The Dept. of Modern Languages at Kansas State University is a vibrant, interdisciplinary space where learners and researchers join together around a common goal—to increase and enhance our awareness and understanding of world languages and cultures. We offer a BA program with concentrations in French, German, and Spanish and minors in 7 fields: Chinese, Classical Studies, French, German, Japanese, Spanish and Spanish Translation. We also offer a MA program with four sub specialties: French, German, Spanish and Teaching English as a Foreign Language. Our unit also supports the secondary majors in International and Area Studies and we regularly teach courses in our fields of expertise including second language acquisition, literary and cultural studies, translation, and pedagogy.

Students in our courses thrive in our inclusive, multilingual and multicultural community where they work closely with their professors to develop practical linguistic and analytical skills applicable in a range of professions, including international business, teaching, hospitality, and editorial or cultural institution work. Annually, our students share their own research at Initials, our Student Research Forum. Each class maintains a small student to faculty ratio (1:15) and we prioritize individualizing and diversifying our curriculum to help learners harness their full potential and prepare to lead in an increasingly globalized and changing workforce.

From group translation of WWI and WWII archives to digital mapping and storytelling projects to professional experiences like service-learning projects and developing professional portfolios or inscribing their creative work in the campus itself to traveling the world and immersing themselves in global cultures, Modern Languages majors complete practical, hands-on experiences that distinguish them from the competition and support their individual long-term goals.

Our alums have gone on to work in a range of fields, including as teachers (both abroad and in the US), translators, curators, editors, forensic linguists, and working in multinational corporations. They regularly forge their own path, capitalizing on their linguistic and cultural competencies to distinguish themselves in a global market.