

Majoring in French, German, Japanese, or Spanish at Northern Kentucky University

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Don Quijote speaks to the galley slaves
(detail)

—Gustavo Doré

Dr. Robert T. Rhode, Professor Emeritus of English, drew the illustrations of Rabelais, Dumas & Beauvoir, and the scene from Dante. The image of Don Quijote is taken from the site <http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/~cervantes/doreesp2.htm> (contributed by Claudio Paganelli). Image of the mezquita of Córdoba from a photo by H. Landwehr. Photos of Tarma, Perú by Blas Puente-Baldoceda.

Links of Interest to French, German, Japanese, and Spanish Majors

NKU links

[The NKU Department of World Languages and Literatures](#)

[W. Frank Steely Library](#)

Study abroad

[NKU Study Abroad Page](#)

[Kentucky Institute for International Studies \(KIIS\)](#)

Professional associations

[American Association of Teachers of French \(AATF\)](#)

[American Association of Teachers of German \(AATG\)](#)

[American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese \(AATSP\)](#)

[American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages \(ACTFL\)](#)

[Association of Departments of Foreign Languages \(ADFL\)](#)

[Modern Language Association \(MLA\)](#)

Resources for Teachers

[Center for Advanced Research of Language Acquisition \(CARLA\)](#)

[Center for Language, Education and Research \(CLEAR\)](#)

[Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium \(CALICO\)](#)

[Language Acquisition Resource Center \(LARC\)](#)

[Center for Applied Linguistics \(CAL\)](#)

[National Foreign Language Resource Center](#)

Research Aids

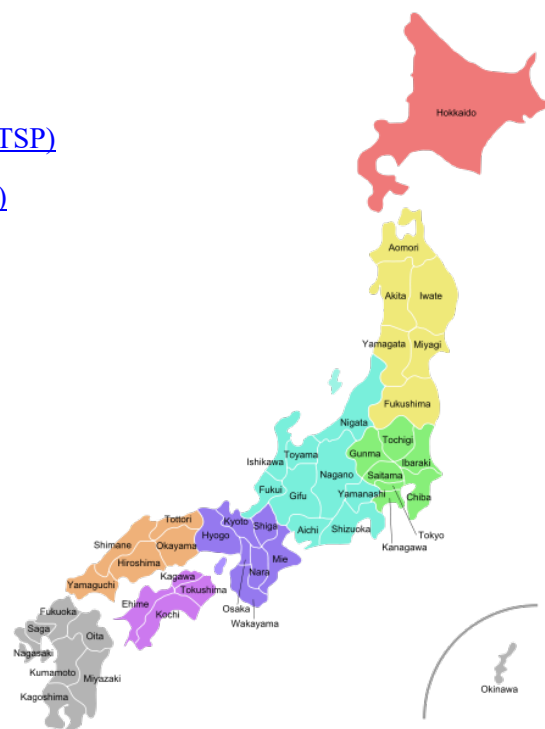
[Guide to Grammar and Writing](#)

[The Internet Grammar of English](#)

[The Labyrinth: Medieval Studies](#)

[Internet Movie Database](#)

[Voice of the Shuttle: Web Page for Humanities Research](#)



Map of Japan. Source: Wikimedia Commons

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Why Learn Another Language?

The study of a foreign language helps us to understand and appreciate other cultures as well as providing insight into our own. Today, as travel and communication become easier, countries are more and more dependent on one another, and the ability to deal with people from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds is becoming an essential skill. Knowing a foreign language will help you:

Improve your command of English.

Learning a foreign language will sharpen your skills in English. You will build your English vocabulary, since many of our words come from foreign languages, and you will also develop a greater awareness of English grammar.

Develop your critical thinking skills.

Learning a second language increases your problem-solving skills at the same time that it improves your memory and your self-discipline. Studies have shown that the ability to think in two languages also heightens your creativity.

Increase your educational opportunities.

Knowing a foreign language will enable you to take advantage of significant educational opportunities, such as spending a summer or a semester abroad.

Prepare you for graduate school.

- Students who have studied foreign languages score better on entrance exams such as the SAT, ACT, GRE, MCAT, & LSAT.
- Foreign language is an important research tool in many disciplines, and reading knowledge of a foreign language is usually required for completion of a doctorate.

Increase your career opportunities and salary potential.

- Hundreds of foreign companies have US subsidiaries, while many US-owned companies in the Tristate area routinely do business with clients abroad. Knowledge of foreign languages helps a business person to communicate with those customers. Also, in other countries, many business deals are made away from the office, in a social setting where all parties feel comfortable. The ability to converse in another language about food, family, education, or politics is an excellent way to establish that level of comfort.
- Many Americans speak languages other than English, and many people from non English-speaking countries visit the US each year. People who work in health care, social work, law enforcement, government, the military, tourism, education, and communications increase their chances for success if they speak more than one language.
- Professionals who know a second language may be asked to travel and exchange information with people abroad. Architects and engineers from the US often work on projects overseas. Scientists read research articles in foreign journals and participate in international conferences. Musicians sing in many languages and tour in foreign countries.

