
*Department of
Languages,
Literatures,
and Cultures*

Illinois State
University

A close-knit community of teachers and
students

U
N
D
E
R
G
R
A
D
U
A
T
E
H
A
N
D
B
O
O
K

2018 - 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
❖ Welcome to the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Message from Dr. Bruce R. Burningham, Chair	3
❖ Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Major/Minor Checklist	4
❖ Majoring in Language, Literatures and Cultures	5
❖ Humanities Myths	6-7
❖ Checklist for Teacher Education Majors	8
❖ Chicago Teacher Education Pipeline	9
❖ Student Life	10
❖ Study Abroad	11
❖ Career Opportunities in Languages, Literatures, and Cultures	12
❖ Master of Arts in Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at Illinois State University	13

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES!

Message from Dr. Bruce R. Burningham, Chair

Welcome to our Department! I hope that your time with us will be one of the most rewarding experiences you have had. As a major in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, you will be part of an active, close-knit community of teachers and foreign language students with diverse goals.

Because Illinois State is the primary school in Illinois for teacher education, many of your classmates will be preparing to become teachers. Others will be improving their language skills in order to pursue a career overseas or in the US.

Some students will be studying languages simply because they enjoy learning about other languages and cultures. And others will be studying a foreign language as part of their preparation for graduate study.

The presence of an associated master's program offers undergraduates access to a much broader array of advanced courses in culture, linguistics, literature and pedagogy, even for students who do not plan to pursue the MA.

In the Illinois State Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, you will never run out of interesting and challenging coursework in the language you have chosen, whether you are on campus or participating in one of our study abroad programs in Canada, Chile, France, Germany, Japan, and Spain.

You can expect small classes at every level--generally fewer than 25 students. Every day you will be able to interact with an exceptional international faculty and staff, drawn from Europe, North and South America, and Asia. Faculty includes specialists in Classics, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, and Spanish.

The languages, literatures, and cultures community on campus extends outside the classroom to a language center in the residence halls. In a language center students can choose to live and speak a foreign language with other language students. There are also language clubs that sponsor free tutoring and conversation tables at lunch and dinner; student societies that screen and discuss foreign films; and sometimes even salsa dance classes.

In addition, many students form their own study groups in order to better prepare their language, literature, and culture classes. All of our co-curricular activities contribute to a strong sense of community among faculty and language students. Even years later, our alumni report that they still keep in touch with the friends that they made in the language programs at Illinois State.

In choosing to study foreign languages, literatures, and cultures in the Illinois State Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, you can enjoy the small classes, close faculty-student interaction, and strong sense of community traditionally associated with small liberal arts colleges without giving up the range of choices that come with a larger university.

LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES MAJOR / MINOR CHECKLIST

Welcome to the Illinois State University Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures!

In order to ensure that you take advantage of the opportunities available to you in the Department, we urge you to complete the following checklist as soon as possible in the Fall. We have found that students who plan ahead are much more likely to succeed in achieving their academic and professional goals.

_____ See the Departmental Advisor, (Stevenson Hall 231B, foradvisor@ilstu.edu) the Departmental website (www.LAN.illinoisstate.edu) and your language teacher(s) for advice about your career in the ISU Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. In general, get into the habit of asking your teachers' advice about your study plans.

_____ Find out in the Departmental Office (Stevenson Hall 114), on the Department Web site, or on the digital sign on the second floor of Stevenson Hall where and when the Language Clubs and Tables in your language meet. If possible, go to the first meeting in order to participate in the planning of the club or table for the coming year.

_____ Check the Departmental website and the Julia N. Visor Academic Center in Vrooman 12 to find out about free tutoring and/or supplemental instruction sessions for language students, so that you will be prepared to take advantage of these services as needed. (Grammar Help is in STV 227B)

_____ Go to the Career Resources Center (Student Services Building 185) to explore the career opportunities that are available to you.

_____ If you have not already done so, declare your major or minor by filling out a form in STV 114 or on Go.Illinoisstate.edu.

_____ We strongly urge you to participate in a study abroad program. Check out the Department's website and/or the designated bulletin board in the main hallway near the advisor's office for study abroad opportunities both in the summer and during the year.

