WHY STUDY FOREIGN LANGUAGES?

The human experience is rich and complex. No one language can contain all the vocabulary, literature, music or art to fully capture it. Learning a second language – or third or fourth! – enriches your understanding of the world and even of yourself. You’ll open up new ways of thinking and new opportunities to define and give words to your unique experiences, feelings and thoughts.

Studying a foreign language isn’t just good for your mind; it’s good for your career. More and more business is being conducted in languages other than English. Proficiency in a foreign language and understanding of foreign cultures will give you a competitive edge in the global job market.

Taking advantage of KU’s unique resources will give you skills and knowledge few others have. Just take a look at the average starting salary for liberal arts majors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Average Starting Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice and Corrections</td>
<td>$36,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual and Performing Arts</td>
<td>$36,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>$36,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>$36,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>$37,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>$40,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science/Government</td>
<td>$41,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences/General Studies</td>
<td>$41,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Languages and Literatures</td>
<td>$46,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STUDY A FOREIGN LANGUAGE AT KU

KU is a national leader in the study of foreign languages. In fact, we’re among the few universities in the U.S. with a school dedicated to such study.

We represent 13 foreign language, literature and culture-related units, as well as five area studies centers.

CORE DEPARTMENTS
- East Asian Languages & Cultures
- French & Italian
- Germanic Languages & Literatures
- Slavic Languages & Literatures
- Spanish & Portuguese

AFFILIATE DEPARTMENTS & CENTERS
- African & African American Studies
- Anthropology
- Art History
- Center for East Asian Studies
- Center for Global & International Studies
- Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies
- Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies
- Classics
- English
- Humanities & Western Civilization
- Kansas African Studies Center
- Linguistics
- Religious Studies

OPPORTUNITIES AT KU

Our faculty offers a wealth of knowledge about the cultures and languages of the world. The SLLC was formed so you can benefit from the collective resources of the represented departments and centers:

- Over 40 languages and 60 different degrees and concentrations
- More than 140 study abroad programs
- Many undergraduate/graduate scholarships
- Strategic partnerships with national and international organizations
- Educational resources to reduce course costs
- Access to our foreign language media library
- Foreign language and culture events
- Weekly language tables

REAL-WORLD FOCUS

Our education and resources have a real-world focus for you and your career. We partner with national and international organizations and businesses where you can apply your skills right after graduation. With over 140 study abroad programs, you’ll even get to put your new vocabulary to work while at KU.

KU is a national leader in the study of foreign languages, offering more languages than any other university in Kansas or in the Midwest.

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES TAUGHT: 40
Taylor Broadfoot, Tour Specialist at Mir Corporation
After finishing high school in Wichita, Taylor learned Russian at KU and spent a semester abroad in Moscow. She earned her bachelor’s degree in Slavic Languages & Literatures in 2014, and minored in Business. Taylor later traveled to Kyiv and Kazakhstan as an intern working for the Gabriel Al-Salem Foundation. She is now a Tour Specialist for Mir Corporation, specializing in former Soviet countries.

Jeremy Knox, Lead Geospatial Intelligence Analyst, Dept. of Defense
Jeremy's job with the Department of Defense would not be possible without his bachelor's in Chinese Language & Culture (2008). His familiarity with Chinese culture and history has granted him cultural understanding that is crucial for intelligence officers. Having a critical mind and ability to infer plausible scenarios with little or incomplete information is important for Jeremy’s role as an analyst.

Aric Toler, Non-US Event Monitoring and Research Specialist, Bank of America Merill Lynch Global Corporate Security
With a bachelor’s (2011) and a master’s (2013) in Slavic Languages & Literatures, Aric monitors developing security and safety situations — anything from terrorism to typhoons. A working knowledge of an array of languages may be the most important skill for this, as he relies heavily on open source information when conducting research and collecting information. Having a foreign language background keeps Aric from being at the mercy of a translator’s timeliness and accuracy, and widens his worldview and ability to grasp context.