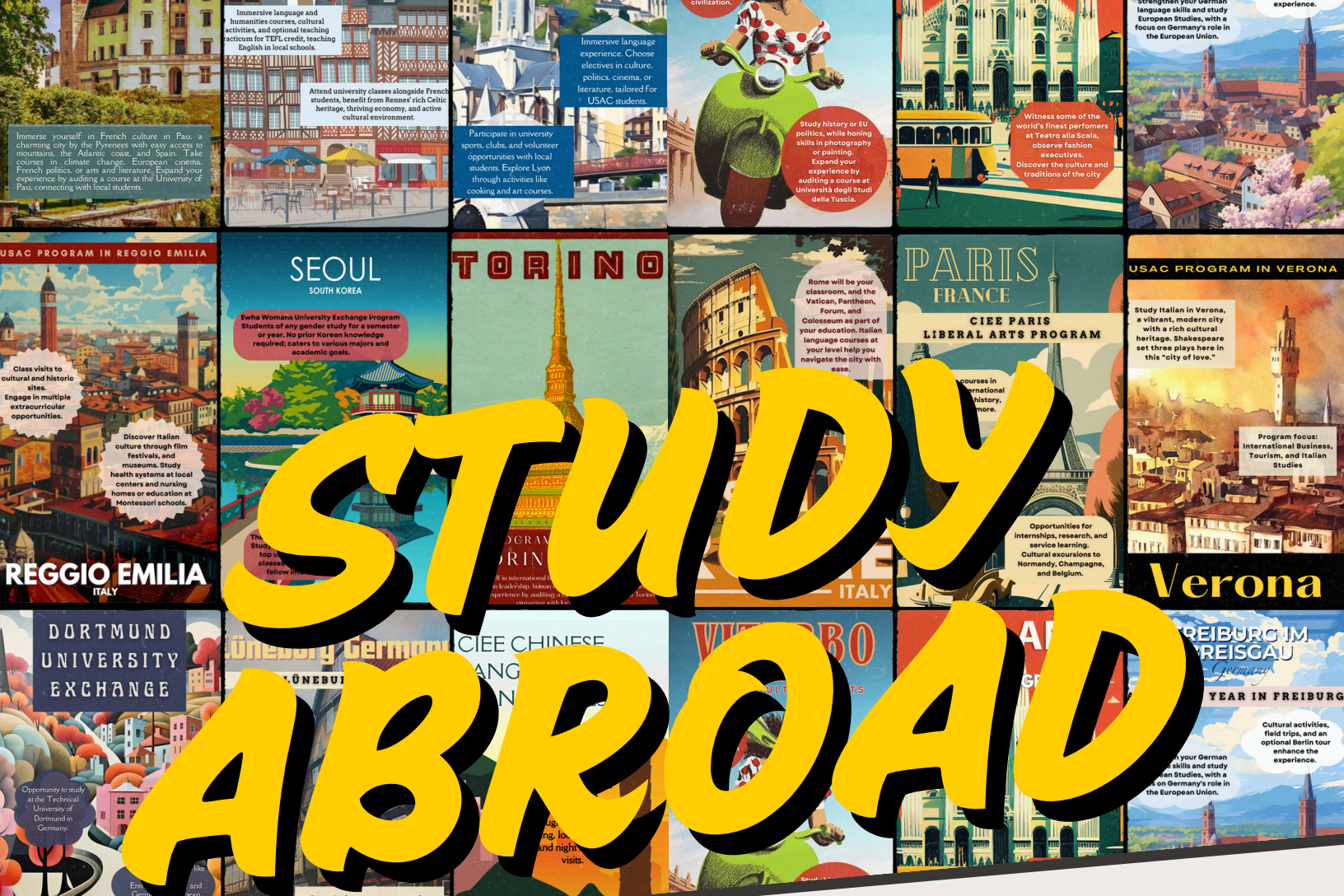


Italian Minor Requirements

- 15 semester hours, 12 of these at 3000+ level, taught in Italian
- At least four courses must be taken at Iowa
- AP Credit: Scores of 4+ count toward requirements.