_____ Check out possible scholarship opportunities for study at ISU and study abroad. These are over and above the financial aid package you may have received. The Financial Aid Office (Fell 231, financialaid.illinoisstate.edu/scholarships) will give you further guidance. You can also look into opportunities for financial aid from many local clubs, such as generous study abroad scholarships offered by the Rotary Club. For many scholarships you need to apply a year or more in advance.

_____ Visit the Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Common Room and Study Lounge in Stevenson 113. Upon availability, LAN students are allowed to use STV 227B to study, relax, or just have conversation.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN BY MAJORING IN LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES AT ILLINOIS STATE?

Many students (and parents) ask what they will do with a degree in language, literatures, and cultures. What is more important to consider are the skills that students acquire in the academic environment which are critical to career preparation. What follows are seven broad skill clusters which show you how you can link the academic disciplines of the humanities to many occupations.

Communication: Majors can expect to be able to communicate in a language other than English. This skill will help in the exchange, transmission, and expression of knowledge and ideas, from sales to film news writing to illustrating, from teaching to the performing arts.

Research and Investigation: The search for specific knowledge, from controlled laboratory experimentation to detective work, from scholarly endeavors to investigative journalism.

Cultural and linguistic knowledge: The ability to understand how other societies and cultures function and how cultural differences are encoded in language.

Organizational and Information Management: The arrangement and retrieval of data and knowledge, from cataloguing to accounting, from computer programming to inventory control.

Emphasize (Humanitarian Service): The attention to physical, mental, or social needs of people, from medicine to social work, from labor relations to play therapy.

Administer (Organization Management): The direction and guidance of a group in the completion of tasks and the attainment of goals, from politician to minister, from industrialist to school principal.

Imagine (Design and Planning): The conceptualization of the future and description of a process for creating it, from the city planner to artist, proposal writer to architect.

HUMANITIES MYTHS

Remember, when you are planning your academic program and future career, diversity and flexibility are of prime importance. Seldom will you make a final choice when it comes to careers. Most college graduates will change jobs at least six times during their lifetimes according to the United States Department of Labor. Career planning is, therefore, an on-going process which will continue for most of your student and working life. Many students in the humanities are unconvinced of the merits of a liberal education and feel they must pursue an engineering or business degree if they are to have a competitive edge in today's labor market. Before you panic and choose a major based on the fear of an unfulfilling and unsuccessful career we would like you to consider several myths about academic program planning and career decision-making.

Myth #1: The major field of study predicts the career of the liberal arts graduate.

Most liberal arts majors are not vocationally specific; hence the greater proportion of liberally educated people find themselves choosing work which is not directly related to their major field of study.

Myth #2: A liberal arts graduate is nothing without a graduate or professional degree.

Many thousands of liberal arts graduates are prominently employed in business, social service, government, publishing, and elsewhere, without having acquired advanced educational credentials. This does not mean that an advanced degree will not enhance your chances. It definitely will.

Myth #3: A liberal arts graduate must have experience to find a job.

As a new college graduate, you are hired primarily for your potential to learn and advance within the organization rather than for your existing work capabilities or experience.

Myth #4: There is little opportunity for a liberal arts student to explore careers.

There are methods which you can use outside of the classroom (during college) to investigate career possibilities, and these methods do not require special vocational knowledge.

Myth #5: Most people start their careers at about age 21 and proceed in a straight line toward their ultimate career objectives.

The career paths of most people are filled with zigs and zags, and sudden changes of direction. People do not reach their ultimate career decisions when they are 21 because the experiences they gather in one type of work change their attitudes about careers and have application to many other kinds of work (e.g., news reporting and interviewing can be adapted to later work in social service, management consulting and public relations). People are seldom aware of the extent to which their past job experiences gave them flexibility in pursuing future jobs and the degree to which these experiences acted to change their career needs. But this versatility is openly expressed in their own career paths. There are social workers who have become city planners, advertising writers who have become management consultants, mortgage loan brokers who are now magazine writers and so forth. Ask people who are 35 what they were doing when they turned 21 and you may be amazed to discover that, in many cases, they are doing work that is worlds apart from their current job. And these people will say, "I just had a lucky break." They are unaware of the inherent fluidity of the career development process, the degree to which their own needs change through experience and the ways in which their past experience is used in their jobs.

Myth #6: Career planning is an irreversible process.

