

# MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

---

## DEPARTMENT OFFICE

Stevenson Hall 3016  
(707) 664-2351

## DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Christine B. Renaudin

## ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Kate Sims

## Faculty

---

Michaela Grobbel / German, Literature and Culture of the German-Speaking World, Ethnic Minority Studies, Feminist Studies, World Literature

Jeffrey Reeder / Spanish, Applied Linguistics, Portuguese

Christine Renaudin / French, French Literature, Culture, Francophone Studies

Parissa Tadrissi / Spanish, Peninsular and Latin American Literatures and Cultures

Suzanne Toczyski / French, French Literature, Culture, Francophone Studies

Robert Train/ Spanish, Sociolinguistics

## Programs Offered

---

Bachelor of Arts in French

Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

Master of Arts in Spanish

Minor in French

Minor in German

Minor in Spanish

Courses in World Literatures in English

Humanities Learning Communities (A3 C3)

Bachelor of Arts in the Special Major: German Cultural Studies

The programs and courses of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures make accessible to students the languages, literatures, and cultures of France and the Francophone world, Germany and the German-speaking countries, and Spain and Latin America. We recognize students' need for linguistic competency and cultural sensitivity in the multilingual, multicultural world in which they will live and work. Thus, language is taught as an integral part of its cultural context. Programs and courses are designed to complement academic work in many other fields. For further information please consult the department's website at [www.sonoma.edu/modlang/](http://www.sonoma.edu/modlang/).

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures offers major and minor programs in French and Spanish, a minor program in German, and a master of Arts program in Spanish. In addition, the department offers courses in World Literatures in English,

participates in First- and Second-Year Experience through the Freshman Humanities Learning Community (HLC) and Second Year Research and Creative Experience (SYRCE), and provides an advising pathway for the Interdisciplinary Studies Special Major in German Cultural Studies. Modern language courses are taught in the target language; functional control of all language skills (reading, writing, listening comprehension, and speaking) is a primary goal.

It is highly advisable that students combine a major or minor in modern languages with a major or minor in another discipline. Coursework, minors, and majors in modern languages complement specialized knowledge and expertise in other academic areas. The structure of the modern languages major programs facilitates the planning of double majors and minors. In addition to majors and minors offered by other departments, interdisciplinary and career minor programs of special interest to Modern Languages students include the Global Studies minor and the minor in linguistics.

## Careers in Modern Languages and Literatures

---

Through careful academic planning, the study of modern languages and literatures can open a wide range of career options in such fields as international business, government service, domestic and international human services, travel, librarianship, translating and interpreting, and journalism. Many department alumni have pursued work in the Peace Corps and various other nonprofit entities; others have earned teaching credentials or advanced degrees in their discipline and teach at the elementary, secondary, or post-secondary levels. A degree in a second language is also an excellent preparation for a career teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL). The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures successfully prepares students for graduate study in a wide variety of fields, particularly in combination with a second major or a minor. The importance of early and frequent consultation with departmental advisors cannot be overstressed. It is the key to meaningful access to academic and career opportunities, including internships both at home and abroad.

## International Programs

---

Through the International Programs of the California State University, Sonoma State University students may spend an academic year in residence at a university abroad. Courses taken abroad through the International Programs count as residence units in all University programs and can be integrated into an overall academic plan. For further information, contact the Center for International Education, (707) 664-2582, located in the International Hall.

## Placement in Modern Language Courses

---

The faculty of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures will assist students in selecting the appropriate course level. In particular, recommendations for placement in French classes differ

slightly from the more general schedule described below; students interested in studying French should contact one of the instructors.

Students with this many years in high school language courses should enroll in courses in this level:

Less than two years	101
Two years	102
Three years	201 or any other 200 course except 202
Four years	202 or any other 200 course except 201

Students who have taken an Advanced Placement (AP) exam and scored 3, 4, or 5 should contact an advisor in that language for specific information regarding placement and credit.

Please note that placement can be very individual, particularly for heritage speakers of a language. Any students who have reason to believe that their language skills are more advanced than this table would imply should consult with the instructor of the course in which they think they would benefit most.

Transfer students with college credit in a modern language may not receive credit for SSU courses in the same language that duplicates previous work. Exceptions may be made by the chair of the department when the following conditions are met:

1. The courses involved are lower-division; and
2. The original study was accomplished three or more years prior to enrollment in the equivalent course at Sonoma State University.