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STUDY ABROAD

Travel to Italy, Japan, Morocco and more!



CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

WEEKLY CONVO HOURS FOR LANGUAGE PRACTICE



Russian
conversation hour
FRIDAYS, 12:30-1:30 P.M.
612 PH
SPRING '25



Arabic
Conversation Hour
Spring 2025
Tuesdays 3:30-4:30
Phillips Hall 120 (CLCL)
in the green couch area
يلا ندردش



CHINESE CORNER
PHILLIPS HALL 318
3:00-4:00 p.m.
February: 10th, 24th
March: 5th, 24th
April: 3rd, 7th, 16th
PRACTICE YOUR CHINESE!!
GET TO KNOW CHINESE LEARNERS AND SPEAKERS AROUND THE UNIVERSITY
SNACKS INCLUDED!
Contact person: Huijiang Zheng | huijiang.zheng@uiowa.edu
Faculty, Staff, Students, Native Speakers All Welcome
Note: No Pandas will be attending



Kaffeeklatsch
Sprechen Sie mit uns Deutsch!
Wednesdays 4:30-5:30, PH 120 (CLCL)



FRENCH CONVERSATION HOURS
Wed. 2:00-3:30 pm / Thurs. 3:30-5:00 pm
PH 120 (CLCL)
Salut Manon, rappelle-moi les heures de conversation ce semestre, s'il te plaît!
Bien sûr! C'est les mercredis de 14h à 15h30 pm et les jeudis de 15h30 à 17h pm! Dites-le aux étudiants!
Absolument, je leur dirai! Et, c'est où, encore?
Super! C'est dans le CLCL, 120 Phillips Hall

PEER TUTORING



MON 2:00-3:00
TUES 2:00-3:00
THURS 2:00-3:00
PH 120
HONEY, ARE U COMING?
ITALIAN TUTORING
with Nora
MAKE AN APPOINTMENT ON BOOKINGS USING THE QR CODE!
CIAO!



KOREAN TUTORING WITH JACKY
여러분 한국어를 열심히 연습해 봅시다!
DROP IN WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 1:30PM-3:00PM
OR BY APPOINTMENT
JACK "JACKY" DODEN (HE/THEY)
116B PHILLIPS HALL (CLCL OFFICE)



German Tutoring with Kylie
By appointment only on Bookings!
Kylie Cooling (she/they)
120 Phillips Hall (CLCL)



JAPANESE TUTORING with Jason Ly
ジェイソン・リー
日本語で話しましょう!
MON & WED 1:30-2:30 PM
FRI 11:15-12:15
PHILLIPS HALL 120F (CLCL)



French Tutoring with Celeste
Monday 12:20-2:20pm
Wednesday 12:20-2:20pm
CLCL Phillips Hall
No appointment needed
Drop in!

GET INVOLVED IN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS



AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB
Wednesday Nights
6 - 7 PM
Phillips Hall Room 318
ASL Club



Francophones at Iowa
Chaque Vendredi! 18h à 19h
Phillips Hall CLCL



First German Club Meeting!
FRANZ BAKER'S CLASSROOM
ROOM 205
7:45 TO 9:15 AM
German Club



LET'S PLAY
양세찬 게임
CALL MY NAME
Korean Conversation Club



Wednesday MOVIE NIGHT
LSP
Linguistics Student Association



Multilingual Open Mic Night
February 2nd
Translate Iowa Project

JAPANESE

Studying Japanese connects you to a dynamic language, rich culture, and global opportunities through immersive learning and career-building experiences...

- Small, engaging courses in language, linguistics, film, theater, literature, and translation
- Real-world practice with peer tutors and language tables
- Study abroad in Nagoya or Kanda University in Chiba
- Take part in Bunkasai (Culture Festival), the Skit Contest, and Tadoku Book Club.
- Career-relevant skills—cultural competency, adaptability, and collaboration
- Diverse career paths in business, translation, media, and international relations



Step into a global future—where will Japanese take you?



Japanese Major Requirements

- Core Language Courses: First through Fourth-Year Japanese
- Literature & Translation: Japanese literature, film, and translation
- Linguistics & Advanced Studies: Classical and professional Japanese
- Cultural Studies: Japanese culture, history, and society
- Study Abroad & Transfer Credits: Approved credits may apply.

