

# World Languages and Cultures

Chinese Studies  
Classical Greek

Classical Studies  
French

German  
International Studies

Latin  
Linguistics

**Iowa State University has more than 100 majors that provide virtually unlimited academic opportunities.** In this brochure you'll find information about your specific area of interest and a family of related majors that you may want to explore during your adventure here at Iowa State. Please use the contact information listed inside and let us help you discover your passions, unlock your potential, and **enjoy the adventure.**

## **Learn what you can do with a language background**

Familiarity with other languages and cultures broadens your professional opportunities and enhances your ability to adapt to an increasingly global economy. Suddenly your backyard is much larger than you ever dreamed possible. Electronic communications, media coverage, academic study, and work opportunities that focus on cross-cultural communication challenge you to experience and learn about other cultures.

Your course work is designed to guide you to proficiency in a foreign language while immersing you in the rich tradition and history of the culture you choose to study. Understanding another culture and language makes you better prepared to adapt your skills to a variety of professional situations.

Your expertise in world languages and cultures prepares you for a career as an executive, translator, entrepreneur, international journalist, cryptographer, teacher, social worker, or Peace Corps volunteer.

Regardless of what language you choose to study, you will discover a world of adventure for a pioneering spirit like yours.

## **We can introduce you to a whole new world**

World language faculty will serve as your guides, sharing their research and travel experience. Your classes will consist of 15–30 students, so that you can take advantage of faculty expertise as you practice what you learn.

Faculty have received some of the most prestigious teaching and research awards in their field, including Educator of the Year from the American Council on Teaching of Foreign Languages, Choice Outstanding Academic Book Award, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships, Fulbright Fellowships and Social Science Research Council Fellowships.

## **Experience the “global classroom”**

Your teachers will encourage you to experience and practice what you've learned in their classrooms. A significant aspect of world language studies at Iowa State is participation in college-sponsored study abroad programs or international internships.

Iowa State hosts formal study abroad programs in several cities: Valencia and Cáceres, Spain; Cuernavaca and Monterrey, Mexico; Peru; Lyon,

France; Lausanne, Switzerland; St. Petersburg, Russia; and Greece.

Students study the country's traditions, language, and history, and spend some time traveling as a group. Study abroad programs may run from six weeks to one semester to an entire academic year. You choose the program that best fits your academic plan.

## **Develop your listening skills**

Listening is a critical part of learning a language. The department features a world language resource center stocked with media in every language and language-specific electronic resources.

# World Languages and Cultures

## Select an academic program that's best for you

The global economy and easy electronic communication have increased the demand for professionals with cross-cultural expertise. Some students major in a foreign language or take a few extra courses to complement another major with a language minor.

The Languages and Cultures for Professions (LCP) program offers a new option for students in business and engineering. A primary major in the College of Business or Engineering can declare a second major in French, German, Russian studies, or Spanish (or a minor in Chinese studies) tailored to their needs. Each of these new second major options has been specially designed for students in professions in order to

prepare them for the demands of the global marketplace. The LCP option includes courses in the language which focus on professions, conversation courses, culture of civilization courses, electives, an international internship, and study abroad opportunities.

Students majoring in anthropology, history, or architecture may choose to focus on classical studies, Latin, or Greek, which supplements their study of and interest in ancient history. Regardless of which language you study, you will find the experience broadens your appreciation of the world in which we live. For more information, contact the Department of World Languages and Cultures ([www.language.iastate.edu](http://www.language.iastate.edu)) or call the Office of Admissions at 800 262-3810.

## Major or Minor in World Languages and Cultures or Interdisciplinary Studies

Iowa State University offers bachelor's degrees in Classical Studies, French, German, International Studies, Linguistics, and Spanish. The goal of the language program is to help graduates achieve both linguistic proficiency and cultural literacy through the study of language and culture. Cultural literacy includes a general knowledge of the culture's history, familiarity with its literature and artistic products, and basic knowledge of its social and political institutions. You might choose interdisciplinary studies if you have specific educational or professional plans that are best met by a diverse combination of courses from different programs or colleges.

### Classical Studies

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Classical Studies is a cross-disciplinary curriculum in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences that engages you with ancient Greek and Roman civilizations and their influence on western and world civilizations from their beginnings to today.

The Classical Studies Program offers language courses in Latin and ancient Greek and interdisciplinary courses on the ancient city, myths of the Greeks and Romans, their dramas, epics, religious beliefs, history, political thought, philosophy, and more. You can also study

archaeology, history, and art in Greece or Italy. Classical Studies can be declared as a major under interdisciplinary studies, or as a minor through WLC, complementing other cultural studies programs.

The classical studies major fosters cultural literacy and assists in preparing you for a variety of business and professional schools—law and medicine are the two most commonly pursued by classical studies majors—or for any career requiring skills in communication, critical thinking, human relations, or problem solving.

### French

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The French culture and economy are among the strongest and most prevalent in the world, and France is increasingly a leader in science, agriculture, industry, technological innovations, and academic thought and research. French is a critical global language and one of the languages of the future.

When you study French at Iowa State, you learn much more than just the language. You broaden your cultural horizons, strengthen your cultural intelligence, increase your marketability, and learn to see, understand, and relate to the world from a new perspective. The Iowa State French Program offers the possibility of either majoring

solely in French or combining French with other university majors through a cluster of courses that focus on the language, cultures, histories, literatures, and cinemas of France and Francophone countries.

