

Our programs open the doors to other cultures and offer you many exciting options for future professional development, giving you access to a rainbow of communities and civilizations. *YOU* will take your rightful place as someone who has much to contribute to the complex and challenging global economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Xavier language alumni have pursued graduate and professional degrees in business, medicine, education, fine arts, performing arts, law, international affairs, psychology, sociology, languages and literature. They have served the national and international communities in these and other disciplines. They serve on prominent nationally and internationally recognized governing boards, and as university presidents and vice presidents.

Currently, Xavier language alumni are distinguishing themselves in American and international medical schools, and are serving as members of the US Foreign Service, the Peace Corps, the White House Press Corps, the US House of Representatives Page School faculty, the Congressional Black Caucus Fellows Program, and in national and international medical, legal, educational, and artistic professions.

The Xavier Department of Languages offers majors and minors in French and Spanish, a minor in German, instruction in American Sign Language and Latin, and coursework in Japanese through the consortium with Loyola.

Language majors and minors have access to summer, semester, and full year abroad study through the Center for International and Intercultural Programs (CIIP). Most upper level students in the Department earn part of their required credits through immersion study in a country where their language of choice is spoken. These students return to Xavier with advanced level language skills and a new world perspective.

Our faculty is composed of instructors from many cultural and ethnic backgrounds and nationalities. Because of the nature of language instruction, students are exposed to a diversity of cultures and perspectives both in the structure of their courses and in contact with their professors. Combining exciting and enriching instruction with the latest in classroom technology, our classes are small. You will receive the personal attention you deserve at all levels of instruction.

In addition to traditional classrooms, the Department of Languages offers instruction in electronic classrooms with multimedia facilities, computerized teaching laboratories, and seminar rooms for upper level classes. The University also has many computer laboratories for students, equipped with both Macintosh and PCs. Many skills level courses feature Internet enhanced instruction, online homework, and instructor developed multimedia programs.

**Question: DID YOU KNOW?**

Many sources confirm that students who study foreign languages for an extended period of time can increase their academic skills in other subjects and on national standardized examinations such as College Boards, SAT and ACT.

*"Students who complete a long sequence of foreign language learning increase their academic skills in other subject areas. ... Verbal scores continue to climb with each additional year of language study."*

(College Entrance Examination Board, 1992)

**QUESTION: WHY LEARN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE?**

**ANSWERS:**

*Language learning is exciting!*

*Learning languages is fun!*

*Knowing languages frees you to visit and live in other countries.*

*Being fluent in another language allows you to experience and enjoy other cultures.*

*Speaking other languages guarantees that you will meet other people and enhance your marketability.*

*Languages are your passport to the world.*

**MORE QUESTIONS:**

**How many countries in the world speak Spanish? How many speak French? How many speak German?**

**Where are they? Have you ever been there?**

**When do you PLAN to go? Where and how will you go? What do you need to know?**

**How much do you want to learn?**

**How much do you want to earn?**

**Are you preparing to survive, compete, and excel in the now global economy?**

**WILL YOU be qualified to work abroad for the US or for multinational corporations?**

**WE HAVE THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS! Join the Department of Languages at Xavier University of Louisiana! We look forward to hearing from you!**

For more information please call (504) 520-5112, or e-mail our Department Chairperson, Dr. Susan Spillman at [sspillma@xula.edu](mailto:sspillma@xula.edu).

