

Languages, Linguistics, Literatures, and Cultures

Chair

- Jill Beckman

Undergraduate majors: Asian Languages and Literature, BA; French, BA; German, BA; International Studies, BA; Italian, BA; Linguistics, BA; Russian, BA; Translation, BA

Undergraduate minors: American Sign Language; Arabic Studies; Asian Languages and Literature; French; German; International Studies; Italian; Korean Studies; Linguistics; Russian; Translation for Global Literacy

Graduate degrees: French and Francophone World Studies, MA; French and Francophone World Studies, PhD; Linguistics, MA; Linguistics, PhD; Literary Translation, MFA

Graduate certificate: Literary Translation

The Department of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures, and Cultures (LLLC) fosters interdisciplinary scholarship in languages, linguistics, literatures, and cultures. It encourages synergy and collaboration among its faculty and enhances opportunities for cross-cultural course development and research.

Undergraduate and graduate programs in the department serve students with varied interests and career aspirations. Students are educated to become global citizens who understand and are understood by diverse populations. They are trained to be critical thinkers and problem solvers who are also capable scholars, lucid writers, and proficient speakers.

The department offers instruction in numerous fields related to language, linguistics, literature, and culture.

Language for GE CLAS Core

Undergraduate students in all majors may satisfy the World Languages requirement of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core with course sequences in American Sign Language [p.], Arabic [p.], Chinese [p.], French [p.], German [p.], Italian [p.], Japanese [p.], Korean [p.], Russian [p.], and Swahili [p.]. For more information regarding pathways to fulfill the World Languages GE CLAS Core requirement, including options to take four levels of one world language, two levels each of two different languages, or three levels of a world language plus a World Language and Cultural Exploration course, see GE CLAS Core in the catalog.

Students who have had experience with a world language should take the appropriate University of Iowa World Languages Placement Test, which helps determine the level at which they should begin study of the language. If no placement test exists, students should contact the general education coordinator to determine the level at which they should begin language study at the University of Iowa.

Related Certificates

Cognitive Science of Language

The Graduate College offers the graduate Certificate in Cognitive Science of Language. Designed to complement doctoral study, the certificate program ensures that students have training in interdisciplinary approaches to the study of language along with a strong theoretical grounding in their PhD discipline. See the Certificate in Cognitive Science of Language in the catalog for more information.

International Business

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Tippie College of Business offer the undergraduate Certificate in International Business. The program entails the study of international business and economics; international relations and institutions; a language; and the art, literature, culture, and/or politics of a geographic area. Students who major in Asian Languages and Literature (both Chinese and Japanese subprograms) or Russian are likely to satisfy the certificate's cultural immersion requirement through major requirements. For more information, see the Certificate in International Business (Tippie College of Business) in the catalog.

Study Abroad

The department strongly encourages its students to study abroad to accelerate language learning and deepen cultural understanding. Many students participate in summer, semester, and year-long study abroad programs. There are many resources available for funding study, intern, or research abroad. It may also be possible for students to apply University of Iowa financial aid to their study abroad programs. Interested students should discuss study abroad programs with their academic advisor or see Study Abroad (University College) in the catalog.

Summer Internships

Students are encouraged to enrich their programs of study through internships designed to combine work experience abroad or in the United States with study or research projects. The university's Pomerantz Career Center maintains a list of internships.

Student Associations

Students have many opportunities to enrich their studies in languages and literature while living in Iowa City. The university sponsors student associations for students from many countries. All University of Iowa students are welcome to join. Various international community groups sponsor cultural events and holiday celebrations throughout the year.