

World Languages and Cultures

342 Morton Hall

Telephone: 256.824.1022

Email: leslie.kaiura@uah.edu

The World Languages and Cultures department offers the following degree programs:

- Foreign Languages, BA (<http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/arts-humanities-social-sciences/foreign-languages-literatures/foreign-languages-ba>)
- Foreign Languages, BA - Foreign Language and International Trade Concentration (<http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/arts-humanities-social-sciences/foreign-languages-literatures/foreign-languages-ba-foreign-language-international-trade-concentration>)
- Certificate in Foreign Languages and Global Engagement (<http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/arts-humanities-social-sciences/foreign-languages-literatures/foreign-language-global-engagement>)

Introduction

The acquisition of a second language, and through it an understanding of another country's culture, is a rich academic experience for all students, not only in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, but also in business, education, nursing, the natural sciences, and engineering. Knowing how to communicate effectively in another language significantly enhances one's career opportunities and contributions as a citizen. This page provides an overview of the academic offerings of the Department of World Languages and Cultures.

Mission Statement

The Department of World Languages and Cultures is dedicated to teaching students the language skills and cultural knowledge necessary for succeeding in today's multilingual world of cultural diversity, global markets, political interdependence, and international scientific and cultural collaboration.

Within the B.A. in Foreign Languages, students may choose French, German, Russian, or Spanish as a focus language, and may also concentrate in Foreign Language and International Trade in cooperation with the College of Business. Students can pursue foreign language teacher certification (<http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/education/curriculum-instruction/foreign-language>) in French, German, or Spanish in conjunction with the College of Education, and they may minor in any of the four focus languages, or take Arabic or Japanese at the introductory and intermediate levels. Students studying languages offered up to the WLC 301 (Conversation) level may also complete the Certificate in Foreign Language and Global Engagement. The Department also serves nursing and pre-health students by offering Spanish for Medical Professionals at the introductory level.

In addition, the Department offers study abroad opportunities and domestic and international internships that give students cultural and professional experience that greatly enhances their career opportunities after graduation. World Languages and Cultures also sponsors language clubs and extracurricular activities that contribute to the university's rich campus life.

The Department offers an integrated curriculum comprising the teaching of linguistic proficiency and the promotion of a critical awareness of other cultures. Faculty use traditional methods as well as varied media and new technologies to engage students with world languages, literature, and film in their historical, social, and interdisciplinary contexts. World Languages and Cultures faculty promote academic pluralism by fostering a variety of interpretive and pedagogical approaches, and by virtue of their commitment to the highest standards in teaching, research, and service, they aim to uphold and further strengthen the national and international standing of UAH.

Languages Offered

Arabic, French, German, Japanese, Russian, Spanish

The Department of World Languages and Cultures offers the B.A. in Foreign Languages. A student may choose a focus language of French, German, Russian, or Spanish, and may also concentrate in Foreign Language and International Trade or pursue teaching certification. Arabic and Japanese cannot be taken as majors or minors, but can be taken to satisfy the language requirement for the B.A. degree or as electives.

General Education Requirements and Placement Procedures

Three semester hours of credit in one foreign language are required for the B.A. degree. Most introductory language sequences begin in the fall semester, but more limited offerings of 101 level courses are available in spring and summer for students who need to complete their requirements.

Placement Procedures

Placement procedures vary based on each student's level of experience with a language. Students with no previous instruction or experience are placed into WLC 101, while students with some level of instruction or experience are placed as follows:

Native or Near-Native Speakers: Native or near-native speakers of a foreign language may not take introductory and intermediate courses in that language, but are welcome to take upper level courses in their language or introductory level courses in another language. Students in this category should make an appointment with the appropriate language coordinator to take the standardized Web Cape International Foreign Language Placement Exam. They must still take a minimum of three (3) additional semester hours of foreign language course work to complete General Education Requirements for the B.A.

