Foreign language is a branch of the language arts field that involves the study of languages by non-native speakers. At University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire, the Department of Foreign Languages offers liberal art and teaching majors and minors in French, German, and Spanish. In addition to these options, the Department of Foreign Languages offers a Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) minor, and a certificate and minor in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL). Students of Spanish may also wish to consider the Latin American studies major or minor located within the Multidisciplinary Programs Department. Spanish and German students wishing to use their language skills in a business setting may also choose a business/professions emphasis.

**Typical interests and values of foreign language majors:**
- Intellectual growth
- Linguistic ability
- Adaptability
- Patience
- Tolerance and sensitivity

**Knowledge and skills gained from studying foreign languages:**

*Knowledge:*
A student in foreign languages at UW–Eau Claire will learn to communicate proficiently in a language other than English, develop cultural awareness and sensitivity, and expand knowledge and promote appreciation and tolerance for other cultures.

*Skills:*
- Ability to think logically and make analogies
- Ability to organize and memorize detailed information
- Proficient at clarifying and responding
- High proficiency in reading, speaking, and writing
- Comfortable with phonetics and sound imitation
- Awareness and respect for other cultures
- Understanding and appreciation of global perspectives
- Proponent for global education
- Promoting change
- Representing and providing support for others

**Related student and professional organizations:**

*Student:*
- Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish)
- Delta Phi Alpha (German)

*Professional:*
- Der Deutsche Verein (German)
- Le Salon Francais (French)

**Career fields related to foreign languages:**

*Potential Employers:*
Foreign language graduates can use their education in a variety of fields. In many cases, their jobs closely relate to their personal career interests, work values, and transferable skills. Examples of some areas include academia, arts, media, entertainment, government, business, travel industry, museums, and book publishers.

*Potential Job Titles:*
- Bilingual Educator
- Banking Correspondent
- Civil Service Employee
- Museum Curator
- Foreign Social Worker
- Medical professions
- Foreign Service Officer
- Linguist
- Filmmaker
- FBI Agent
- Importer/Exporter
- Foreign Exchange Trader
- Consultant
- Travel Writer
- National Security Agent
- Journalist
- Peace Corps Volunteer
- Reporter
- UNESCO Officer
- Editor
- Sports Agent
- Auditor
- Customs Officer
- Immigration Officer
- Interpreter/Translator/Guide
- International Trade Economist
Jobs You Might Also Consider...
Library Technician  Travel Agent
Advertising Copywriter  Court Interpreter
Technical Writer  Archivist
Human Resources  School Counselor
Market Research Analyst  Legal Assistant
Admissions Counselor  Government Official
Social and Community Service Manager
International Hotel Administrator

Sample entry level jobs held by UW-Eau Claire foreign language graduates:
- Admissions Officer, Exploration School Inc., Norwood, MA
- Elementary Teacher, Eau Claire School District, Eau Claire, WI
- Teach for America, Denver, CO
- Staff Editor, New York Times Co., New York, NY
- Elementary English Teacher, Valladolid, Spain
- Bilingual Executive Assistant, Hycite Corp., Madison, WI

Learn more about foreign language:
Department
- Contact UW–Eau Claire’s Department of Foreign Languages, HHH 378, 836-4287

Getting started at Career Services:
- Meet with a career counselor
- Take interest inventory and self-assessment tests
- Utilize Blugold Career Success Network, a database of UW–Eau Claire alumni & friends available for informational interviewing.
- Utilize Blugold CareerLink, an online job search database specifically for UWEC students and alum

Resources at Career Services:
Yellow Section-
- Sigi 3 handouts:
  - Spanish  - Social Worker
  - French  - German
  - Journalist (Newspaper/Magazine)
- Book sections:
  - International & Foreign Language Careers
Orange Section-
- “The Internship Series- For the Common Good:
  Internships with Community and Social Service Agencies”

Opportunities to enhance skills in foreign languages:
Study Abroad Experience for Undergraduates
At UW–Eau Claire, students are encouraged to develop their language skills by participating in a study abroad program, and it is mandatory for those wishing to obtain a teaching license in Wisconsin. The Center for International Education has information on the multitude of study abroad programs available through UWEC. Visit http://www.uwec.edu/cie/index.htm for more information.

Internships
Internships are a way to gain hands-on experience in a position that you may be considering as a potential career. To find an internship in foreign language, visit Career Services (Schofield 230) and speak with a career associate. Contact your adviser or the Department of Foreign Languages chair about enrolling in FLG 375 to obtain academic credit for your internship.

Directed Studies or Independent Study Class
By participating in a directed studies or independent study class, students will be able to research an area that they find particularly interesting. Contact your adviser about enrolling in FLG 395, GERM 395, 399 or 499, FREN 395, 399 or 499 or SPAN 395, 399, or 499.

What you can do now:
- View foreign language films which are shown monthly by the Department of Foreign Languages.
- Tutor introductory level language courses at the Academic Skills Center.
- Take part in the language discussion tables that are held weekly for conversation in the language you are studying.