

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

From Study to Skills

The Foreign Language program at Rutgers offers French, German, and Spanish major degree programs and minors in Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS) and European Studies. There is also a Master in Teaching Spanish program for certified teachers or for students pursuing a teaching degree. Students may obtain teacher certification in French, German or Spanish by also enrolling with the Rutgers-Camden Institute for Effective Education.

Achieving proficiency in another language opens new opportunities and perspectives. It is excellent preparation for careers in business, law, or teaching careers. Language skills are also useful for all individuals in our increasingly globalized world. In the US, English, Spanish, and German are the most common languages spoken in the home.

Foreign Language graduates pursue careers in business, education, government, and the non-profit sector, and some pursue advanced degrees. For bilinguals, there are openings in foreign countries as well as in the United States. Graduates have found jobs in teaching, translating, foreign diplomacy, foreign correspondence, travel agencies, international airlines, international corporations, and in agencies in the federal government, foreign language competence is an asset to urban workers in social work, public health, and law enforcement.

Related Fields: Business, Education, English, International Relations, Italian, Latin, Political Science, Social Studies, Social Work

Skills and Abilities

Analytic Skills- Students will critique writing, pay attention to detail, compare language structure, learn to exchange opinions and explain cultural phenomenon, study foreign civilizations, and identify cultural values.

Language Skills- Students will read literature of various cultures, practice memorization, write essays in foreign languages with correct grammar, use precise language, access documents in their original language, and translate and interpret languages.

Social Skills- Students will develop the ability to adapt to new environments, appreciate cultural differences, collaborate with peers, express feelings using foreign languages, interact effectively with diverse people, practice careful listening, and utilize public speaking.

What Careers Are Available For Foreign Language Majors

The following are samples of first jobs of Foreign Language majors:

Advertising Copywriter
Bilingual Counselor
Court Interpreter
Cultural Affairs Officer
Customs/ Immigration Officer
Foreign Student Advisor
Interpreter

Management Trainee
Social Worker
Teacher
Tour Organizer/ Guide
Translator

Graduate School Options

While many foreign language majors choose to go directly into the workplace after graduation, others may choose to pursue a graduate degree in Business, Education, Human Resource Management, Law, Library Science, Literature, Public Administration, or Social Work. Rutgers-Camden also offers a Master's in Teaching Spanish (MAT) for certified teachers and students pursuing teacher certification in Spanish.

Resources

Consider joining a professional organization such as:

American Translators Association

www.atanet.org

Foundation for International Human Relations

www.fihhr.info/index.php

National Association for Interpretation

www.interpnet.com

National Association for Bilingual Education

www.nabe.org

Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages

www.tesol.org

Consider joining French Club, the Latin American Student Organization, or Student Government Association.

Also, students can participate in International Week on campus or Study Abroad Programs.

Assist a faculty member with their research.

Visit RaptorLink for internship opportunities in your field of interest.

Connect with professionals in fields that interest you on LinkedIn.

Career Center

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