Prior Language Experience: Students with prior foreign language experience and heritage speakers may be placed into a higher level course by taking the Web Cape International Foreign Language Placement Exam. Heritage speakers are classified as individuals who have grown up speaking a language, but who have little or no formal education in that language. Students must still take a minimum of three (3) additional semester hours of foreign language course work to complete General Education Requirements for the B.A.

High School Experience: Students with 0-2 units of high school foreign language study will be placed in WLC 101, while students with 3-4 units will be placed in WLC 201. A minimum grade of C is required for a unit to be counted. Regardless of placement, students must take a minimum of three (3) additional semester hours of foreign language course work to complete General Education Requirements for the B.A. If an interval of two years or more occurs between study of a language in high school and continuation of that language in college, placement levels may be adjusted downward to entry level. Students in this situation, or others who may be uncertain of their skill level, are encouraged to take the Web Cape exam to confirm placement.

Advanced Placement and CLEP Examinations: The Department will award credit to students who have earned a score of three or higher on Advanced Placement (AP) Program examinations of the College Entrance Examination Board according to the following scale:

- Score of 3: 6 semester hours credit (i.e. through 102, 3 semester hours each course)
- Score of 4: 12 semester hours credit (through 202)
- Score of 5: 15 semester hours credit (through 301)

The credit thus awarded will satisfy General Education Requirements for the B.A. and count toward a major, minor, or certificate. However, it will be recorded without grades or quality points and will not be included in the calculation of the grade point average.

Students with CLEP examination scores in a foreign language will be placed on a case-by-case basis in consultation with World Languages and Cultures faculty.

Students Planning to Major or Minor: If students wish to major or minor in French, German, Russian, or Spanish, they may take the Web Cape placement exam to test out of a maximum of twelve (12) hours of course work (WLC 101, 102, 201, 202).

After taking the Web Cape exam, students majoring or minoring in a world language will be placed in an appropriate higher language course. They receive credit hours, without grade/quality points, for the two (2) highest elementary/intermediate language courses as is appropriate. If students test out of more than 6 hours, the remaining courses will be waived with no credit hours granted.

All students, irrespective of language background and placement, must take all remaining upper-level coursework to complete the major or minor.

Majors in World Languages and Cultures

- Foreign Languages, BA (<http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/arts-humanities-social-sciences/foreign-languages-literatures/foreign-languages-ba>)
- Foreign Languages, BA - Foreign Language and International Trade Concentration (<http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/arts-humanities-social-sciences/foreign-languages-literatures/foreign-languages-ba-foreign-language-international-trade-concentration>)

Minors in Foreign Languages and Literatures

- Foreign Language (<http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/arts-humanities-social-sciences/foreign-languages-literatures/foreign-language-minor>)
- Latin American Studies (<http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/arts-humanities-social-sciences/foreign-languages-literatures/latin-american-studies-minor>)

Certificate in Foreign Language and Global Engagement

- Foreign Language and Global Engagement (<http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/arts-humanities-social-sciences/foreign-languages-literatures/foreign-language-global-engagement>)

WLC 101A - INTRO FOREIGN LANG I: ARABIC

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. No prerequisites.

WLC 101F - INTRO FOREIGN LANG I:FRENCH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. No prerequisites.

WLC 101G - INTRO FOREIGN LANG I:GERMAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. No prerequisites.

WLC 101J - INTRO FOREIGN LANG I:JAPANESE

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. No prerequisites.

WLC 101MS - INTRO TO MEDICAL SPANISH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts with special emphasis on medical terminology and tasks. Conducted in the target language. No prerequisites.

WLC 101R - INTRO FOREIGN LANG I:RUSSIAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. No prerequisites.

WLC 101S - INTRO FOREIGN LANG I: SPANISH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. No prerequisites.

WLC 102A - INTRO FOREIGN LANG II: ARABIC

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 101A or placement by exam.

WLC 102F - INTRO FOREIGN LANG II:FRENCH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 101F or placement by exam.

WLC 102G - INTRO FOREIGN LANG II:GERMAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 101G or placement by exam.