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES

MISSION STATEMENT

*Taking as our most fundamental principle the creation of a more just and humane society, the Department of Languages exemplifies a pluralistic teaching and learning environment through the example of our diversity. We infuse our courses with a multicultural, multiethnic content, committing ourselves to counter the inexcusable and too frequent omission of the African continental and Diaspora presence in the teaching of languages and literatures, while at the same time incorporating a global perspective which prepares students for their professional and personal lives in the third millennium.*

*Through our own diversity, our varied research interests, and our dedication to a pluralistic and integrated pedagogy, the Department of Languages works to advocate a sound intellectual dialogue, a rigorous and progressive academic formation, and a commitment to stand firm against all forms of injustice. We engage in the ongoing enhancement of our curricula and dedicate our efforts to making all our courses encompassing, enriching, and challenging.*



**Question: Why do XAVIER students study abroad?**

**Answer: To qualify to live and work in the 21st century!**

- 1) To enhance their language proficiencies and to perfect their intercultural and communicative skills;
- 2) To learn about, understand, investigate, experience, and enjoy another country and another culture;
- 3) To study and conduct research in other parts of the world;
- 4) To facilitate acceptance into and completion of graduate study programs; and
- 5) To increase marketable skills and opportunities for employment.

**Question: Where do XAVIER students study abroad?**

**Answer: In every continent on the planet!**



**Question:** How do XAVIER students study abroad?

**Answer:** XULA is affiliated with many study abroad sponsors that have programs around the world. Some of these include:

- (AIFS) American Institute for Foreign Study
- (AIRMS) Alliance International Research for Minority Scholars
- (UDQC) Université du Québec à Chicoutimi
- (CC-CS) Center for Cross-Cultural Study
- (AUC) American University in Cairo
- Cuanhnhuac Spanish Language Institute
- (SIT) School for International Training
- (CEA) Cultural Experiences Abroad
- (GIFCR) German Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations
- (CIEE) Council on International Educational Exchange
- (CODOFIL) Council of the Development of French in Louisiana
- (CEPE @ UNAM) Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México/Centro de Enseñanza para Extranjeros
- (IES) Institute for the International Education of Students
- (LSE) London School of Economics and Political Science
- (CIDEF) Centre International d'Études Françaises at the Université Catholique de l'Ouest
- (CIC) Latin American Health, Nutrition and Environmental Consortium for the Committee on Institutional Cooperation
- Boston University
- Syracuse University Division of International Programs Abroad
- Temple University of West Africa
- Goethe Institut
- (MIRT) Minority Institute for Research Training
- Beaver College Center for Education Abroad in England and Mexico
- (JET) Japan Exchange Teacher Program

*Scholarship opportunities and academic credit for Xavier students are possible through the Center for International and Intercultural programs (CIIP). For further information call (504) 520-5491 or 520-5490.*



## THE FACTS ABOUT LANGUAGE-RELATED CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

*Are YOU preparing to compete in the NEW global marketplace?*

**Question:** *What can I do with a major in languages?*

**Answer:** *You can qualify to live and work in the 21st century!*

In addition to the well known and much needed professions of teaching, interpreting and translating, an acquired second language proficiency is the key to other worlds, other people, other cultures, and tremendous personal and professional opportunities. Employment is available with foreign affairs agencies of the US government; international civil service like the United Nations and its 28+ organizations (UNICEF, UN Commission for Women and Children, World Health Organization, etc.); and international assistance organizations (NGOs and PVOs) such as Catholic Relief, Red Cross, International Rescue Committee, Oxfam, Save the Children, and many others.

*"People who communicate in at least two languages are an asset to the communities in which they live and work. ... Students who are competent in at least two languages will dramatically increase the US capabilities in diplomacy, in world trade, and in human understanding."*

A rationale for foreign language education [online]. Available: <http://www.ncsfl.org/rationale.htm>

These quoted statements are based on the new realities and demands of the current national and international job markets. No longer can we conduct "business as usual," only in English. We now live and work in a global society. The world comes into our homes daily through instant communication, instant entertainment, instant knowledge, instant information. Whether we are prepared or not, we must compete and excel in this new challenging environment if we are to survive and preserve our way of life.