On the contrary, you can change career directions whenever your talents and needs dictate, because these attributes are in a continual state of being changed and reshaped by vocational experience.

Myth #7: A liberal arts student has few talents which are valuable in the world of work.

By the time you are 18 or 20 years old, you have developed identifiable abilities that can be applied successfully to a wide variety of occupations.

Myth #8: There is only one right job for me.

There are numerous job situations in which your talents can be equally applied, and the nature of these possibilities will expand as your work experiences accumulate.

Myth #9: Each and every job requires a particular set of talents.

Most jobs except highly technical and specific talents. These skills can be acquired and utilized in a variety of ways by people who possess different sets of capabilities.

Myth #10: There is a particular set of job responsibilities for every occupation.

People in positions having the same title are very often performing different tasks or performing similar tasks according to very different styles. Very often their job responsibilities differ because of the varying capabilities of the people who inhabit the positions.

(Taken from Howard E. Figler, Path: A Career Workbook for Liberal Arts Students. The Carroll Press Publishers, 43 Squantum St., Cranston R.I., 09290. 1975.)

CHECKLIST FOR MAJORS IN FRENCH, GERMAN, AND SPANISH TEACHER EDUCATION

This checklist is an overview to the Teacher Education majors in our Department. Students interested in declaring one of these majors should refer to the **complete guide** provided by the Coordinator of Teacher Education in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, as well as information provided by the College of Education. The *LAN TE Guide* also contains helpful and essential information regarding planning courses, professional education, General Education, Field of Study or Area of Specialization, Graduation Requirements, Study Abroad, and performance assessments. Note that Gateway requirements tend to change rather often, so special attention will be needed.

_____ **Step I: Declare the Teacher Education major:** Students may apply for the teacher education major in French, German or Spanish at any time by filling out a form on My.Illinoisstate.edu or in STV 114. Formal admission will occur at the completion of Gateway 1.

_____ **Step II: Gateway 1: Admission to Professional Studies:** Once students have **completed 30 hours** (including a C or better in English 101 and Com 110 or their equivalents), students should: 1) Attend a meeting for prospective Teacher Education majors in French, German and Spanish (held each September and February); 2) Interview for Departmental Approval; and, 3) Begin Performance Based Assessments (PBA). See <https://lan.illinoisstate.edu/academics/teacher-education/gateway-1/> or the College of Education website for additional information regarding dates, times, transfer students, second bachelor's candidates, endorsements, clinical hours, etc. To qualify and remain in the program, students must have 3.0 GPA in the major and a 2.75 cumulative GPA.

_____ **Step IV: Gateway 2: Admission to Student Teaching:** In September, 1 to 1½ years before you plan to student teach, you will receive notification from the College of Education to apply for student teaching. (Transfer students and those seeking a second bachelor's degree need to contact the Teacher Education Center to verify that their name is on the mailing list to ensure that they receive this and other notifications.). To be admitted to Student Teaching students must complete the Gateway 2 PBA requirements the semester before student teaching. These include: State Content Test; application for graduation; and, Departmental Approval for Student Teaching. See <https://lan.illinoisstate.edu/academics/teacher-education/gateway-2/>

_____ **Step V: Gateway 3: Exit from Student Teaching:** To Exit from Student Teaching and graduate, students must complete the Gateway 3 PBA requirements. See <https://lan.illinoisstate.edu/academics/teacher-education/gateway-3/>

CHICAGO TEACHER EDUCATION PIPELINE™

Illinois State University

Are you interested in teaching in Chicago Public Schools? Do you want to learn more?

The National Center for Urban Education at Illinois State offers experiential learning that focuses on giving students opportunities to enact social justice in urban communities. Visit <https://ncue.illinoisstate.edu/> for more information.

STEP-UP is a program in which many of our teacher education candidates have participated. It is a four-week immersive fellowship available in a partner city that includes classroom experiences, summer programming, a community-based internship, professional development, guided reflection, and residency with a host family.

In collaboration with the Urban Teacher Preparation program, several LAN courses (SPA 223 with Dr. Julie Lynd, SPA 244 with Dr. Alex Enríquez or Dr. Jim Pancrazio, and LAN 319 with Dr. Sue Hildebrandt) have been redesigned to include civic engagement field trips to Chicago.

