
Do you find it fascinating to be able to communicate in a foreign language? Do you enjoy reading literature and watching foreign films? Do you like to learn about other cultures and meet people from other countries? Do you see yourself helping others because of your language skills? Do you dream about studying abroad in Chile, Granada, Rome, Paris or Salzburg? Welcome to foreign language study at Assumption College!

Knowledge of another language, or languages, is highly valued in business, government and nonprofit organizations.

“My study of languages has not only opened up opportunities in the job market, but, more importantly, has helped me make connections with other people and better understand other cultures.”

- Ashley Rode ’10, Classics major; Guide, United Nations

Discover the world

By studying languages at Assumption you will not only learn to communicate in a foreign language; you also will explore the history, literature, philosophy, and customs of other cultures around the world. Through the study of languages you can become a citizen of the global community.

Taught by a dynamic faculty, our courses in French, German, Ancient Greek, Italian, Latin and Spanish are small and interactive. In addition to speaking and reading the language in class, students watch films, make videos, listen to songs and even play games to gain language facility and appreciation of the culture.

The study of languages helps you improve your oral and written communication skills, and also expands your capacity for critical thinking and examination. In fact, the type of analysis you perform on texts and films in your chosen language will help you in any future career, from translator to teacher to business professional.
Course of study

Assumption offers a wide range of majors and minors in the modern and classical languages and cultures. Adding a language or languages as a major or minor can complement many academic disciplines while enhancing your career potential.

If you’re looking to teach a foreign language at the elementary, middle or high school level, you can double major in Classics, French, Spanish, or Foreign Languages with a major in Education. Assumption’s curriculum emphasizes proficiency in the language and culture and early, hands-on experience in the classroom. You acquire the skills, experience and knowledge necessary to achieve your teaching license and excel in your field.

CLASSICS
Major or Minor
Major with Concentration in Latin
Major with Concentration in Greek
Major with Concentration in Classical Languages
Major with Concentration in Classical Civilization

FRENCH
Major or Minor

FRENCH STUDIES
Minor

ITALIAN STUDIES
Major or Minor

SPANISH
Major or Minor

GERMAN STUDIES
Minor (or Special Major)

FOREIGN LANGUAGES
Major
You study two foreign languages and cultures within this one major.

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
Major or Minor

Learn about our modern and classical languages and cultures faculty, courses and degree requirements at assumption.edu/programs.

SAMPLE COURSES
Border Identities in Spain
Classical Mythology
French Culture and Civilization
Italian Cinema
Magical Realism and the Literature of the Fantastic
Modern German Masterpieces
Rebellion and Reinvention in Mexico
Techniques of Translation
Twentieth Century French Drama

Did you know?

Some of our Spanish courses offer a service learning component, in which students learn through serving the community. Students recently helped Spanish-speaking immigrant children in local schools with their English skills, tutored adult English learners through interactive literacy activities using photography, and gathered data for a reference guide for local immigrant families.

Get out there!

What better way to enhance your study of a language than to immerse yourself in its culture? At Assumption, we highly recommend (though do not require) that our language students study abroad for a semester at one of 50 sites around the world — including Assumption’s own campus in Rome. In cities from Paris to Prague, you not only improve your language fluency and cultural awareness, you also earn course credit toward your degree.

Shorter summer courses are also available, such as a program in Sicily featuring a homestay, two weeks of study with an Assumption professor and trips to Rome and Pompeii.

SAMPLE STUDY ABROAD SITES
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Dublin, Ireland
Paris, France
Rome, Italy
Salamanca, Spain
Salzburg, Austria

Did you know?

Assumption College developed The French Institute in 1979 to preserve the French heritage of the College and the region through academic research and cultural activities. The Institute is the leading center to study material relating to French Canadian immigration to New England.

What’s next?

Assumption students of modern and classical languages and cultures either go on to graduate programs in such areas as foreign language, library studies, or law, or enter directly into careers in such fields as business, education, finance, social service, nonprofit administration, or technology. Here’s a sampling of places where alumni from our programs have applied their knowledge of languages and cultures:

SAMPLE RECENT EMPLOYERS
Boston Public Schools
EMC Corporation
Massachusetts and Connecticut Public Schools
MassMutual Financial Group
Mellon Financial Corporation (now BNY Mellon)
United Nations

SAMPLE RECENT GRADUATE SCHOOLS
Boston University
Cambridge College
Curry College
Middlebury College
Simmons College
University of Connecticut