

LANGUAGES AND CULTURES MINOR

The Department of Languages and Cultures offers you the opportunity to study world languages at an advanced level while majoring in another language or different field (business, physical education, the health sciences, music, communication studies, etc.). The language minor is for those who wish to obtain working proficiency in speaking, writing, listening, and reading communicative competency. Minors are available in French, German, Italian, Latin, Russian, and Spanish. Study abroad for transfer credit also is available. Students at West Chester have traveled and studied in programs in France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Russia, and Spain, as well as Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Central and South America. Meritorious students are eligible to apply for our language scholarships and awards.

Requirements

The language minor consists of 18 semester hours or six courses that may start at the elementary level: 101 and 102, or above. Courses at the 201-202 levels stress a review of grammar and syntax, provide an introduction to literature through short readings drawn from many disciplines, and offer composition and conversation, as well as intensive language laboratory work with a multimedia framework. The remaining courses are taken at the 300 and 400 levels in the target language as well. Advanced grammar and composition courses are offered at the 300 level and stress stylistics, practice in writing on an advanced level with emphasis on correct usage, intensive oral drills to develop proficiency in listening comprehension, and speaking ability.

Typical Advanced Courses

French:

Advanced Grammar and Stylistics
Commercial French
French Cinema
French Civilization
French Theater to 1900: In Context
Readings in French Literature
French for Oral Proficiency

German:

Austrian Civilization
Contemporary German Literature
German Artists as a Social Conscience: Postwar
German Literature and Film

German Civilization

Italian:

Advanced Italian Grammar and Conversation I and II
Contemporary Italian Literature
Introduction to Dante, Petrarca, and Boccaccio
Italian Cinema
Italian Culture

Latin:

Advanced Latin Prose Composition
The Latin Lyric Poets
Reading Course in Latin
Roman Drama
Roman Historians
Roman Satire

Russian:

Russian/Soviet Film and Literature
Advanced Russian Grammar and Composition
Readings in Russian Literature
Russian Civilization

Spanish:

Business Spanish
Culture of Spain or Spanish America
Contemporary Spanish-American Literature
Hispanic Women Writers
Literature of the Hispanic Caribbean
Modern Hispanic Theater
Spanish and Latin American Cinema
Spanish for Professional Development
Topic courses in all of the above languages at the 400 level are also available and provide an in-depth study of culture, art, literature, cinema, history, and politics.

Career Opportunities

Whatever your major concentration, a language minor is a valuable asset. The knowledge of a second language in today's job market enhances your opportunities for personal and professional growth. Employers seek personnel whose English and second language skills make their businesses profitable.

The following are a few areas in which working knowledge of another language is important:

Archaeology
Architecture
Armed Forces
Arts and Entertainment

Learn More

UNDERGRADUATE FACT SHEET

Business Communications
Criminal Justice
Diplomacy
Ecology/Environmental Science
Foreign Service
Geology
Health Sciences
Journalism
Law
Manufacturing
Marketing
Medicine
Music
Nursing
Public Affairs
Social Work
Teaching
Technical Writer
Translation
Transportation
Travel Industry

Student Activities

Student clubs and organizations can help you sharpen your language skills: Alpha Mu Gamma (language honor society), Chinese Club, French Club, German Club, Italian Club, Japanese Club, Russian Club, Spanish Club, and the International Student Association.

For More Information

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Undergraduate Catalog: http://www.wcupa.edu/_information/official.documents/undergrad.catalog/

About West Chester University

A comprehensive, public institution, West Chester University offers high-quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs in more than 100 subject areas, as well as certification and certificate programs. As one of the largest members of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, West Chester offers a full and rewarding educational experience as well as reasonable tuition.

With a rich heritage dating back to the 19th century, West Chester University was founded in 1871 as West Chester Normal School for the purpose of training teachers for the Commonwealth's newly established public schools. In 1960, West Chester State Teachers College expanded its programs to include liberal arts and graduate degrees and, as a result, dropped "Teachers" from its name. In 1983, West Chester State College became one of the 14 institutions in the State System of Higher Education. Along with its university status, the school acquired a new system of governance and the opportunity to expand its degree programs.

Today, more than 15,400 graduate and undergraduate students, along with 1,500 faculty and staff, study and work on the 406-acre campus. Situated in the Borough of West Chester, the campus is a picturesque mix of Gothic, Victorian, and modern architecture with pleasant, tree-shaded walks.

Strategically located at the center of the mid-Atlantic corridor between New York City and Washington, D.C., West Chester is just 25 miles west of Philadelphia and 17 miles north of Wilmington.

Information on Admission

Office of Admissions

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