WLC 102J - INTRO FOREIGN LANG II:JAPANESE

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 101J or placement by exam.

WLC 102MS - INTRO TO MEDICAL SPANISH II

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts with special emphasis on medical terminology and tasks. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 101MS.

WLC 102R - INTRO FOREIGN LANG II:RUSSIAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 101R or placement by exam.

WLC 102S - INTRO FOREIGN LANG II:SPANISH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 101S or placement by exam.

WLC 199A - SPECIAL TOPICS

Semester Hours: 3

Study of special topics in world languages, literature, or culture on campus or abroad. Prerequisites: Placement by exam.

WLC 199F - SPECIAL TOPICS

Semester Hours: 3

Study of special topics in foreign language, literature, or culture on campus or abroad. Prerequisites: Placement by exam.

WLC 199G - SPECIAL TOPICS

Semester Hours: 3

Study of special topics in foreign language, literature, or culture on campus or abroad. Prerequisites: Placement by exam.

WLC 199J - SPECIAL TOPICS

Semester Hours: 3

Study of special topics in world languages, literature, or culture on campus or abroad. Prerequisites: Placement by exam.

WLC 199R - SPECIAL TOPICS

Semester Hours: 3

Study of special topics in foreign language, literature, or culture on campus or abroad. Prerequisites: Placement by exam.

WLC 199S - SPECIAL TOPICS

Semester Hours: 3

Study of special topics in foreign language, literature, or culture on campus or abroad. Prerequisites: Placement by exam.

WLC 201A - INTERM FOREIGN LANG I: ARABIC

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches intermediate listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 102A or placement by exam.

WLC 201F - INTERM FOREIGN LANG:FRENCH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches intermediate listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 102F or placement by exam.

WLC 201G - INTERM FOREIGN LANG:GERMAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches intermediate listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 102G or placement by exam.

WLC 201J - INTERM FOREIGN LANG: JAPANESE

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches intermediate listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 102 or placement by exam.

WLC 201R - INTERM FOREIGN LANG:RUSSIAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches intermediate listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 102R or placement by exam.

WLC 201S - INTERM FOREIGN LANG:SPANISH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches intermediate listening, speaking, reading, and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 102S or placement by exam.

WLC 202A - INTERM FOREIGN LANG II: ARABIC

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 201A or placement by exam.

WLC 202F - INTERM FOREIGN LANG II:FRENCH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 201F or placement by exam.

WLC 202G - INTERM FOREIGN LANG II:GERMAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 201G or placement by exam.

WLC 202J - INTERM FORGN LANG II:JAPANESE

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 201J or placement by exam.

WLC 202R - INTERM FOREIGN LANG II:RUSSIAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 201R or placement by exam.

WLC 202S - INTERM FOREIGN LANG II:SPANISH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches listening, speaking, reading and writing within cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 201S or placement by exam.

WLC 204 - INTERNATIONAL CINEMA

Semester Hours: 3

Analyzes foreign language films centered on changing themes, such as gender issues, family, religion, children and society, the arts. Conducted in English. No prerequisite.

WLC 301F - CONVERSATION:FRENCH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches conversational communication through cultural texts and media. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202F or placement by exam.

WLC 301G - CONVERSATION:GERMAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches conversational communication through cultural texts and media. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202G or placement by exam.

WLC 301J - CONVERSATION:JAPANESE

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches conversational communication through cultural texts and media. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202J or placement by exam.

WLC 301R - CONVERSATION:RUSSIAN

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches conversational communication through cultural texts and media. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202R or placement by exam.

WLC 301S - CONVERSATION:SPANISH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches conversational communication through cultural texts and media. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202S or placement by exam.

WLC 302F - COMPOSITION:FRENCH

Semester Hours: 3

Teaches writing skills through cultural texts and media. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202F or placement by exam.

WLC 302G - COMPOSITION:GERMAN
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches writing skills through cultural texts and media. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202G or placement by exam.

