B.A. IN FRENCH OR SPANISH

A Bachelor of Arts in French or Spanish degree provides a working knowledge of a second language, which is a vital practical skill needed for many careers in business, education, social services, healthcare, and government in Northwest Indiana and beyond. Foreign language skills and cultural understanding and sensitivity prepare students for graduate studies, employment, and effective functioning in our culturally diverse society.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Completion of a B.A. in French or Spanish requires 120 credit hours and a minimum 2.0 grade point average.

COURSEWORK

Second-year language courses (200 and 250)

Upper level courses focused on:

• Grammar
• Conversation
• Writing
• Translation
• Culture and Civilization
• Linguistics
• Literature
• Upper-level seminar courses

In addition to these courses, the student is responsible for fulfilling the general requirements of the bachelor’s degree as established by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Students should consult with the Department for additional information concerning prerequisites, course content and academic counseling.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

All French and Spanish professors at IU Northwest hold a doctoral degree in program-related fields, and these cover a number of unique areas. The professors excel in teaching and boast a dynamic research and publication record.

The Frank Caucci Languages, Cultures, and Listening Lab is a state-of-the-art computer and multimedia facility that offers a stunning array of teaching and learning tools that create connections between languages and cultures and learning and living. In this beautifully decorated space, students comfortably view the teacher and interact and share with one another, without the significant physical barriers of traditional labs. Used primarily as a classroom, the lab allows instructors to integrate lab elements into their teaching, selectively employing lab software tools, audio-visual materials, headphone/microphones, Web sites, word processing, and more, to enhance learning. With its unique hybrid design, this lab/classroom promotes dynamic teaching approaches, active and collaborative student learning, and extensive incorporation of real-life aspects from around the globe in everyday classroom activities.

Students have the opportunity to study abroad in one of Indiana University’s wide range of programs throughout the world, including a three-week summer program in Bilbao, Spain, specifically created and sponsored by the department. The Bilbao Summer Program is a three-week session with an optional four-day tour in Madrid and other Spanish cities of cultural, historic and artistic significance. This program is ideal for those unable to participate in semester or year-long programs. More information can be found at www.iun.edu/study-abroad.

The department also offers courses in German, Italian, Canadian Studies, and Comparative Literature, and Linguistics.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A B.A. IN FRENCH OR SPANISH?

The study of foreign language prepares students for careers in teaching, translating and interpreting. It is also often an asset to careers in business, government, social work, health services, law enforcement, military services, and the travel industry. The ability to communicate in a foreign language can often make the difference between acquiring a job or not.

A double major — combining a major in a foreign language with a major in Psychology, English, Communication, Sociology, Political Science, or History, for example; or combining French and Canadian Studies with Business, Political Science, or other appropriate fields — opens up a wide range of interesting career opportunities. A student majoring in Spanish or French may also pursue a minor in Business.

HANDS-ON LEARNING

Courses in the major often provide opportunities for service learning, in which students utilize their French or Spanish language skills while assisting people in a workplace or school.

Indiana University’s ample selection of study abroad programs allows students to explore and practice more completely the foreign language, using it in everyday life for an extended period.

More information can be found at www.overseas.iu.edu.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Department of Modern Languages sponsors the Modern Languages Club, in which students organize events, field trips and other activities that foster and expand one’s interest in foreign languages and cultures.

The Department also sponsors two honors society chapters: Pi Delta Pi in French, and Sigma Delta Pi in Spanish. These chapters recognize outstanding scholarship in French and Spanish languages; and in French, French-speaking and Hispanic and Latino cultures and literatures. The chapters increase knowledge and appreciation of the cultural contributions of the French- and Spanish-speaking cultures. Moreover, they encourage and stimulate French, French-speaking and Hispanic cultural activities.

RELATED DEGREE OPTIONS

• Minor in Canadian Studies
• Minor in French
• Minor in Spanish

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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