In addition to the four-year graduation plans detailed below, students pursuing the bachelor of arts in French or Spanish may also elect a five- or six-year plan. Please see an advisor for details.

## Course Challenges

Students may challenge courses, as provided in University procedures (please see more information in the Admissions section of this catalog). It is essential that students interested in this possibility consult instructors of the courses they wish to challenge at the start of the semester.

## Grade Requirements

### Undergraduate Progression and Retention in Modern Languages

**Programs:** Students must maintain a minimum grade of C- in each course required for the major in French or Spanish; otherwise, the student will not be permitted to graduate in the programs. The student may repeat the course if she/he does not earn the minimum grade. The student must receive a grade of C- or better when the course is repeated. This policy also applies to courses taken at other institutions, abroad or in the United States.

## Bachelor of Arts in French

The purpose of the French major is to enable students to attain an advanced level of competency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, and to provide them with a comprehensive knowledge of the

historic and contemporary culture and institutions of France and the Francophone world. The French language is studied not as an end in itself, but as a vehicle for students' broader and more informed participation in their chosen fields. Students who study French at SSU also have the option of completing a portion of the course work in France (Paris or Aix-en-Provence) or in Canada, and should visit the International Programs Office for details.

Degree Requirements	Units
General education (46 units, 4 in major)	46
Major requirements	32
General electives	42
<b>Total units needed for graduation</b>	<b>120</b>

*Note: Students should note the prerequisites for upper-division courses.*

## Major Requirements

Complete the following 32 units:

FR 202 Oral French	4
FR 300 Introduction to Literary Analysis & Critical Writing	4
FR 320 France Yesterday	4
FR 321 France Today	4
FR 410 French Literature	4
FR 411 French Literature	4
FR 415 Special Topics in French Culture	4
FR 475 Senior Seminar	4
<b>Total units in the major</b>	<b>32</b>

## Minor in French

### Requirements for the Minor

The French minor presupposes 12 units or the equivalent of FR 101, 102, 201. All or part of these may have been completed elsewhere. Also, the student who wishes to minor in French is required to take:

FR 202 Oral French	4
FR 300 Introduction to Literary Analysis & Critical Writing	4
<i>And one of the following groups of courses:</i>	<i>8</i>
FR 320 France Yesterday	4
and FR 410 French Literature	4
or	
FR 320 France Yesterday	4
and FR 321 France Today	4
or	
FR 321 France Today	4
and FR 411 French Literature	4
and either FR 415 Special Topics in French Culture	4
or FR 475 Senior Seminar	4
<b>Total units in the minor</b>	<b>20</b>

## Minor in German

The German minor program enriches students' academic and career opportunities by providing them with skills that complement many

majors at SSU. German helps students understand themselves as participants in their own culture. It also helps them understand U.S. history and culture, since German-Americans represent the largest single heritage population. Moreover, German is the most widely spoken language in Europe. Knowing German also opens up opportunities to connect with more than 120 million native speakers worldwide. Additionally, the study of German prepares students to be competitive for graduate school, since many graduate programs require or recommend German. German minors may also have a distinct advantage entering a professional career, in fields such as international business, economics, science, history, global studies, music, or teaching. The SSU German program offers a variety of courses that provide students with linguistic skills and cultural knowledge of the German-speaking world. Students are encouraged to participate in the CSU International Programs and take courses in Germany, which may be counted toward the minor. Students wishing to study abroad are strongly encouraged to consult with their German advisor to ensure that courses taken abroad can be applied to the German minor. A minimum of 8 of the 21 required units must be taken at SSU.

### Requirements for the Minor

The German minor program consists of a minimum of 21 units of college coursework in German, of which 8 units must be taken at SSU: 4 units at the 200 level (GER 200 or GER 210) and 4 units consisting of GER 300. Additionally, German minor students must attain the “Goethe-Zertifikat B1” (Zertifikat Deutsch), the internationally recognized proficiency certificate offered annually at SSU under the auspices of the Goethe Institute. Students who have successfully completed the SSU German Program may be confident of passing the certification examination, offered at Sonoma State University at the end of every spring semester.

All German courses, except for GER 101, count toward the German minor. Note that GER 300 must be taken in residence at SSU. Students must earn a minimum grade of C- in each course that counts for the German minor. They may repeat the course once if they do not earn the minimum grade. Students must receive a grade of C- or better when the course is repeated. This policy also applies to courses taken at other institutions, abroad or in the United States.

