



What can I do with a major in

# FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES

from Valparaiso University?

## Description of major:

Acquaintance with a foreign language and a foreign culture has a profound effect on the way individuals view their own language and their own heritage. Studying a foreign language will help students to understand a more global perspective and understanding of all humanity. Students deepen their backgrounds in the humanities while acquiring a working knowledge of another language which is a practical skill valued in many of today's professions. Students majoring in a foreign language are encouraged to develop a complementary skill. Few jobs requiring foreign language proficiency require only skill in a foreign language. Foreign language majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad. Majors include: Classics, French, German, and Spanish.

## Relevant skills for a FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES major:

- ◆ Adjust to new environments
- ◆ Analyze and compare cultures
- ◆ Analyze communication situations
- ◆ Analyze community needs
- ◆ Appreciate diverse cultures/ have cultural awareness
- ◆ Sensitive to people of other cultures
- ◆ Communicate, both verbally & in writing
- ◆ Critique and organize
- ◆ Explain concepts
- ◆ Guide
- ◆ Have foreign language competency
- ◆ Help
- ◆ Independent
- ◆ Inform
- ◆ Lead discussions
- ◆ Listen & clarify well
- ◆ Make decisions
- ◆ Organize people
- ◆ Organize/classify
- ◆ Overcome barriers
- ◆ Plan and design projects
- ◆ Review/evaluate
- ◆ Select and train
- ◆ Solve problems
- ◆ Summarize/present results
- ◆ Take risks
- ◆ and others!

## Sample work activities for Graduates in FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES (some may require an advanced degree)

- Announcer (radio, TV)
- Anthropologist
- Art Historian
- Biographer
- Booking Agent
- Caseworker
- Community Organization Worker
- Community Relations & Service Advisor
- Customs Inspector
- Editor, foreign news broadcast
- Employment Interviewer
- Flight Attendant
- Foreign Attendant
- Foreign Exchange Program Director
- Foreign Export Marketer
- Foreign Information Officer
- Foreign Language Translator
- Foreign Student Advisor
- Foreign Travel Escort Officer
- Immigration Inspector
- Importer/Exporter
- Intelligence Specialist
- International Broadcaster
- International Relations Specialist
- International Trade Economist
- Interpreter
- Language Researcher
- Library & Information Specialist
- Linguistic Scientist
- Manager, Industrial development
- Manager, World Trade
- Newswriter/Foreign Languages
- Special agent/FBI
- Teacher, primary/ secondary school
- Teacher, second language/ international
- Tour Guide
- Training Instructor
- Translator, computer
- Writer, technical publications
- and others!

## Potential hiring institutions for FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES majors:

- ◆ Advertising department & agencies
- ◆ Agency of International Development
- ◆ Air, bus, and rail lines
- ◆ Airports
- ◆ Banks, savings & commercial
- ◆ Chambers of commerce
- ◆ Civil Service Commission
- ◆ Commerce Department
- ◆ Consumer Affairs Office
- ◆ Education Department
- ◆ Federal Communications
- ◆ Federal Trade Commission
- ◆ Foreign language agencies
- ◆ Foreign Service Department
- ◆ Government agencies:
- ◆ Hotel chains
- ◆ Immigration & Naturalization Service
- ◆ Import/export companies
- ◆ International studies/student exchange agencies
- ◆ Investment firms
- ◆ Library of Congress
- ◆ National Archives
- ◆ News bureaus
- ◆ Peace Corps
- ◆ Public relations firms
- ◆ Public service organizations
- ◆ School systems
- ◆ Travel agencies
- ◆ United Nations
- ◆ Visitors & convention bureaus
- ◆ Vista
- ◆ and others!

## Area of further education for FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES majors:

- Anthropology
- Art
- Business Administration
- Communication
- Conflict Resolution & Mediation/Peace Studies
- Curriculum & Instruction
- Demography & Population Studies
- Economics
- Education
- FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES Literature
- European Studies
- French/French Studies/French Literature
- Geography
- German/Germanic Studies/German Literature
- History
- Human Services
- Humanities
- International Affairs
- International Business
- International Development
- International Law
- Journalism
- Law
- Liberal Studies
- Library & Information Studies
- Linguistics
- Pharmacy
- Political Science
- Pre-Medicine
- Psychology
- Psychology/Counseling
- Public Relations
- Religion/Divinity Studies
- Social Sciences
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Spanish/Spanish & Latin American Studies/Spanish Literature
- Translation & Interpretation and others!