Open your door to literature and the arts.

- Most of the classic works of literature are written in languages other than English. A literary reading of works in their original languages reveals new insights into famous texts.
- Knowing a foreign language can enhance your appreciation of art, music, dance, fashion, cuisine, and cinema. Here in the U.S. you can discover foreign restaurants, films, paintings, and music from around the world.
- If you would like to read some studies on the benefits of learning a foreign language, you might want to check out this ACTFL link: [What the research shows](#).



Tarma, Perú (bpb)

Learning Objectives for World Language Majors

Knowledge Base.

(Linguistic, cultural, and literary competence)

Ability to identify/describe:

- Distinctive cultural features of nations where the target language is spoken.
- Significant events/periods in the history of nations where the target language is spoken, including socio-political information.
- Major authors/works/literary traditions in the target language.
- Linguistic structures of the target language.

Skills base.

(Aural, oral, and written command of the target language)

Ability to:

- Understand oral usage of the target language in a variety of contexts (personal, business, academic, etc.).
- Engage in and sustain conversation on personal and general topics.
- Produce written documents (letters, dictations, essays) in the target language using appropriate grammatical constructions and idioms.
- Read and accurately interpret authentic printed materials in the target language (e.g. newspapers, magazines, essays, books)
- Use information from primary and secondary sources appropriately in essays or documents and cite sources properly using MLA reference form.

Teaching preparation.

(Pedagogical knowledge, skills)

Ability to:

Select teaching materials appropriate for secondary school students studying French, German, or Spanish and to integrate those materials into instructional plans according to American Council on Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) guidelines for language and cultural proficiency.

«La vie est un perpétuel renouvellement
(. . .) il ne faut pas aimer le moi d'hier plus que le moi de
demain.»

"Life is a perpetual renewal One must not love the self of
yesterday more than the self of tomorrow."

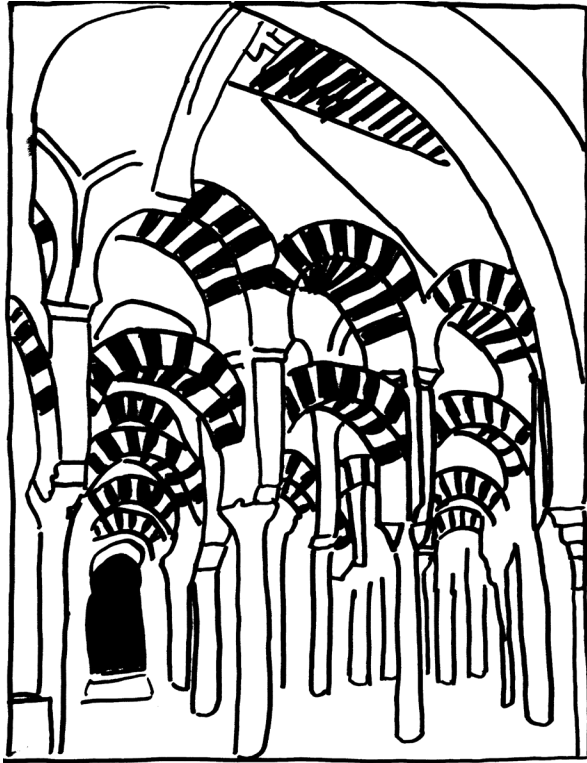
—Simone de Beauvoir, August 12, 1926



Declaring a World Language Major

Students interested in declaring a major in French, German, Japanese, or Spanish should go to the “You Can Also” menu on myNKU and select “Program Change/Declaration” to declare the major. Then they should make an appointment with the chair of the Department of World Languages and Literatures (475 Mathematics, Education, and Psychology Center).

During the meeting with the chair, the requirements for the French, German, Japanese, or Spanish major will be discussed, and the newly declared major will be assigned a faculty adviser in the department.



Interior of the Mezquita de Córdoba (hwl)

Curriculum Requirements for the French Major

Core courses in French(a copy of the French major check list follows)	
• FRE 201-202 Intermediate French I and II	6 hours
• FRE 304 French Composition and Conversation.....	3 hours
• Advanced language study: FRE 401 French Phonetics and Pronunciation OR FRE 402 Advanced French Grammar and Syntax.....	3 hours
• Advanced culture study: FRE 480 ..	3 hours
• Advanced literary study: FRE 481.....	3 hours
• WLL 400 World Languages Program Assessment (taken in the penultimate semester).....	0 hours
Culture study Select from any of the following not taken as part of the core: FRE 307 Introduction to French Translation, FRE 310 French Culture and Society Today, FRE 311 French Cultural History, FRE 330 Studies in French Language Cinema, FRE 340 Business French, FRE 401 French Phonetics and Pronunciation, FRE 402 Advanced French Grammar and Syntax, FRE 480 Studies in French Culture, FRE 520 Readings in French (culture topic)	6 hours
Literary study Select from any of the following not taken as part of the core: FRE 320 Survey of French Literature, FRE 322 French Drama, FRE 323 French Prose Fiction, FRE 481 Studies in French Literature, FRE 520 Readings in French (literary topic)	6 hours
Interdisciplinary course component Select from ANT 275 Language and Culture, CIN 201 Survey of World Cinema, ENG 206 Western World Literature I, ENG 207 Western World Literature II, ENG 381 Introduction to Linguistics, GEO 402 Geography of Europe, PHI 305 Existentialism, PSC 330 Politics of Europe	3 hours
Elective in French above FRE 202 OR WLL 294 (French topic) OR WLL 396.....	3 hours
Total semester hours	36 hours
<p style="text-align: center;">Major in French with teaching certification.</p> <p>Students pursuing a major in French with secondary certification should review that portion of their catalog relating to education and health/physical education. Upon deciding to pursue the teacher education program, students must schedule an appointment with the coordinator of certification and advisement in the College of Education and with the secondary education adviser in French in the Department of World Languages and Literatures. For more information, consult the College of Education Advising Center.</p> <p>In addition to the curriculum above for the major in French, all students seeking the bachelor's degree in French with teaching certification must take FRE 350 Methods of Teaching French for a total of 39 hours. Students entering NKU under the 2009 catalog or later must achieve a rating of Advanced Low in the target language on an ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview or equivalent in order to be recommended for certification.</p>	