WLC 302R - COMPOSITION:RUSSIAN
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches writing skills through cultural texts and media. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202R or placement by exam.

WLC 302S - COMPOSITION:SPANISH
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches writing skills through cultural texts and media. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202S or placement by exam.

WLC 303F - FOREIGN LANG LIFE & PROF:FRENC
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches foreign language skills for careers in business, technology, politics, etc. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202F or by placement.

WLC 303G - FOREIGN LANG LIFE & PROF:GERMA
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches foreign language skills for careers in business, technology, politics, etc. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202G or by placement.

WLC 303R - FOREIGN LANG LIFE & PROF:RUSSI
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches foreign language skills for careers in business, technology, politics, etc. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202R or by placement.

WLC 303S - FOREIGN LANG LIFE & PROF:SPANI
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches foreign language skills for careers in business, technology, politics, etc. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 202S or by placement.

WLC 304F - CULTURE:FRENCH
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches the arts, histories, social customs, and values of the target culture. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 301F or WLC 302F.

WLC 304G - CULTURE:GERMAN
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches the arts, histories, social customs, and values of the target culture. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 301G or WLC 302G.

WLC 304R - CULTURE:RUSSIAN
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches the arts, histories, social customs, and values of the target culture. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 301R or WLC 302R.

WLC 304S - CULTURE:SPANISH
Semester Hours: 3

Teaches the arts, histories, social customs, and values of the target culture. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisites: WLC 301S or WLC 302S.

WLC 305F - INTRO TO LITERATURE:FRENCH
Semester Hours: 3

Introduces the literature of the target language in cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 301F or WLC 302F.

WLC 305G - INTRO TO LITERATURE:GERMAN
Semester Hours: 3

Introduces the literature of the target language in cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 301G or WLC 302G.

WLC 305R - INTRO TO LITERATURE:RUSSIAN
Semester Hours: 3

Introduces the literature of the target language in cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 301R or WLC 302R.

WLC 305S - INTRO TO LITERATURE:SPANISH

Semester Hours: 3

Introduces the literature of the target language in cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. Prerequisite: WLC 301S or WLC 302S.

WLC 404F - TEXTS & CONTEXTS:SEM LIT:FRENC

Semester Hours: 3

In-depth study of authors, genres, or movements in cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. May be repeated when taught with a different topic. Prerequisite: WLC 301F or WLC 302F.

WLC 404G - TEXTS & CONTEXTS:SEM LIT/GERMA

Semester Hours: 3

In-depth study of authors, genres, or movements in cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. May be repeated when taught with a different topic. Prerequisite: WLC 301G or WLC 302G.

WLC 404R - TEXTS & CONTEXTS:SEM LIT:RUSSI

Semester Hours: 3

In-depth study of authors, genres, or movements in cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. May be repeated when taught with a different topic. Prerequisite: WLC 301R or WLC 302R. O.

WLC 404S - TEXTS & CONTEXTS:SEM LIT:SPANI

Semester Hours: 3

In-depth study of authors, genres, or movements in cultural contexts. Conducted in the target language. May be repeated when taught with a different topic. Prerequisite: WLC 301S or WLC 302S.

WLC 410 - INT'L INTERN:COMP LANG/CULT

Semester Hours: 3-6

Capstone for majors, offering practical experience in commercial or public organizations domestically or abroad. Conducted in English. Prerequisite: WLC 303.

WLC 499F - INDEPENDENT STUDY:FRENCH

Semester Hours: 3

Independent study and/or study abroad. Prerequisite: WLC 202F.

WLC 499G - INDEPENDENT STUDY:GERMAN

Semester Hours: 3

Independent study and/or study abroad. Prerequisite: WLC 202G.

WLC 499R - INDEPENDENT STUDY:RUSSIAN

Semester Hours: 3

Independent study and/or study abroad. Prerequisite: WLC 202R.

WLC 499S - INDEPENDENT STUDY:SPANISH

Semester Hours: 3

Independent study and/or study abroad. Prerequisite: WLC 202S.