Japanese Minor Requirements

- Core Language Courses: First through Third-Year Japanese
- Literature & Translation: Japanese fiction, film, or translation
- Linguistics & Advanced Studies: Classical Japanese or language in society
- Cultural Studies: Japanese history, art, or society.



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KOREAN

Studying Korean connects you to a growing global culture, new career paths, and deeper cultural understanding through immersive learning and hands-on engagement:

- Small classes that build strong language skills
- Courses in history, literature, media, and social customs
- Student-run conversation group for informal practice
- Faculty-led cultural events and cooking classes
- Study abroad in Seoul for full immersion
- Career-ready skills for business, media, translation, and international relations

Discover a world of possibilities—where will Korean take you?



Korean Minor Requirements

- Core Language Courses – Two semesters of Third-Year or Fourth-Year Korean
- Cultural or Linguistic Course – Options include Korean pop culture, linguistics, or translation
- Electives – Courses on Korean history, society, or global perspectives
- Study Abroad Option – Credit can be earned at a university in South Korea
- Course Taught in English – Max of one course can be taken in English

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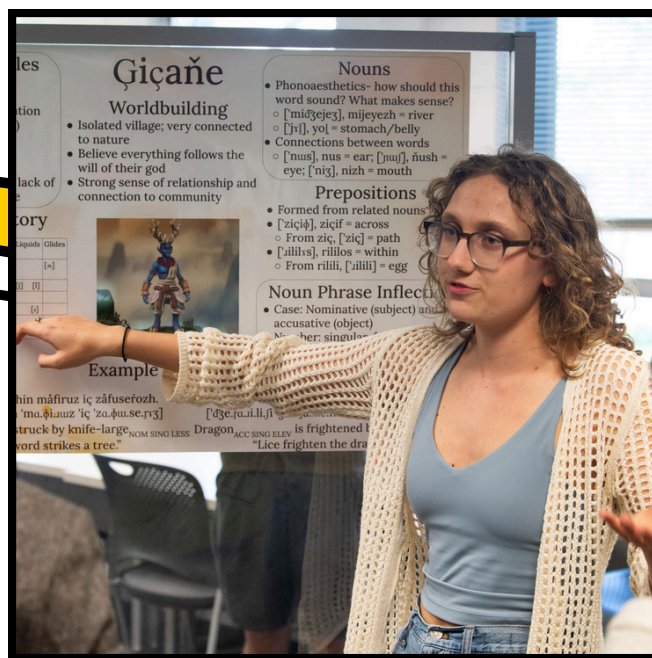


LINGUISTICS

Linguistics helps you decode the structure of language and explore communication, opening doors to diverse careers. At Iowa, you will:

- Analyze how languages work and shape culture and society
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills applicable across fields
- Engage in research on phonology, syntax, semantics, sociolinguistics, and psycholinguistics
- Connect linguistics with psychology, anthropology, computer science, and more
- Apply linguistic knowledge in speech therapy, translation, AI, and education
- Think scientifically about language using data-driven methods accessible to undergraduates
- Prepare for careers in teaching, AI & NLP, translation, advertising, and global communication.

Unravel the mysteries of language—where will Linguistics take you?



Linguistics Major Requirements

4 core courses: Introduction to Linguistics, Phonetics, Syntax, and Phonology.

1 historical language course (e.g., Old English, Latin).

15 s.h. of electives, including topics like Language Rights, Language & Gender, and Psycholinguistics.

Linguistics Minor Requirements

4 core courses: Introduction to Linguistics, Phonetics, Syntax, and Phonology.

1 historical language course (e.g., Old English, Latin).

Approved course at the 3000+ level

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RUSSIAN

Studying Russian connects you to a global language with cultural, scientific, and geopolitical significance

- Small, engaging classes that build strong language skills
- Study abroad in Estonia at the University of Tartu
- Unique courses on sports, Slavic folklore, cultures of the Caucasus
- Cultural events like Kapustnik and community activities
- Career-ready skills valued in government, journalism, intelligence, business, and research

Discover new perspectives—where will Russian take you?