Student name: _____ ID Number _____

Catalog under which student entered NKU: _____ NKU e-mail: _____

Faculty adviser: _____ School transferred from ^a _____ Post-bac yes no

- Post-bac exempt from portfolio.
- All French majors must make at least a C- in each course applied to the major.
- Portfolio: the portfolio is still required. WTL 400 is also required for majors entering NKU under the 2017-18 catalog and later
- French majors declaring in Fall 2009 or later must achieve an OPI/equivalent rating of “advanced low.”

World Languages and Literatures

Curriculum Requirements for the German Major

Core courses in German(a copy of the German major check list follows)	
• GER 201-202 Intermediate German I and II.....	6 hours
• GER 304 German Composition and Conversation.....	3 hours
• Advanced language study: GER 401 German Phonetics and Pronunciation OR GER 402 Advanced German Grammar and Syntax.....	3 hours
• Advanced culture study: GER 480.....	3 hours
• Advanced literary study: GER 481.....	3 hours
• WLL 400 World Languages Program Assessment (taken in the penultimate semester).....	0 hours
Culture study Select from any of the following not taken as part of the core: GER 307 Introduction to German Translation, GER 310 Contemporary German Life, GER 311 German Cultural History, GER 330 Studies in German Language Cinema, GER 340 Business German, GER 401 German Phonetics and Pronunciation, GER 402 Advanced German Grammar and Syntax, GER 480 Studies in German Culture, GER 520 Readings in German (culture topic)	
	6 hours
Literary study Select from any of the following not taken as part of the core: GER 320 Survey of German Literature, GER 322 German Drama, GER 323 German Prose Fiction, GER 481 Studies in German Literature, GER 520 Readings in German (literary topic)	
	6 hours
Interdisciplinary course component Select from ANT 275 Language and Culture, CIN 201 Survey of World Cinema, ENG 206 Western World Literature I, ENG 207 Western World Literature II, ENG 324 Holocaust Literature, ENG 350 Critical Theory, ENG 371 Traditional Grammar, ENG 381 Introduction to Linguistics, GEO 402 Geography of Europe, HIS 305 Reformation Europe, HIS 308 Modern Europe 1870-1920, HIS 309 Modern Europe since 1920, HIS 361 History of Germany, HIS 414 The Holocaust, PHI 305 Existentialism, PHI 385 History of Modern and Contemporary Philosophy, PSC 330 Politics of Europe	
	3 hours
Elective in German above GER 202 OR WLL 294 (German topic) OR WLL 396.....	
	3 hours
Total semester hours	
	36 hours
Major in German with teaching certification.	
<p>Students pursuing a major in German with secondary certification should review that portion of their catalog relating to education and health/physical education. Upon deciding to pursue the teacher education program, students must schedule an appointment with the coordinator of certification and advisement in the College of Education and with the secondary education adviser in German in the Department of World Languages and Literatures. For more information, consult the College of Education Advising Center.</p> <p>In addition to the curriculum above for the major in German, all students seeking the bachelor's degree in German with teaching certification must take GER 350 Methods of Teaching German for a total of 39 hours. Students entering NKU under the 2009 catalog or later must achieve a rating of Advanced Low in the target language on an ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview or equivalent in order to be recommended for certification.</p>	

ADVISING CHECKLIST: GERMAN revised fall 2019

Student name: _____

ID Number _____

Catalog under which student entered NKU: _____

NKU e-mail: _____

Faculty adviser: _____

School transferred from ^a _____ Post-bac yes no

- Post-bac exempt from portfolio.
- All German majors must make at least a C- in each course applied to the major.
- Portfolio: the portfolio is still required. WLL 400 is also required for majors entering NKU under the 2017-18 catalog and later
- German Education majors declaring in Fall 2009 or later must achieve an OPI/equivalent rating of "advanced low."