French majors may choose between four concentrations: 1) French studies; 2) Languages and Cultures for Professions (LCP), offered as a secondary major to students in the College of Business; 3) LCP, offered as a secondary major to students in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; 4) LCP, offered as a secondary major to students in the College of Engineering.

### German

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As a German major or minor your coursework will consist of German language, reading, composition, conversation, literature, civilization, and contemporary culture. Many of these courses focus on a particular theme, historical period, or city.

The German program also offers a wide variety of courses in English, such as German Film and Media Studies, Grimm's Tales, or The Holocaust in Text, Image, and Memory.

After completing the appropriate core courses, you may also participate in a semester- or year-long study abroad through exchange programs with Braunschweig, Dortmund, Marburg, or Trier. After completing the appropriate core courses, you may also participate in a semester- or year-long study abroad through exchange programs in Germany and Austria. Summer study abroad programs are also available in Berlin and other locations, and may include an internship.

## International Studies

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www.las.iastate.edu/international-  
study-abroad

The international studies program provides opportunities for you to develop skills and understanding about international events and global issues. Available as a secondary major or minor, the program is designed for students who wish to prepare for work or advanced study in the international arena, such as in diplomacy, intelligence, journalism, research, management, human resources, public relations, engineering, and business.

Your coursework will include studies related to the culture, economics, politics, history, and literature of specific geographical regions; study abroad and/or internship and service learning; courses concentrating on selected international issues; and courses in world language.

## Linguistics

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Linguistics majors study the structure, meaning, uses, and history of human languages; gain insight into how language is processed by the human mind and by computers; learn about cultural and linguistic diversity through the study of how language reflects people's world views; and discover how language reflects unique characteristics of humanity. Majors learn how to analyze language and apply their knowledge to special areas of interest such as how people learn and assess foreign languages, how computers

process human language, and the study of communication disorders.

A linguistics degree from Iowa State will provide the basis for careers in academic and non-academic areas such as language documentation, language teaching and assessment, computational analysis of language, speech pathology, translation, law and government work.

## Spanish

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The Spanish program offers a broad variety of academic, social, and cultural resources that will expand your understanding of the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures.

Spanish majors or minors may combine their Spanish degree with programs in business, engineering, the sciences, agriculture, or teaching, in addition to others. As a Spanish major or minor your coursework will provide an understanding of language, literatures, and

cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Our internationally recognized faculty offer a diverse range of courses from Spanish for the Professions to Cervantes.

The Spanish section coordinates study abroad and international internship opportunities across the globe by encouraging students to participate in summer and semester programs in Spain and across Latin America.

## Minor in World Languages and Cultures

The department offers minors in Chinese studies, French, German, Spanish, Russian studies and Latin. A minor in any foreign language requires that you take a least five classes in the language, three of which must be advanced classes and one of which must be in literature and culture.

## Chinese Studies

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The Chinese studies program offers language courses from elementary through advanced levels and interdisciplinary courses on Chinese literature and film, culture, business and society.

Other departments—history, economics and political science—offer courses related to Chinese studies that also satisfy the Chinese studies minor requirements.

You will also have the opportunity to study abroad in China or Taiwan through Iowa State sponsored programs.

## Latin

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The department offers six language courses in Latin that may be used to obtain the following: (1) a minor in Latin, the combined study of Latin language and literature, (2) a minor in classical studies, the study of Latin language, literature,

and ancient Greco-Roman cultures, or (3) an interdisciplinary major in classical studies, encompassing the study of both ancient Greek and Latin languages and ancient Greco-Roman cultures across disciplines and time.

## Instruction in Other Languages and Literatures

Iowa State provides a diverse education to help you be competitive in an international marketplace. The Department of World Languages and Cultures provides ongoing instruction in several other languages.

### Classical Greek

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The Department of World Languages and Cultures offers six language courses in ancient Greek that may be used to obtain the following: (1) a minor in classical studies, the study of Greek language, literature, and ancient Greco-Roman cultures, or (2) an interdisciplinary major

in classical studies, encompassing the study of both ancient Greek and Latin languages and ancient Greco-Roman cultures across disciplines and time. A study abroad program in Greece is also a part of the classical studies curriculum.

**Iowa State University**  
**Office of Admissions**  
**100 Enrollment Services Center**  
**Ames, Iowa 50011-2011**  
**Phone: 515 294-5836**  
**Toll Free: 800 262-3810**  
**Email: [admissions@iastate.edu](mailto:admissions@iastate.edu)**  
**Web: [www.admissions.iastate.edu](http://www.admissions.iastate.edu)**

### Questions about admission

In addition to writing us at the address at left, we encourage you to visit our website, which features a course catalog, online application, and campus information.

Also, you can follow us on:



### Preparing to do your best while in school

The best preparation continues to be a strong college preparatory program of study, which includes courses in English, mathematics, laboratory science, social studies, and foreign languages. If you intend to transfer credits from another institution, you may contact our Office of Admissions for assistance in selecting the best courses for your program of study.

Material in this brochure was accurate at the time of printing. For the most up-to-date information, visit our website at [www.iastate.edu](http://www.iastate.edu).

Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. veteran. Inquiries can be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity and Compliance, 3280 Beardshear Hall, (515) 294-7612.