## Sources of additional information for FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES majors:

- VU Department of Foreign Languages: <http://www.valpo.edu/foreignlang>
- Agora Language Marketplace: A comprehensive and up-to-date source of information for: course materials; access to study abroad, travel, housing exchange, and other opportunities of particular interest to language students and teachers; a bulletin board of employment listings; a calendar of events; and a central access point for finding language-related Internet services. <http://www.agoralang.com>
- All Jobs in China: Scans all the main employment sites on the internet looking for jobs in China. <http://china.career-agent.net>
- American Association of Teachers of French: Represents the French language in North America and to encourage the dissemination, both in the schools and in the general public, of knowledge concerning all aspects of the culture and civilization of France and the French-speaking world. <http://aatf.utsa.edu/>
- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages: The only national organization dedicated to the improvement and expansion of the teaching and learning of all languages at all levels of instruction. <http://www.actfl.org/>
- American Language Online: The internet information center for language and education. <http://www.alr.org/>
- American Translators Association: This site will help you learn more about the American Translators Association and the translation and interpretation professions. <http://atanet.org>
- Asiaco.com: A search engine for everything related to Asia including jobs and cultural information. <http://www.asiaco.com>

- Association Bernard Gregory: Job listings for scientists in France. All listings are in French. Lots of great info to read over! <http://www.abg.asso.fr/>
- Bi-Lingual Jobs.Com: Your Diversity Career Resource for job seekers with Japanese, Spanish, Chinese, French and German backgrounds. <http://www.bilingual-jobs.com/>
- Breitbach & Partner: brief description of opportunities for Germany, in German. <http://www.breitbach.com/>
- Career China: Career opportunities in China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, U.S. and beyond - Leave it to Career Wise at Dragonsurf.com to assist you in realizing your utmost potential. <http://www.dragonsurf.com/careerwise/>
- CareerCross Japan: Jobs in Japan & Japanese-related positions overseas. Plus an in-depth look at living & working in Japan and more. [http://www.careercross.co.jp/FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES](http://www.careercross.co.jp/FOREIGN_LANGUAGES_&_LITERATURES)
- EscapeArtist.com: International job marketplace. <http://jobs.excapeartist.com>
- Eurograduate Live: features thousands of Graduate Opportunities across Europe. You can also find expert advice on Career Planning, useful links to other great sites and details about postgraduate options. <http://www.eurograduate.com/>
- Eurojobs.com: EuroJobs is a service provided by MediaLinks. <http://eurojobs.com/>
- FDAssociates (France): recruiters for high-tech and other fields, in French. <http://www.fdassociates.com>
- Go-Spain: an FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES language publication for people interested in Spain. <http://www.go-spain.com/>
- International Civil Service Commission: The International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) is an independent expert body established by the United Nations General Assembly. Its mandate is to regulate and coordinate the conditions of service of staff in the United Nations common system, while promoting and maintaining high standards in the international civil service. <http://icsc.un.org>
- International Monster.com: The international component of the popular Monster Board web site. <http://international.monster.com/>
- JapaneseJobs.com: Employment service bringing together bilingual professionals who speak Japanese and FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES with hiring companies. <http://www.japanesejobs.com>
- Jobs in Japan: Job opportunities and other information. <http://www.jobsinjapan.com>
- JobsDB.com: Overseas opportunities in Asia & Australia for US professionals. <http://www.jobsdb.com>
- LatPro.Com: the leading employment source for Spanish-and Portuguese-speaking professionals throughout the Americas. Post resumes anonymously, receive emails instantly announcing new job opportunities that match your profile, and read expert advice on job-seeking. <http://www.latpro.com>
- OverseasJobs.Com: the Web's #1 resources for international employment and work abroad. Expatriates and job seekers can search the job database by keywords or locations and post a resume online for employers to view. <http://www.overseasjobs.com/>
- Réseau Européen pour l'Emploi: many jobs listings, submit your resume. Includes a list of online recruiters for France. In French. <http://www.reseau.org/emploi/index.htm>
- Saludos.com: Hispanic employment - Hispanic jobs - workforce diversity bilingual professionals - employment recruiting Free Resume Postings For Hispanic Job Seekers. <http://www.saludos.com/>
- Teachers of FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc.: Develops the expertise of its members and others involved in teaching FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES to speakers of other languages to help them foster effective communication in diverse settings while respecting individuals' language rights. <http://www.tesol.org/>
- Teachin Asia JobNet: Teaching positions for China, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan & Thailand. <http://www.teach-in-asia.net>
- Teaching Jobs Overseas: Topics include: international teaching, teaching overseas, teaching abroad, American and international schools, overseas jobs, international employment, etc. <http://www.joyjobs.com/>
- The American Association of Language Specialists: An international association of interpreters and translators. <http://www.taals.net/>
- The American Classical League: Devoted to the study of Greek and Latin classical literature. The American Classical League was founded in 1919 for the purpose of fostering the study of classical languages in the United States and Canada. <http://www.aclassics.org/>
- The Electronic Embassy: a resource of and for the Washington, DC embassy community. <http://www.embassy.org/>
- Trabajo.org: job listings in Spain. You can search by region and/or profession, and post a resume. There is also a nice "advice" section. The entire site is in Spanish, and when you search the database, be sure the "keyword" box (Tema de búsqueda) is blank. <http://www.trabajo.org/>
- United Nations Homepage: Various information on the United Nations, including recent news, publications, etc. <http://www.un.org/>
- Voice of the Shuttle: Various resources and websites devoted to arts & humanities studies. <http://vos.ucsb.edu>
- Zhaopin.com: A Chinese recruitment website (bilingual). <http://www.zhaopin.com>