Course transferred ^a	NKU course	semester completed	grade	Requirements
_____	_____	_____	_____	Core courses - 18 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	German 201
_____	_____	_____	_____	German 202
_____	_____	_____	_____	German 304 <i>complete as soon as available after 202</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	German 401 or 402 Advanced Language Study
_____	_____	_____	_____	German 480 Advanced Culture Study
_____	_____	_____	_____	German 481 Advanced Literary Study
_____	_____	_____	_____	World Languages Program Assessment (0 credits, P/F)
_____	WLL 400	_____	_____	Culture Study - 6 hrs. <i>choose from GER 307, 310, 311, 330, 340, 401, 402, 480 not taken above</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Literary Study - 6 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	Interdisciplinary course - 3 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	Elective above GER 202 - 3 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	

^a Where applicable
German and Secondary Education double majors: Curriculum above, plus GER 350: Methods of Teaching German - 3 hrs., total 39 hrs
any course from 307-520 not already taken OR WLL 396 OR WLL 294 (German topic)

Date student notified of portfolio requirement _____ port. rec'd _____ port. accepted _____ advising checklist.doc/germancheck19.pdf

Curriculum Requirements for the Japanese Major

Core courses in Japanese(a copy of the Japanese major check list follows)	
• JPN 201-202.....	6 hours
• JPN 304 Japanese Composition and Conversation.....	3 hours
• Advanced language study: JPN 401 Japanese Phonetics and Pronunciation OR JPN 402 Advanced Japanese Grammar and Syntax.....	3 hours
• Advanced culture study: JPN 480.....	3 hours
• Advanced literary study: JPN 481.....	3 hours
• WLL 400 World Languages Program Assessment (taken in the penultimate semester).....	0 hours
Culture study Select from JPN 307 Introduction to Japanese Translation, JPN 311 Japanese Cultural History, JPN 325 Japanese Myth and Folklore, JPN 330 Studies in Japanese Language Cinema, JPN 340 Business Japanese, JPN 401 Japanese Phonetics and Pronunciation, JPN 402 Advanced Japanese Grammar and Syntax, JPN 480 Studies in Japanese Culture, JPN 520 Readings in Japanese (culture topic)	6 hours
Literary study Select from JPN 320 Survey of Japanese Literature, JPN 322 Japanese Drama, JPN 323 Japanese Prose Fiction, JPN 481 Studies in Japanese Literature, JPN 520 Readings in Japanese (literary topic)	6 hours
Interdisciplinary course component Select from ANT 275 Language and Culture, ANT 385 Peoples of East and Southeast Asia, ARTH 304 Survey of Asian Art, ARTH 359 Arts and Crafts of Japan, CIN 201 Survey of World Cinema, GEO 410 Geography of Asia, GEO 540 Cultural Geography of Asia, HIS 338 History of Japan, POP 345 Japanese Popular Culture, PHI 312 Eastern Philosophy, PSC 388 Politics of Asia, REL 350 World Religions and Ethics.....	3 hours
Elective in Japanese above JPN 202 OR WLL 294 (Japanese topic) OR WLL 396.....	3 hours
Total semester hours	36 hours
Major in Japanese with teaching certification.	
At this time, there is no teaching certification option available for Japanese.	

ADVISING CHECKLIST: JAPANESE fall 2019

Student name: _____

ID Number _____

Catalog under which student entered NKU: _____

NKU e-mail: _____

Faculty adviser: _____

School transferred from ^a _____ Post-bac yes no

- Post-bac exempt from portfolio.
- All Japanese majors must make at least a C- in each course applied to the major.
- Portfolio: the portfolio is still required. WLL 400 is also required

Course transferred ^a	NKU course	semester completed	grade	Requirements
_____	_____	_____	_____	Core courses - 18 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	Japanese 201
_____	_____	_____	_____	Japanese 202
_____	_____	_____	_____	Japanese 304 <i>complete as soon as available after 202</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Japanese 401 or 402 Advanced Language Study
_____	_____	_____	_____	Japanese 480 Advanced Culture Study
_____	_____	_____	_____	Japanese 481 Advanced Literary Study
_____	_____	_____	_____	World Languages Program Assessment (0 credits, P/F)
_____	WLL 400	_____	_____	Culture Study - 6 hrs. <i>choose from JPN 307, 311, 325, 330, 340, 401, 402, 480 not taken above</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Literary Study - 6 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	<i>choose from JPN 320, 322, 323, 481 not taken above</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Interdisciplinary course - 3 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	<i>check majors' handbook or dept. web site for latest list</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Elective above JPN 202 - 3 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	<i>any course from 307-520 not already taken OR WLL 396 OR WLL 294 (Japanese topic)</i>

^a Where applicable

Date student notified of portfolio requirement _____ port. rec'd. _____ port. accepted _____ advising checklist.doc/japanesecheck19.pdf

