

Modern Languages

What can I do with this major?

OCCUPATIONS	EMPLOYERS	SKILLS TO DEVELOP
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>		
Civil Service Foreign Service Journalism/Broadcasting Linguistics Diplomacy Immigration/Naturalization Customs Intelligence/Law Enforcement	Federal government organizations including: Overseas aid agencies Intelligence and law enforcement agencies Federal Bureau of Investigation Central Intelligence Agency Drug Enforcement Administration Department of State Immigration and Naturalization Service Customs Service Library of Congress Armed forces Voice of America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn federal, state and local job application procedures. • Plan to attend a specialized school that teaches foreign languages. • Join armed forces as a way to get experience. • The government is one of the largest employers of people with foreign language skills.
<u>ARTS, MEDIA, ENTERTAINMENT</u>		
Advertising Journalism/Broadcasting Publishing/Editing Public Relations	Museums Foreign news agencies Book publishers TV networks Radio stations Film Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about the customs and culture of other countries. • Spend time studying or working abroad. • Read international newspapers to keep up with developments overseas.
<u>INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE</u>		
Banking/Finance Sales Customer Services Manufacturing Engineering/Technical Research Operations Management Consulting Imports/Exports Administrative Services	Banks/Financial institutions Import/Export companies Foreign firms operating in the U.S. American firms operating in foreign countries Manufacturers Retail stores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplement coursework with business classes. • Gain experience through an internship or work abroad program. • Find out which companies do business internationally. • Be prepared to start in a position in the US working for a firm with an overseas presence. • Very few entry level positions are available in international business

OCCUPATIONS**EMPLOYERS****SKILLS TO DEVELOP****EDUCATION**

Teaching
 Educational Administration
 Linguistics

Universities/Colleges
 Pre-schools
 Professional language schools
 English language institutes
 Overseas dependents' schools

- Earn a graduate degree to teach in post-secondary institutions; master's degree required for two-year colleges and a doctoral degree for four-year institutions.
- Minor or double major in another subject that you could also teach.
- Consider teaching English in another country.
- Volunteer as a tutor.
- Secure strong personal recommendations, particularly from professors.
- Develop exceptional communication skills.
- Develop superior written and oral communication skills in the English language including proper sentence structure and comprehensive vocabulary.
- Get a part-time job teaching English as a second language.
- Specialize in an area of research.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Translation/Interpretation
 Airline Services
 Management
 Booking and Reservations
 Travel Services/Guidance

Tour and excursion companies
 Travel agencies
 Hotels/Motels
 Resorts
 Restaurants
 Airlines/Airports
 Cruise lines
 Railroads
 Bus lines
 Convention Centers

- Take courses in hotel/restaurant administration.
- Get a part-time job in a hotel or restaurant to gain experience.
- Spend some time abroad to learn the traditions of fine dining, wines, etc.
- Brush up on your knowledge of geography.
- Plan to attend a travel school.
- Develop office skills such as typing, organizing, and working with computers.
- Read international newspapers to keep up with overseas developments.

SOCIAL/COMMUNITY SERVICES

Civil Service
 Social Work
 Missionary Work
 Library Science
 Health Services
 Nursing

Hospitals
 Religious and volunteer organizations
 International organizations
 Law enforcement agencies
 Social service agencies

- Notify local hospitals, schools, and chambers of commerce of your availability to translate or interpret for international visitors.
- Be familiar with the cultural base of your language (literature, art, politics, etc.) as well as with cultural traditions.
- Volunteer with government programs such as Peace Corps or VISTA.

Strategies For Placement In Modern Languages

- Travel to a foreign country or study abroad in international exchange programs to learn different cultures.
- Choose an additional academic area of study to supplement the foreign language, preferably one that requires a high degree of technical skill. Most people with foreign language ability use those skills to assist them in a different career field such as business, education, etc.
- Related courses to study include history, civilization, foreign relations, international law, international business, and world economics.
- Plan to attend a private language institute to learn additional languages and cultures.
- Study and practice your language skills by reading international newspapers, magazines and books.
- Watch foreign movies and listen to international broadcasts to maintain your fluency.
- Volunteer your language skills to churches, community organizations and programs that work with people who speak your language.
- Participate in summer programs, co-ops, and internships to improve your skills.
- Pen pal with a correspondent from a foreign country.
- Contact professional associations and read their publications to learn about job opportunities.
- Research job postings on the Internet to get an idea of jobs in which knowledge of foreign languages is useful.