World Languages Resource Center

Students studying a world language have access to state-of-the-art equipment in the World Languages Resource Center. Whether taking a study break in between classes or completing a research project, the Center is dedicated to providing tools and services to our students.

A computer lab provides access to authentic resources such as online journals and newspapers from around the world, specialized software and recording tools. The center also hosts a collection of more than 1,200 films for student checkout, along with mobile tablets for use in and out of the classroom.

Study Abroad

The Department of World Languages encourages students who wish to acquire proficiency at a “professional” or advanced level to spend time in a region whose language they are studying. Programs available through the Office of International Learning Opportunities give students a chance to master a language and learn more about culture and customs, often while studying at foreign universities and living with local families.

Language Certificates

Are you looking for a competitive edge on the job market? Distinguish yourself by adding a language certificate to any major! Elementary and intermediate language certificates will appear on your official transcript and will be conferred to you upon graduation from the university. To learn more about the certificates offered, visit http://worldlang.boisestate.edu/language-certificates/
With the changing population of the United States and the growing interdependence of the international community, career opportunities are expanding rapidly for graduates who know a second language.

Second language competency has become highly desirable in teaching, government, social services, diplomacy, law, medicine, mass communications, science, technology, international trade, and marketing. The programs in world languages have the latitude and flexibility to fit nearly any career goal.

Why a Language Degree?

The study of languages gives students a sound foundation in the liberal arts. Graduates with language backgrounds possess a resource for continuing intellectual growth and personal fulfillment, a passport for moving easily within the world community and its diverse cultures, and a practical tool for earning a living. Major and minor programs in the Department of World Languages concentrate on the acquisition of language and knowledge of the cultures that the language expresses.

"Recruiters are urging schools to pay more attention to language skills as their employers eye new markets."
— BusinessWeek

"Majors in languages and literature were the top-paid among Class of 2014 liberal arts graduates at the bachelor’s degree level."
— NACE

"Organizations with international ambitions increasingly expect prospective employees to be fluent in key foreign languages."
— The Economist

Our Programs

Programs in the World Languages department concentrate on the acquisition of language proficiency and knowledge of the cultures expressed by the language. Programs and courses are offered in the following languages:

Majors:
- French, German & Spanish
- French, German & Spanish Secondary Education

Minors:
- American Sign Language
- Arabic Studies
- Basque Studies
- Chinese Studies
- French
- French for Business
- German
- German for Business
- Iberian Studies
- Japanese Studies
- Latin
- Latin American & Latino/a Studies
- Spanish
- Spanish for Business
- Bosnian
- Korean
- Portuguese
- Instruction in: Bosnian, Korean, Portuguese

Placement Exams and Credit for Prior Learning

Do you already have some knowledge in a second language? Boise State grants credit for these skills. These credits can be used towards a language degree or minor! A placement exam is also available to help you determine the best starting place for you, based on your current language skills.

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Pursue a Double Major or Minor!

Boise State Students may pursue a double major in a language degree in addition to any undergraduate degree program. A language minor may also be added to any degree program, regardless of department.