Curriculum Requirements for the Spanish Major

Core courses in Spanish(a copy of the Spanish major check list follows)	
• SPI 201-202.....	6 hours
• SPI 304 Spanish Composition and Conversation.....	3 hours
• Advanced language study: SPI 401 Spanish Phonetics and Pronunciation OR SPI 402 Advanced Spanish Grammar and Syntax.....	3 hours
• Advanced culture study: SPI 480.....	3 hours
• Advanced literary study: SPI 481.....	3 hours
• WLL 400 World Languages Program Assessment (taken in the penultimate semester).....	0 hours
Culture study Select from SPI 307 Introduction to Spanish Translation, SPI 310 Spanish Culture and Civilization, SPI 311 Spanish-American Culture and Civilization, SPI 330 Studies in Spanish Language Cinema, SPI 340 Business Spanish, SPI 401 Spanish Phonetics and Pronunciation, SPI 402 Advanced Spanish Grammar and Syntax, SPI 480 Studies in Spanish and Spanish-American Culture, SPI 520 Readings in Spanish (culture topic)	6 hours
Literary study Select from SPI 320 Survey of Peninsular Spanish Literature, SPI 321 Survey of Spanish-American Literature, SPI 322 Hispanic Drama, SPI 323 Hispanic Prose Fiction, SPI 481 Studies in Spanish and Spanish-American Literature, SPI 520 Readings in Spanish (literary topic)	6 hours
Interdisciplinary course component Select from ANT 245 Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, ANT 275 Language and Culture, ANT 360 Mesoamerican Indians, CIN 201 Survey of World Cinema, ENG 206 Western World Literature I, ENG 207 Western World Literature II, ENG 381 Introduction to Linguistics, GEO 402 Geography of Europe, GEO 406 Geography of Latin America, HIS 325 Latin America: Conquest and Resistance, HIS 326 Latin America: Nations and Revolutions, HIS 465 Nature and Development in Latin American History, PSC 330 Politics of Europe, PSC 335 Latin American Politics	3 hours
Elective in Spanish above SPI 202 OR WLL 294 (Spanish topic) OR WLL 396.....	3 hours
Total semester hours	36 hours
<p style="text-align: center;">Major in Spanish with teaching certification.</p> <p>Students pursuing a major in Spanish with secondary certification should review that portion of their catalog relating to education and health/physical education. Upon deciding to pursue the teacher education program, students must schedule an appointment with the coordinator of certification and advisement in the College of Education and with the secondary education adviser in Spanish in the Department of World Languages and Literatures. For more information, consult the College of Education Advising Center.</p> <p>In addition to the curriculum above for the major in Spanish, all students seeking the bachelor's degree in Spanish with teaching certification must take SPI 350 Methods of Teaching Spanish for a total of 39 hours. Students entering NKU under the 2009 catalog or later must achieve a rating of Advanced Low in the target language on an ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview or equivalent in order to be recommended for certification.</p>	

ADVISING CHECKLIST: SPANISH rev. 2019

Student name: _____

ID Number _____

Catalog under which student entered NKU: _____

NKU e-mail: _____

Faculty adviser: _____

School transferred from ^a _____ Post-bac yes no

- Post-bac exempt from portfolio.
- All Spanish majors must make at least a C- in each course applied to the major.
- Portfolio: the portfolio is still required. WLL 400 is also required for majors entering NKU under the 2017-18 catalog and later
- Spanish majors declaring in Fall 2009 or later must achieve an OPI/equivalent rating of "advanced low" to be certified to teach in KY.

Course transferred ^a	NKU course	semester completed	grade	Requirements
_____	_____	_____	_____	Core courses - 18 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	Spanish 201
_____	_____	_____	_____	Spanish 202
_____	_____	_____	_____	Spanish 304 <i>complete as soon as possible after 202</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Spanish 401 or 402 Advanced Language Study
_____	_____	_____	_____	Spanish 480 Advanced Culture Study
_____	_____	_____	_____	Spanish 481 Advanced Literary Study
_____	WLL 400	_____	_____	World Languages Program Assessment (0 credits, P/F)
_____	_____	_____	_____	Culture Study - 6 hrs. <i>choose from SPI 307, 310, 311, 330, 340, 401, 402, 480 not taken above</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Literary Study - 6 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	<i>choose from SPI 320, 321, 322, 323, 481 not taken above</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Interdisciplinary course - 3 hrs.
_____	_____	_____	_____	<i>check majors' handbook or dept. web site for latest list</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Elective above SPI 202 - 3 hrs.
^a Where applicable	_____	_____	_____	<i>any course from 307-520 not already taken OR WLL 396 OR WLL 294 (Spanish topic)</i>
Spanish and Secondary Education double majors: Curriculum above, plus SPI 350: Methods of Teaching Spanish - 3 hrs., total 39 hrs	_____	_____	_____	
Date student notified of portfolio requirement _____	port. rec'd. _____	port. accepted _____	advising checklist.doc/spanishcheck19.pdf	

Advising

Each new French, German, Japanese, or Spanish major will be assigned a specific faculty member as an adviser. Advisers meet regularly with the majors they advise to assist them in schedule planning each semester and in fulfilling requirements for general studies and for the major.

French, German, Japanese, and Spanish majors should contact their advisers during the pre-registration period in both fall and spring semesters and request an appointment for advising. Majors are required to meet with their advisers each semester, at this appointed time, and whenever they feel they need advice on academic matters.

