

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

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Why Study a Foreign Language at Albright College?

Albright recognizes the vital need to prepare future generations of leaders for the global marketplace. The Modern Foreign Languages & Literatures Department offers majors in Spanish and French, and coursework in German. Foreign language classrooms at Albright are interactive and noisy. Our students SPEAK the language.

Courses in Greek and Latin are offered through the Classical Languages Department. (See Classical Languages box.)

The Academic Program

Albright College offers a full range of French and Spanish courses dealing with language, literature and culture, as well as more-specialized courses in areas such as translation and intensive conversation. In content courses, students study the history, culture, economics, politics, and social issues related to various regions and countries of the world. These include Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, the Southern Cone, France and the Francophone World. In the field of literature, both French and Spanish offer courses in theatre, drama, the novel and poetry.

The Modern Foreign Languages Department encourages its students to combine the study of a foreign language and culture with another major. Most French and Spanish majors follow this advice in order to create exciting and innovative career opportunities within the United States and abroad. Among the numerous majors that Albright students choose to combine with Spanish and French are biology, education, English, Latin American Studies, music, sociology, psychology and theatre.

Included in the Spanish curriculum are unique service-learning courses where students spend time in the community interacting with bilingual professionals. Albright students have worked with local organizations such as the Hispanic Center of Reading, Lauer's Park Elementary School, the Reading Police Department, and Berks Women in Crisis.

“Service learning allows students to experience the language in a way that they can't in a classroom.”

— Kathy Ozment, chair,

Modern Foreign Languages Department

Albright College Abroad

All majors in French or Spanish are urged to spend some time in an academic experience in an appropriate foreign country. Students preparing for careers in education are encouraged to spend a semester abroad in an approved study program.

International education advances learning and scholarship, builds respect among different peoples and encourages constructive leadership in a global community. Living and studying in another country provides students with the opportunity for personal development and adds depth to students' views of the world and themselves.

Warm weather and beautiful beaches in January are also a plus! During the January Interim session, students may choose to spend three weeks in the Caribbean studying either French or Spanish. Albright professors take students to Martinique to study French and the island's culture. Students studying Spanish may spend three weeks in the Dominican Republic, where they will live with families in a small rural community and participate in various service-learning projects such as teaching English to second graders.

Albright also offers world-wide study abroad opportunities through established programs at collaborative colleges and universities. Students may spend a January, a summer or a semester studying in another country. Recent Albright students have studied in:

- Chile
- The Dominican Republic
- Martinique
- Canada
- Costa Rica
- France
- Mexico
- Spain



Albright's International Students

Five percent of Albright's student body is made up of foreign students who come from 20 foreign countries. Students may opt to room with a foreign student to further increase their opportunities to speak another language and learn about another culture.

Honor Societies

The Modern Foreign Languages Department sponsors two honor societies that are active on campus: Pi Delta Phi in French, and Sigma Delta Pi in Spanish. Both majors and non-majors are eligible for membership.

Facilities

The department includes a new 25-position, state-of-the-art, all-digital learning system that allows students access to a variety of audio, video and interactive multimedia materials. Our facilities help bring authenticity and excitement to the experience of foreign language study at all levels. Our growing film library is an additional resource for the study of both culture and language. The department also sponsors a film series each semester.



Outcomes

Graduates in foreign languages are prepared to go on to positions in corporations, education, foreign service and the travel industry, as well as to continue their education at graduate, medical or law school.

Those students who have combined language study with other majors, such as business, accounting and sociology, typically find greater career opportunities because of their skill in a foreign language.

Graduates of Albright's Foreign Languages Department have gone on to further their education at institutions such as:

- Arizona State University – French literature
- Middlebury College – French
- University of Maryland – Spanish
- University of Delaware - Spanish
- Columbia University - Spanish and deaf education

Albright graduates with combined majors in foreign languages are currently working in the fields of education, psychology, criminal justice, medicine & health services, law, theatre, and international business & marketing. They are employed with nationwide companies and organizations such as:

- Morton Powder Coatings – international sales
- Upper Township Primary School (N.J.) – elementary education Spanish teacher
- Peace Corps – volunteers in Latin America and Africa
- St. Joseph's Medical Center – interpreter services coordinator
- McGraw-Hill Companies – national sales manager
- Palmerton Area High School (Pa.) – secondary education Spanish teacher
- U.S. Social Security Administration (Baltimore, Md.) – equipment management specialist
- New York Foundling Hospital – social worker
- The Roanoke Times (Roanoke, Va.) – newspaper reporter
- Community Choices (Pa.) – research associate
- Weidenhammer Systems Corporation – training coordinator

“The trip to The Dominican Republic definitely broadened my horizons. It's taught me to not only be tolerant and accepting of the things I know, but also of the many things I don't. By adapting myself to many unusual, atypical situations, I have become a more understanding person. I am able to keep an open mind without prejudging people and situations.”

— Meg Ryan - junior, Spanish/pre-med



Classical Languages

Courses in **Greek** are arranged to meet the needs of two groups of students:

- Those who wish to gain a first-hand knowledge of the rich contribution the Greeks made to our modern civilization (two years of study are offered)
- Those preparing to enter the Christian ministry (study in Koiné Greek, the Greek of the Hellenistic Period, and the Greek of the New Testament are offered)

Students who choose to study **Latin** will gain a reading knowledge of Latin, increase their fluency in the use of English and syntax, and learn about the Roman culture.

Teacher certification in Latin is also available. Interested students should consult the Education Department at 610-921-7790.

For more information on classical languages, contact Professor Sarel Fuchs, chair, at 610-921-7792 or by email at sfuchs@alb.edu.

Modern & Classical Languages Faculty

Melissa S. Bronfman - instructor of Spanish; B.A., University of Pennsylvania; M.A., University of Virginia

Sarel P. Fuchs, Ph.D. - graduate dean, professor of education and classical languages, certification officer; B.A., College of Notre Dame of Maryland; M.A. & Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University

Judith Keller Geiser, Ph.D. - professor of French; A.B., Juniata College; M.A. & Ph.D., University of Wisconsin

Rona L. Haftel - instructor of Spanish; B.A., Temple University; M.A., Kutztown University

John Scott Incledon, Ph.D. - professor of Spanish; A.B., Colgate University; M.A. & Ph.D., State University of New York at Binghamton

M. Karen Jogan, Ph.D. - professor of Spanish; A.B., Ursinus College; M.A., Ph.D. & M. Ed., Temple University; M.S., Philadelphia University

Adam M. John, Ph.D. - assistant professor of Spanish and French; B.A., University of New York at Buffalo; M.A. & Ph.D., The Pennsylvania State University

Maria M. Melendez, Ph.D. - associate professor of Modern Foreign Languages; B.A., Catholic University of Puerto Rico; M.A., University Laval; Ph.D., The Pennsylvania State University

Ann Virginia Myers, Ph.D. - professor of French; A.B., Juniata College; M.A. & Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

Kathleen M. Ozment - instructor of Spanish; B.A., University of Minnesota; M.A., University of Arizona

Newton Archie Perrin, Ph.D. - professor of Art and German; A.B., M.A. & Ph.D., University of California (Berkeley)

Marta Ramirez-Rodenas - instructor in Spanish; B.A., University of Granada; M.A., University of Delaware

Janice E. Rodriguez - instructor in Spanish; B.A., Millersville University; M.A., University of Pennsylvania

For more information about the Modern Foreign Languages Department, contact Kathy Ozment, chair, at 610-921-7690 or by email at kozment@alb.edu.