Russian Major Requirements

- Third-Year Russian I & II
- Fourth-Year Russian I & II

Russian Major Requirements

- Language Courses: 2nd-4th year
- Russian & East European Culture: Russian Culture, Russia Today, or Slavic Folklore
- Russian Literature (Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, 1860-1917)
- Themed courses on women in Russia, politics, sports, or ancient culture
- Interdisciplinary Electives

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SWAHILI

Did you know?

Swahili is spoken by 230 million people worldwide and is a lingua franca of East and Central Africa, and an official language of the African Union.

Swahili-speaking East African countries are among the world's fastest-growing economies.

In Iowa City, Swahili is the 3rd most spoken language among K12 English learners.

Swahili at the University of Iowa

Courses in Elementary & Intermediate Swahili, East African Languages & Cultures, African Culture & the World.

Study Abroad programs in Kenya (Public Health) and Tanzania (Wildlife Conservation, Coastal Ecology).

Career & Skills Benefits: Employers value

language skills, cultural competency, adaptability, and critical thinking. Swahili opens opportunities in sustainability, nonprofits, and global engagement.

Want to stand out in college and beyond?

Swahili can take you there!

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TRANSLATION

Studying Translation at Iowa equips you with global literacy and practical skills for a multilingual world

- Develop cross-cultural communication skills.
- Small class size and mentoring provide personalized learning.
- Collaborative workshops that provide hands-on translation experience.
- Advanced language proficiency in your chosen language(s).
- Cross-cultural communication skills applicable across industries.
- Critical thinking and research skills for careers in diplomacy, publishing, international policy, and more.
- A flexible program that pairs well with Linguistics, Politics, Communication Studies, and Language & Literature

Translation Major Requirements

- Core Courses include World Literature in Translation, Translation and Global Society, Translation in the Humanities, and Reading for Translation.
- Workshops (Undergraduate Translation Workshop I/II and others)
- Seminar: Critical Reading or Translating Style.
- Electives Options like Modern Palestinian Literature and Culture, Japanese Film, Slavic Folklore, and Spanish in the U.S.
- Outreach & Engagement: Translation Internship, Internship/Community Engagement, or Study Abroad.
- Undergraduate Capstone Project.

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Translation for Global Literacy Minor Requirements

- Core Courses: Translation and Global Society.
- Undergraduate Translation Workshop I/II and language-specific ones.
- Electives Includes classes like Cinderella, Translation in the Humanities, Translating Style, Intro to International Studies, and Slavic Folklore.
- Undergraduate Capstone Project.

Wide variety of career opportunities

- interpretation
- cultural consultation
- state department, law, and government positions
- communications coordination
- primary and secondary education
- international business
- journalism
- public health

THE FUTURE IS MULTILINGUAL

Ten Reasons You Should Study a Language

1

90% of U.S. employers seek multilingual employees, and international expertise is in demand across business, healthcare, education, and government.

2

Understanding language, culture, and international systems equips you to work on issues like diplomacy, migration, and human rights.

3

Linguistics, translation, and international studies strengthen problem-solving, adaptability, and cross-cultural analysis.

4

Language learning improves memory, multitasking, and decision-making; linguistic study sharpens analytical reasoning.

5

Studying languages and translation refines writing, grammar, and public speaking in multiple languages.

6

Only 7.5% of U.S. college students study a language, making these skills stand out in the job market.

7

Study abroad, research, community engagement, and internships provide real-world experience.

8

Fields like diplomacy, intelligence, law, journalism, education, and international business highly value language and cultural expertise.

9

Bilingual employees earn higher salaries, with language skills providing a measurable pay boost.

10

Whether through policy, education, media, or research, these fields empower students to foster global connections and cross-cultural understanding.

**Boost your résumé, expand your opportunities!
Start learning a language today!**

CHECK OUT THE CENTER FOR LANGUAGE AND CULTURE LEARNING

→ dwllc-clcl@uiowa.edu

 [clcluiowa](https://www.instagram.com/clcluiowa)

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Culture Learning