Regular advising conferences help minimize confusion over requirements, scheduling conflicts, and the possibility that certification of the major or graduation may be delayed due to unfulfilled requirements. However, the final responsibility for fulfilling the catalog requirements in the major, the minor, general studies, and other areas rests with the students.

Listed below are the names of the faculty advisers in French, German, Japanese, and Spanish, as well as the department's Freshman & Transfer Specialist. Contact information can be found in the Directory at the end of this brochure or on the department website.

Freshman & Transfer Specialist
Mr. Kevin Corea

French
Dr. Gisèle Lorient-Raymer

German
Ms. Nancy Jentsch

Japanese
Mr. Makoto Nakamura

Spanish
Dr. Caryn Connelly
Ms. Irene Encarnación
Dr. Hilary Landwehr
Dr. Kajsa Larson
Dr. Blas Puente-Baldoceda



Hispanoamérica

Certifying the Major

No later than the semester prior to the semester in which a French, German, Japanese, or Spanish major plans to graduate, each major must have his or her major certified by the chair of the Department of World Languages and Literatures or by his or her designated representative. In preparation for this, the student should enroll in **WLL 400 (World Languages Program Assessment)** for that semester. For summer and fall graduation, certification must be completed no later than April 22 of the preceding spring to avoid late fees; for spring graduation, the deadline for certification is November 30 of the preceding fall. Students must also file an Application for Degree Candidacy form with the [Office of the Registrar](#) according to this same schedule of deadlines. Students should check the [university calendars](#) to verify the Registrar's deadlines.

To certify his or her major, the French, German, Japanese, or Spanish major should obtain a [Program Certification form](#) from the Office of the Registrar and then make an appointment with the chairperson of the Department of World Languages and Literatures or the designated representative. During the meeting with the chairperson, the certification form will be checked to see that all requirements for the French, German, Japanese, or Spanish major have been or will be met, and the form will be signed by both the chairperson and the student.

In addition, the French, German, Japanese, or Spanish major will be asked to fill out an evaluation of the program he or she is completing so that the World Languages & Literatures faculty can obtain information on the quality of their curriculum, advising, teaching, and extracurricular activities. This information will be used to help maintain or enhance the character of the world language programs at Northern Kentucky University.



«Oh le bon temps où nous étions si malheureux».

"Oh! the good times when we were so unhappy."

—Alexandre Dumas, Le Chevalier d'Harmental

Portfolio Assessment for French, German, Japanese & Spanish Majors

Any student who declares a major in French, German, Japanese, or Spanish must participate in the portfolio assessment program as a requirement for graduation. This assessment program has been adopted in response to: 1) a state mandate that the department regularly evaluate the academic progress of its world language majors, 2) a national awareness regarding accountability in higher education, and 3) the need to assess the effectiveness of our teaching. Portfolio assessment is completed through enrollment in WLL 400 (World Languages Program Assessment) the semester *prior* to the semester of graduation.

WHAT DOES THE PORTOLIO ENTAIL?

I. **THREE ESSAYS**, which you will upload to the Canvas site for WLL 400 by the Friday of final exam week:

- A personal statement written in English (2-3 pages in length) which provides:
 - an assessment of knowledge and skills in the target language as a result of work in the program.
 - a rationale for selection of specific samples of work included in the portfolio.
- One paper written for a class assignment (minimum of 3 pages in length) in the target language and on a cultural or linguistic topic.
- One paper written for a class assignment (minimum of 3 pages in length) in the target language and on a literary topic.

Essay format requirements:

- At least one of the two class papers included must include references to sources and demonstrate mastery of MLA citation form, and at least one must reflect computer literacy and use of the internet.
- All papers must be typed, double-spaced, with numbered pages. Clean copies, free of instructor comments or grades, are required.
- Each class paper should indicate the course, the semester, and the year for which it was submitted. Papers written in the junior or senior years are preferable to papers written earlier.
- Academic advisers can help students in the selection of papers and can answer format questions.
- Essay submissions not conforming to the content/format requirements will not be accepted. Students will be required to resubmit corrected copies before the degree will be awarded.

II. **A PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION**, assessing reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills, to be completed by the last day of classes for WLL 400. Currently this is the Avant STAMP test, which students take in the Testing Services Office (UC 101). Students can take all four assessments at once or in two sessions (one for reading and writing and one for listening and speaking). For details about the test and to register for the test, go to <https://inside.nku.edu/testing/stamp.html>.

Portfolios are reviewed by faculty of the program and perhaps by an external evaluator. The student will receive no evaluation of the portfolio other than a grade of Pass/Fail.

updated 2 July 2019

Study Abroad

Students interested in participating in any of the programs described below should contact Anne Perry, the Study Abroad Coordinator, in the Office of Education Abroad (UC 305) and consult the [OEA website](#). Whether or not the courses taken can transfer to NKU should be discussed with the student's adviser and the department chair prior to going abroad.

KIIS

KIIS, or the Kentucky Institute of International Studies, is a program supported by a consortium of Kentucky colleges and universities. It sponsors both summer and semester-long programs in Argentina, Austria, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Germany, Mexico, and Spain in which students can take language, culture, and literature courses while living in a country where their target language is spoken. Credit is awarded through Western Kentucky University.