The German minor presupposes 4 units or the equivalent of GER 101 (4 units). Students who wish to minor in German are required to take the following 6 courses:

GER 102 (4 units)—Fall, Spring

Second Semester: Contemporary Germany

*Prerequisite: GER 101 or consent of instructor.*

GER 200 (4 units)—Fall

Intermediate German: The German-Speaking World Today

*Prerequisite: GER 102 or consent of instructor.*

GER 210 (4 units)—Spring

Intermediate German through Film

*Prerequisite: GER 102 or consent of instructor.*

GER 314 (4 units)—Fall

Literature and Culture of the German-Speaking World

*Note: Taught in English. Requires concurrent enrollment for German minor students in GER 315.*

*Prerequisite for German minor students: GER 102 or consent of instructor. Course may be repeated for credit if topic changes.*

GER 315 (1 unit)—Fall

German Language and Literature

*Note: Requires concurrent enrollment for German minor students in GER 314.*

GER 300 (4 units)—Spring

Advanced German Studies

*Prerequisites: GER 200 and GER 210, or consent of instructor. Course may be repeated for credit if topic changes.*

**Total units in the minor**      **21**

## Bachelor of Arts in the Special Major: German Cultural Studies

For information about the Bachelor of Arts in the Special Major: German Cultural Studies, see Interdisciplinary Studies, p. 165. You may also contact the coordinator Michaela Grobbel (grobbel@sonoma.edu; 707.664.2673).

## Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

*(See page 199 for a sample four-year program.)*

The culture and literary traditions of Spain, the growing interest in the politics, culture, and commerce of Latin America, the proximity of Mexico, and the presence of a large Spanish-speaking population in California and the University’s service area all contribute to the shaping of the curriculum of the Spanish program and provide excellent reasons for the study of Spanish. The Spanish program offers a full range of courses in language, literature, and culture, as well as interdisciplinary concentrations. Courses taken abroad in the CSU International Programs, with the exception of Span 490 and 491 (at least one of which must be taken in residence at SSU), may be counted toward the major or minor.

Degree Requirements	Units
General education (46 units, 4 in major)	50
Major requirements	36-56
Electives/Other	14-34
<b>Total units needed for graduation</b>	<b>120</b>

### Spanish Placement Evaluation

Students are encouraged to have a placement evaluation. Please see a program advisor for proper course placement.

### Lower-Division Spanish Courses

These courses are prerequisites for the upper-division courses in the major and minor. Some or all of these courses or their equivalents may be waived by virtue of prior language study, courses in transfer, or placement in higher level courses.

SPAN 101 Basic Spanish, 1st Semester	4
SPAN 102 Basic Spanish, 2nd Semester	4
SPAN 201 Intermediate Spanish, 1st Semester	4
SPAN 202 Intermediate Spanish, 2nd Semester	4

### Electives

SPAN 150 Elementary Conversation	2
SPAN 250 Intermediate Conversation	2

**Total units**      **20-24**

## Spanish Minor

For a minor, students must complete SPAN 300, 301, 304, and 305, and either 306 or 307.

SPAN 300 Advanced Spanish Language	4
SPAN 301 Advanced Composition and Conversation	4
SPAN 304 Introduction to Spanish Linguistics	4
SPAN 305 Introduction to Literature and Research	4

*Plus, either:*

SPAN 306 Cultures of Spain <b>or</b>	
SPAN 307 Cultures of Latin America	4
<b>Total minor units</b>	<b>20</b>

## Spanish Major

For the major, students must complete SPAN 300, 301, 304, 305, 306, 307, and three classes at the 400 level, at least one of which must be SPAN 490 or SPAN 491 (490 or 491 must be taken in residence at SSU):

SPAN 300 Advanced Spanish Language	4
SPAN 301 Advanced Composition and Conversation	4
SPAN 304 Introduction to Spanish Linguistics	4
SPAN 305 Introduction to Literature and Research	4
SPAN 306 Cultures of Spain	4
SPAN 307 Cultures of Latin America	4

plus, any two of:

SPAN 400 Topics in Linguistics	4
SPAN 401 Peninsular Literature	4
SPAN 402 Latin American Literature	4
SPAN 410 Spanish Translation	4
SPAN 427 Spanish Teaching Methodologies	4

Plus, either:

