World Languages Day: Languages & Careers

Robert Vega, Director
Why we study languages

Languages and Cultures
- Literature, arts, history, media, geography, politics

Travel and Adventure
- New places and experiences

Communication
- Cross-cultural dialogue and conversation

Linguistics and Pedagogy
- Acquisition, methodology and teaching
What are language jobs?

Language-specific jobs might include:
- Translation/Interpreting
- Teaching
What are careers that may involve languages?

Language skills may be directly involved in and highly sought after for:

- Diplomacy
- Intelligence
- Medicine
- Health/Healthcare
- Law
- Social Justice
- Social Work
- Counseling
- Marketing
- General business
- Banking
- Consulting
- Travel
- Military
- Politics
- Engineering
- Sales
- Arts management
- Advertising
- Interior Design
- Accounting
- Trade
- Finance
- Management
- Transportation
- Shipping
- Technology
- UX
- Software development
- Software implementation
- Content management
- Hospitality
- Education administration
- Program management
- Project management
- Real estate
What are careers that more indirectly involve languages?

Languages, and a Liberal Arts education more broadly, can help students – and future professionals – develop and hone core competencies needed for careers in a great variety of fields.
What skills, experiences and competencies do employers seek most frequently when recruiting new hires?

- Cross-cultural competence – understanding of culture for increased mobility in the international job market
- Content skills – creating and curating content from various sources in more than one language
- Communication – honing writing, presentation, persuasion, speech and debate skills in more than one language
- Creativity and innovation – using language and culture to think differently, to find new ways of formulating concepts and to appreciate artistic works
Languages & Career Competencies

- Understanding people – observing and learning about people of different cultures and languages to better understand motivations, societal norms and perceptions of the world

- Learnability – demonstrating the ability to learn in fast-changing job markets by learning new languages and ways to navigate new countries and cultures

- Emotional intelligence – listening and showing empathy in different cultures to show an ability to manage and appreciate people from diverse backgrounds

- Systems thinking – making connections between diverse and culturally different components for solving complex problems
Complementing Your Languages Studies

Complement your studies to further develop your skills and to strategically advance your career goals.

- **International learning** – practice your language skills in country for cultural and societal immersion

- **Internships** – gain real-world experience and develop a professional network by participating in internships, related or unrelated to language or culture

- **Research** – conduct research to develop your academic and analytical skill sets, and for in-depth topic exploration
International Resources

Explore resources that combine your language skill development with the international job search.

- Going Global – explore country-specific career resources: https://goo.gl/1MhrCE

- Introduction to International Career Planning – learn how to prepare and make the most of an international experience: https://goo.gl/fTaJp7

- Study Abroad – learn about the international opportunities available to Liberal Arts majors: https://goo.gl/UbFnoN
THANK YOU!

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