Department of Foreign Languages

The program mission of the Department of Foreign Languages (DFL) is to prepare students to use their linguistic proficiency and cultural knowledge to function successfully in a global environment. The program serves not only students who major in Modern Languages or minor in a foreign language but also students who major in other disciplines and study a foreign language. By creating an environment in which students master both linguistic competence and cultural sensitivity, the program supports the University’s broader institutional vision of graduating students who embrace core values expressed through integrity, civility, kindness, collaboration, and a commitment to lifelong learning, wellness, and social responsibility. The program, including study abroad components, consists of a variety of courses that teach the linguistic skills of speaking, listening, writing, and reading, and engage the student in discussions of intercultural and intellectual traditions, perspectives, and artifacts. Faculty expect students to learn to analyze, understand, and appreciate—in a thoughtful and critical manner—literary, philosophical, social, and political texts and contexts, both historical and contemporary, of the regions where the target language is used. Foreign Languages faculty apply the framework and guidelines set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) as the standard for facilitating student progress towards ACTFL Advanced-Level proficiency. Successful students are prepared to be highly competent both linguistically and culturally in a variety of professions (business, education, government, NGOs, hospitality, etc.) and can also use their skills and knowledge as a springboard to graduate study (law, medicine, education, social work, etc.).

Students graduating with a B.A. in Modern Languages will:

1. demonstrate Advanced-Low Proficiency in speaking as defined by ACTFL. The student who has reached the Advanced-Low proficiency level demonstrates the ability to narrate and describe in the past, present, and future in paragraph-length discourse, and to handle a variety of communicative tasks.

2. demonstrate Advanced-Low Proficiency in writing as defined by ACTFL. The student who has reached the Advanced-Low proficiency level demonstrates the ability to meet basic work and/or academic writing needs.

3. demonstrate proficiency in reading by demonstrating the ability to understand conventional narrative and descriptive texts, such as magazine and newspaper articles, short stories, and non-fiction texts.

4. demonstrate the ability to think critically by analyzing the intellectual and cultural traditions and artifacts of the regions where the target language is used.

Programs

Majors

- Modern Languages B.A. (Concentration in German) (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/archive/2018-2019/undergraduate/arts-humanities/foreign-languages/modern-languages-ba-concentration-german)

Minors

- German Minor (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/archive/2018-2019/undergraduate/arts-humanities/foreign-languages/german-minor)

Certificates