*"Each year 200,000 Americans lose out on jobs with business because they do not know another language."* Simon, Paul. *The Tongue-Tied American.*

*"Foreign language is crucial to our nation's economic competitiveness and national security. Multilingualism enhances cognitive and social growth, competitiveness in the global marketplace (four out of five new jobs in the United States are created from foreign trade), national security, and [multicultural] understanding... As we approach a new century where global communication will be essential for survival, we cannot afford the luxury of international ignorance..."* The US Congress

*"There is also a growing need for individuals who possess advanced skills in foreign languages and are trained in various technical areas. This is a result of increased activity in international business, the inflow of large amounts of foreign capital to the United States, increased internationalization, and an expanded awareness of the need to conduct not only business but also diplomatic relations in the language of the host country."* Personal benefits of foreign language study. ERIC Digest [online]. Available: [http://www.ericfacility.net/databases/ERIC\\_Digests/ed276305.html](http://www.ericfacility.net/databases/ERIC_Digests/ed276305.html)

*"A second language is now becoming a vital part of the basic preparation for an increasing number of careers. Even in those cases where the knowledge of a second language does not help graduates obtain a first job, many report that their foreign language skills often enhance their mobility and improve their chances for promotion."* *ibid.*

*"In addition to the multiple benefits described above, students who learn a foreign language have the unique opportunity to understand the nature of themselves as young men and women and their relationship to the world about them. Such realization leads to a different approach to learning and growing, and extends far beyond the language classroom."*

Rationale, p.4

Now more than ever language-related career opportunities abound in the United States and elsewhere in every field imaginable, including government, education, business, communications, medicine, social services, law enforcement, research, and others:

(1) **international business and finance** — A field that includes understanding and drafting national and international trade treaties; banking and trading with export and import companies, small and mega-multinational corporations, industries serving international tourists, non-English speaking US populations, and international business clients within your own city. Employment opportunities with other countries exist at home and abroad.

(2) **international law** — Constitutional rights guarantee adequate counsel and representation, which can only be achieved through competent communication. Employment can be found with local, national and international legal firms. The World Trade Organization addresses issues that affect international business and the US government.

(3) **international medicine** — Opportunities abound for exploring serious world health issues plaguing our planet; engaging in international medical practice and research; accessing international research; working with international and non-English speaking US clients on a daily basis, as in Tulane University Hospital and Ochsner Medical Foundation, major US health facilities that serve countless Latin American patients and other world citizens.

(4) **international education** — Employment exists as a study abroad adviser or program director; in international schools at home and abroad; and in US bilingual classrooms. Even the latest developments in technology must be translated and taught in different languages.

(5) **telecommunications and international journalism** — The professional or personal exchange of information and ideas in government, commerce, law, education, and the arts requires fluency in other languages.

(6) **information brokers** — Information, wealth, manufacturing, and technology brokers are as important to international commerce today as stockbrokers are to financial markets.

(7) **diplomatic relations, conflict resolution negotiations, politics, urban policy development** — Second and third languages are essential for many government assignments as well as for many federal and state employment positions at the city, state, national and international levels. You can even formulate national foreign policy and help establish world peace.

(8) **entertainment** — Entertaining the world community in music, dance, theater, fine arts, and film is a multilingual, multicultural enterprise that involves protecting US intellectual creative properties in a global industry.

(9) **international travel and tourism** — This is a mega industry for personal and professional enhancement.

(10) **technology** — Technology is an international commodity that can be bought and sold based on communicative and cultural understandings. Effective use of the global Internet requires multilingual competencies, a multicultural understanding of technology, as well as an intercultural familiarity with priorities, design, listings, and other consumer preferences.

Finally, language competencies and fluency are rewarding for one's personal development; to enjoy literary masterpieces and original works of international authors, philosophers, psychologists, politicians, etc.; for pleasant conversations; and to acquire items of clothing, art, living and travel accommodations.

*¡Bienvenidos!  
Bienvenue!  
Willkommen!*



*Xavier University of Louisiana  
Department of Languages  
and  
Center for International and Intercultural Programs*

**Languages are your keys to the world!**