Spanish - Modern Language

Students majoring or minoring in Spanish can expect to be immersed in the language and culture of Spanish-speaking countries, learning the history, culture, and beliefs of Spanish and Latin-American societies. Many students also participate in study abroad programs. A popular option is Mexico: A Cultural Experience. This program provides students with intensive Spanish language practice while experiencing the cultural diversity of Mexico, including pre-Columbian, colonial, and modern architecture and art; Mexican business and commerce, educational systems and agrarian practices; as well as religious and cultural centers in the cities of Mexico City, Querétaro, Guanajuato, San Miguel de Allende, and León. Other popular study abroad options include Spain, Central America, and South America.

The Modern Language Major

More and more companies are looking for individuals with global intelligence. With only 3-5% of the world being native English speakers, the demand for multi-lingual individuals grows daily. Beyond learning a language, Modern Language students gain the ability to communicate with a variety of people and understand cultural differences. Students learn in diverse settings in and out of the classroom—from community work to travel abroad opportunities.

Students in the Modern Language Department focus on professional development through their language studies. All classes provide an emphasis on professionalism, allowing students to use their language skills in different types of environments. Small class sizes promise individual attention; our proximity to a large metropolitan area gives students the opportunity to participate in cultural events, partnerships, and internships all while enjoying the perks of a small community environment found at UW-River Falls.

Modern Language Department

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Students who have studied a language in high school (French, Spanish, German, Japanese, Chinese) have the opportunity to take the placement test in each of these areas. Offered prior to their freshman year, students may take the test in the hopes of testing out of language classes offered at UW-River Falls, gaining college credit and getting placed within their level of proficiency. Students test into a language course and pass with at least a B-, will earn up to 14 credits with a grade of A from the courses below the one they tested into.