Student exchange programs.

Northern maintains student exchange programs with the foreign universities listed below. Students who qualify may study for a semester or an academic year, as indicated.

Universidad de León (Spain). Semester or academic year

University of Caen – Caen (France). Semester or academic year.

Philipps-Universität Marburg – Marburg (Germany). Semester or academic year.

University of San Francisco de Quito – Cumbayá (Ecuador). Semester or academic year



countryside around Tarma, Perú (bpb)

Internship and Cooperative Education Opportunities

Students who major in French, German, Japanese, or Spanish sometimes wonder how what they learn in the classroom can be applied in a work situation and worry about their ability to find a job after graduation. The Department of World Languages and Literatures offers opportunities for students to obtain practical experience, which will enable them to compete successfully in the job market.

WLL 396: World Languages and Literatures Internship

Participation in WLL 396: World Languages and Literatures Internship is arranged through the Department of World Languages and Literatures. It may or may not be a paid experience, but successful completion will earn three credit hours toward the major/minor in French, German, Japanese or Spanish.

In order to register for WLL 396, students must have the following qualifications:

1. Officially declared major or minor in World Languages and Literatures
2. Completion of at least one 300-level WLL course with a grade of B- or better
3. A total official GPA of at least 2.75
4. A signed Faculty Consent Form, Internship Application Form, Internship Agreement Form, Internship Release Form, and a current version of the applicant's résumé one semester prior to enrollment.

A student must have the permission and support of the department chair and a faculty member who is willing to serve as the internship coordinator. The student must intern a minimum of 135 hours during the semester.

Consult the department website for deadlines, application forms and other materials.



Cooperative Education

Cooperative Education, commonly referred to as "Co-op," is an option within the regular academic structure that can be incorporated into any degree program. Co-ops are administered by [Career Services](#). By co-oping, a student can earn up to twelve semester hours of academic credit for work experience related to the major. These hours will not count toward the major in World Languages and Literatures, but will count in the total number of hours (120) required for graduation and for the required number of upper-division hours (45). Co-ops are paid experiences that can be set up as either full-time or part-time employment. To be eligible, a student must have the following qualifications:

1. Have completed at least 30 semester hours toward the bachelor's degree
2. Be available for at least two semesters of co-op work
3. Have a minimum 2.2 cumulative grade-point average (some employers specify a higher average)

The cooperative education coordinator in the Department of World Languages and Literatures will assist students in the application process, supervise the work experience, and assign a grade based on the student's performance.

A student who wishes to co-op for the first time should make an appointment for an interview with a **career adviser** in Career Services six to eight weeks before a co-op assignment is to begin. After learning about the student's interests, aptitudes and qualifications, the coordinator will help the student develop an effective resumé and refer the student to appropriate employment opportunities.

To receive a grade, the student will be required to write out learning objectives, keep a log or journal, and prepare a final paper about his/her experience. During the work experience, the adviser may visit the student at the job site and will be available for consultation with both employer and student.

A co-ops offers several additional, practical advantages:

- 1) It helps students gain professional experience in such areas as conducting a job search and networking with people in their fields.
- 2) It offers opportunities to apply classroom concepts in work situations.
- 3) It helps students develop career goals, explore possible careers, and make informed job choices.
- 4) Successful co-op placement can make a student more marketable after graduation and may lead to offers of full-time employment.

8 July 2019

Preparation for Graduate Study in French, German, Japanese, or Spanish

For a growing number of French, German, Japanese, and Spanish majors, the opportunity to study on the graduate level is an attractive option after receiving the bachelor's degree from Northern. The department offers the following recommendations to those of its students who plan to pursue a master's or doctoral degree after graduation.

1. A bachelor's degree in a foreign language can give a student access to a variety of post-graduate degree programs. While many traditional graduate programs in world languages are oriented toward literature, there are also programs in linguistics, second language acquisition, translation studies, or with a cultural emphasis, as well as area studies programs such as Asian Studies or Latin American Studies for which students may qualify. Some students choose to pursue further study in areas such as law, business, and library & information science.
2. Students interested in graduate study should choose their required interdisciplinary course in an area that supports their plans. Students seeking a traditional literary emphasis should also begin the study of a second foreign language while at Northern.
3. Students preparing themselves for graduate study should avail themselves of the materials on the qualifying exams available at the [Testing Services](#). For most programs, the qualifying exam is the Graduate Record Exam or GRE (information also on-line at <https://www.ets.org/gre/>). Students seeking admission to law or business schools will have to take the LSAT or GMAT. There are also books available commercially to help students prepare for these exams.
4. Students interested in graduate study should speak with their advisers about ways they may strengthen their undergraduate preparation strategies for the qualifying exams and for admission to graduate programs. Students are urged to watch for announcements of workshops on such topics as preparing to apply for graduate schools and professional schools.
5. Finally, the department reminds students that they themselves are primarily responsible for the quality of their preparation for graduate study. Students who aspire to graduate study should plan to read more than what is specifically required for their courses in order to achieve a more extensive grounding in the literatures and cultures of the target language.