STUDENT LIFE

The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures sponsors the following student organizations in the various languages. Get involved! You will meet fellow students, work on your language skills, and learn more about other cultures.

Asian Studies:

Nihongo Kaiwa (Japanese Conversation Hour)
Chinese Language Club

French:

Le Cercle Français/French Coffee Hour (French Club)
Pi Delta Phi (French Honor Society)

German:

German Student Organization
Delta Phi Alpha (German National Honor Society)
German Conversation Hour

Italian:

Italian Conversation Hour

Spanish:

El Club de Español
Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish Honor Society)
Spanish Conversation Hour

More information—including meeting times and faculty sponsors—is available on the departmental website, at <https://lan.illinoisstate.edu/student-life/>. Look under the specific language area in which you are interested.

STUDY ABROAD

Studying and living abroad is one of the most valuable experiences you can have as a Languages, Literatures, and Cultures major. It will not only improve your linguistic skills, it will also allow you to learn about other cultures and societies. Our faculty members strongly encourage all students to take advantage of the numerous programs offered through our Department and the University.

Illinois State offers programs abroad for ISU and non-ISU students. The duration of these programs varies: You can find *Semester/Academic Year Programs* as well as *Short Term/Summer Programs*. Our faculty coordinates programs in Valparaiso (Chile), Angers and Grenoble (France); Quebec (Canada); Bonn (Germany); Nagoya, and Hirakata (Japan); Granada (Spain).

For more information, visit the Department's website, at <https://lan.illinoisstate.edu/study-abroad/> as well as the web page for International Studies, at <http://www.internationalstudies.illinoisstate.edu/>.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Knowing more than one language is a very marketable skill. Employers in the U.S. and internationally are always looking for people who can help them reach diverse clients, customers, and partners around the world. Many businesses acknowledge that given two otherwise equal candidates, they will hire the one with foreign language capability over the one without.

A language major brings an invaluable set of skills, including bilingual or multilingual abilities, as well as the analytical thinking, writing, and critical skills so essential to building a career in any field. A recent study conducted among more than 318 employers showed that these skills were relevant to employability, and that a liberal arts degree "instill(s) in students ... a set of core skills that allow them to navigate the professional world with a deftness that is required in today's work environment" (Hart study, 2013).

Many students majoring in foreign languages plan to teach at the kindergarten through secondary level. While you can pursue this route through the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures' Teacher Education sequence, there are many career options available for those who don't want to teach.

See our website, visit the Career Center and speak with your professors about the many ways that language study can enhance nearly any future career.

Joining our Master's Program

Admission and Assistantships:

Admission to the Master's program in Languages, Literatures, and Cultures normally requires an undergraduate major in the intended language. Applications may be submitted for either the fall or spring semesters. We recommend submitting your application by November 1st for Spring Semester and March 1st for Fall Semester for full consideration. Applicants may also apply for a graduate assistantship which includes a complete tuition waiver. Assistants may teach one four-hour introductory language course, assist in the computer laboratory, or serve as research assistants. All graduate assistants are required to take a teaching techniques course. See our website for more details.

Application for Admission:

You may obtain an application form by visiting the admissions the ISU Admissions website <http://www.admissions.illinoisstate.edu/graduate>

Application for Graduate Assistantships:

- Apply for a graduate assistantship at www.jobs.ilstu.edu

Requirements for Application:

A grade-point average of at least 3.0 (out of 4.0) for the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate work and two letters of recommendation. Have your recommendations sent on letterhead to the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, Attn: Graduate Director, Campus Box 4300, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-4300.

Financial Support:

Graduate assistantships in this department provide a stipend of approximately \$8568 per academic year and a tuition waiver (but not a fee waiver) in exchange for a teaching or research assignment. The department offers some travel support for a semester of study abroad. The University also offers minority student scholarships and other scholarship opportunities.

Course Load:

Full-time students take nine to 12 hours (three to four classes) per semester. Part-time students may take up to six years to complete the degree.

Program Requirements:

Students must complete 33 semester credits of graduate course work with a 3.0 grade-point average, including at least 21 credits in the major language. A thesis option also is available. All students take a comprehensive examination in the final semester.

Major Areas of Emphasis:

Literature and Culture
Linguistics and Pedagogy