SPAN 490 Seminar in Linguistics <b>or</b>	4
SPAN 491 Seminar in Literature	4

**Total units in the major**      **36**

## Master of Arts in Spanish

This is a self-supported Master of Arts program for those individuals interested in earning an MA in Spanish, during the summer, over a period of three years. An attractive feature of the program is the fact that all of the graduate courses are taken during three summer sessions; the academic year course load is relatively light. Thus, students are able to finish the courses within a 26-month time span while maintaining full-time employment. Students from out of the area also may take elective courses during the academic year at other institutions with the approval of the graduate advisor. Program faculty include both SSU Spanish faculty and visiting faculty from other institutions teaching in their area of specialization. For questions, please contact the coordinator of the program, Jeff Reeder ([jeffrey.reeder@sonoma.edu](mailto:jeffrey.reeder@sonoma.edu)), or the MA in Spanish homepage through the School of Extended and International Education at [www.sonoma.edu/exed/spanish/](http://www.sonoma.edu/exed/spanish/).

## Sample Four-Year Program for Bachelor of Arts in French

Variations are easily accommodated in the sequencing of GE requirements, but should be made in consultation with an advisor. Note that courses designated as "elective or minor" total 38 units and could easily accommodate a second major (depending on the selected double major, which might require one or two additional courses). Careful planning and early identification of a second major make this feasible. A variation would be to complete the junior or senior year in the CSU International Program, meeting some upper-division French requirements in a single year, and completing the second major in the other upper-division year at SSU.

### FRESHMAN YEAR: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
FR 101 (*2) (4)	FR 102 (*2) (4)
GE A2 (4)	GE C1 (4)
GE A3 MLL 161A/B (4)	GE B1 (*1) (3)
GE B4 (3)	Elective or Minor (4)

### SOPHOMORE YEAR: 31 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (16 Units)</i>
FR 201 (*2) (4)	FR 202 (*2) (4)
GE B3 (*1) (3)	GE D3 (*5) (3)
GE B2 (4)	GE D4 (*5) (3)
GE C SYRCE MLL 273 (4)	GE D2 (*3)
	GE D5(*4) (3)

### JUNIOR YEAR: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
FR 300 (C3) (UD) (4)	FR 411 (C3) (UD) (4)
FR 321 (C3) (UD) (4)	FR 415 (C3) (UD) (4)
GE D1 (UD) (3)	GE E1 (UD) (3)
Elective or Minor (4)	Elective or Minor (4)

### SENIOR YEAR: 29 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (14 Units)</i>
FR 320 (C3) (UD) (4)	FR 410 (C3) (UD) (4)
Elective or Minor (3)	FR 475 (C3) (UD) (4)
Elective or Minor (4)	Elective or Minor (3)
Elective or Minor (4)	Elective or Minor (3)

### TOTAL UNITS: 120

(\*1) Either B1 or B3 must have a lab.

(\*2) Counts as C3.

(\*3) Important to take World History before upper-division French.

(\*4) Can be an early prerequisite for business majors or minors, and might be taken earlier, or later, for those who decide at a later date on an internationally-oriented career other than business.

(\*5) Advantage of taking D3 and D4 together: understanding the U.S. Constitution in connection with U.S. history.

## Sample Four-Year Program for Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

**Note:** If students have already completed lower-division classes (or equivalents) before arriving at SSU, they can begin taking advanced-level courses as soon as desired and could take fewer classes per semester than indicated in this plan. In addition to the four-year graduation plan specified, students pursuing the bachelor of arts in Spanish may also elect a five- or six-year plan. Please consult with a Spanish program advisor.

### FRESHMAN YEAR: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
SPAN 101 (4)	SPAN 102 (4)
GE Electives (A2, A3, B4) (11)	GE Electives (C1, B1) (11)

### SOPHOMORE YEAR: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (17 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (13 Units)</i>
SPAN 201 (4)	SPAN 202 (4)
GE Electives (B3, D2, C2, D5) (13)	GE Electives (D3, D4, B2) (9)

### JUNIOR YEAR: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (16 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (14 Units)</i>
SPAN 300 (C3) (UD) (4)	SPAN 304 (4)
SPAN 301 (C3) (UD) (4)	SPAN 307 (C3) (UD) (4)
GE UD (E) (4)	GE UD (C3, D1) (6)
SPAN 305 (C3)(UD)(4)	

### SENIOR YEAR: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
SPAN 306 (C3)(UD)(4)	One SPAN class at the 400 level (4)
Two SPAN classes at the 400 level (8)	Electives/Minor (11)
Electives/Minor (3)	

### TOTAL UNITS: 120