«Da ogni bocca dirompea co'denti / un peccatore, a
guisa di maciulla, / sí che tre ne faceva cosí dolenti.»

"At each mouth he was tearing with his teeth / A
sinner, as is flax by heckle frayed; / Each of the three
of them so suffereth."

—Dante, *Inferno* XXXIV 55-57

Career Opportunities for World Language Majors

Graduates in foreign languages often find employment in the areas listed below. Usually the graduate combines knowledge of a language and culture with additional study or training in another area in order to qualify for a job.

Government

- Translation/Interpretation
- Diplomacy and Foreign Service
- Immigration/Naturalization
- Customs
- Armed Forces
- Civil Service

Business

- Translation/Interpretation (for a company or as one's own enterprise)
- Banking
- Sales/Customer service
- Market Research
- Imports/Exports
- Secretarial services
- Consulting
- other positions in internationally owned companies (companies from Canada, France, Spain, Mexico, and Switzerland have plants in Kentucky)

Travel and Tourism

- Translation/Interpretation
- Airlines
- Hospitality Industry

Education and Service

- Teaching elementary and high school language
- Teaching at the university level
- Counseling
- Social Work
- Administration
- Library Science

Arts, Media, Entertainment

- Advertising
- Journalism
- Publishing/Editing

Scientific and Professional

- Medicine (all kinds of health care professionals)
- Computer Science
- Law (both local practice and international law)
- Translation/Interpretation



L'Afrique francophone

Extracurricular Activities

Les Causeries francophones

A conversation group for students of French. Schedule and location of meetings are announced at the beginning of each semester.

Kaffeestunde

A conversation group for students of German. Schedule and location of meetings are announced at the beginning of each semester.

Phi Sigma Iota

The Gamma Phi chapter of Phi Sigma Iota, the International Foreign Language Honor Society, was established at Northern in the Spring of 1997. Criteria for membership include a minimum grade point average and number of hours completed. Specifics are listed on the [application form](#) posted on the department website. A call for membership applications is issued each semester.

Latino Mentor Program (LAMP)

Spanish majors and minors can serve as mentors in LAMP. [LAMP](#) is coordinated by the Office of Latino Program and Services and Student Affairs. It is designed to provide Latino students at NKU with a support system comprised of fellow students, faculty, staff, and employees of local organizations with the purpose of improving retention, encouraging career exploration, and providing exposure to local businesses. Mentors and mentees meet at least once a month to provide support and guidance. Events are created throughout the semester, about one per week, to help students grow socially, academically, and to help them prepare for their future career options and success.

Le Club Français

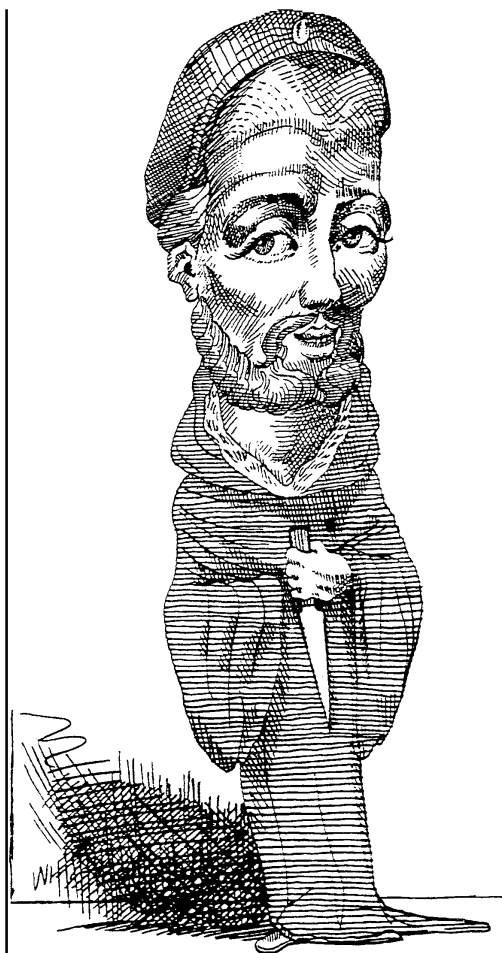
Le Club Français is the World Languages & Literatures French club. It is open to all students in good standing who are interested in French and Francophone cultures. It sponsors social and cultural activities at various times during the academic year.

Deutschklub

Deutschklub is the World Languages & Literatures German club. It is open to all students in good standing who are interested in German and German-speaking cultures.

Film series

Film series in the various languages the department offers are announced on the News page of the department website and on its Facebook page.



«Mieux est de ris que de larmes escrire,
Pour ce que rire est le propre de l'homme».

"Better to write of laughter than of tears,
For laughter is the essence of mankind."

—François Rabelais

updated 25 June 2019

Department Directory

Always check the department web site for the latest information.

Major programs			
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Japanese	Office	Phone	E-mail
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Dr. Kajsa Larson	MP 478	859.572.6368	larsonk2@nku.edu
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Teaching Methods			
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