## VU Career Center Resource Library Materials:

- *100 Best Nonprofits to Work for*
- *Career Opportunities in Travel & Tourism*
- *Careers for foreign Language Aficionados & Other Multilingual Types*
- *Careers for History Buffs*
- *Civil Service Career Starter*
- *Directory of Foreign Consulates and International Trade Assistance Organizations in Chicagoland*
- *Graduate Admissions Essays: Write Your Way into the Graduate School of Your Choice*
- *Graduate Programs in Arts and Architecture*
- *Graduate Programs in Humanities*
- *Graduate Programs in Social Sciences*
- *Graduate Schools in the U.S*
- *Great Jobs for Foreign Language Majors*
- *Great Jobs for Liberal Arts Majors*
- *Guide to America's Federal Jobs*
- *Harvard Business School Guide to Careers in the Nonprofit Sector*
- *How to Get a Job in Europe*
- *How to Write a Winning Personal Statement for Graduate and Professional School*
- *Inside Secrets to Finding a Career in Travel*
- *International Business Etiquette. Asia & the Pacific Rim*
- *International Business Etiquette. Europe*
- *International Business Etiquette. Latin America*
- *International Jobs: Where they Are, How to Get them*
- *Job Surfing: Working Abroad*
- *Opportunities in Foreign Language Careers*
- *Opportunities in Government Careers*
- *Opportunities in Hotel & Motel Careers*
- *Opportunities in Overseas Careers*
- *Opportunities in Travel Careers*
- *Overseas Summer Jobs*
- *Peterson's Game Plan for Getting into Graduate School*
- *Peterson's Graduate & Professional Programs, 6 Vol Set*
- *The Book of U.S. Government Jobs: Where They Are, What's Available, and How to Get One*
- *World Chamber of Commerce Directory*
- *and others!*

**For more information about majoring in FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES, contact:**

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**For more questions about your career decisions, please make an appointment with a VU Career Counselor by calling 464-5005, stopping by the Career Center in Alumni Hall or e-mailing us at [Career.Center@valpo.edu](mailto:Career.Center@valpo.edu)**

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