



The Undergraduate Certificate in Modern Languages is open to students in any major or minor, nondegree students, and those who already have a college degree.

The Certificate will greatly expand your career options in a wide range of fields. Sample careers include:

- medicine
- law and law enforcement
- business
- journalism
- teaching English as a second language
- social work
- hospitality industry

The Certificate consists of 12 credit hours at 2000-level or above in French or Spanish, or in a combination of a modern language and culture/area studies courses. It is geared toward intermediate-level proficiency.

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Revised Fall 2024

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY



UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

Ready to enhance your career options?

*Interested in exploring a language, but not
ready to commit to a major or minor?*

*Are you a non-degree student or
already have a college degree and want to
add a language credential?*


WRIGHT STATE
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS

Programs of Study

Choose one of three options:

French Option

- I. Two courses (6 credits): FR 2010 and FR 2020 or FR 2500
- II. Two courses (6 credits) at FR 3000-level or above

Spanish Option

- I. Two courses (6 credits): SPN 2010 and SPN 2020 or SPN 2500
- II. Two courses (6 credits) at SPN 3000-level or above

Modern Languages and Cultures Option

(effective Spring '25)

- I. Courses numbered 2010 & 2020 in a chosen modern language (6 credits)
- II. Two 2000-, 3000-, or 4000-level courses in culture (ML) and/or area studies (RST) (6 credits)

Questions?

Please contact modern_lang@wright.edu

How fluent will I be when I complete the Certificate?

You will develop intermediate-level proficiency according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines in listening, speaking, reading and writing.

You will be able to understand, read, speak, and write on a wide variety of familiar topics, engage in appropriate social interaction, thrive in cultural situations, as well as create with the language.

You will develop cultural competence and sensitivity to handle everyday situations in the target culture.

How many credits do I need to take to earn the Certificate?

The Certificate consists of 12 credit hours (4 classes) at the 2000-level or above in a single language. At least 9 credits must be earned at Wright State.

Are there prerequisites to enroll?

You must have completed 1020 (second-semester course) in the modern language you plan to study or placed into 2010 or higher in the language of study in order to enroll in the Certificate.

Can I “test out” or transfer credit?

Credit by evaluation or transfer credit cannot be counted toward the 9-hour residency minimum requirement.

How do I know which level course I should take?

What if I have prior language experience?

If you studied the certificate language in high school or lived in a household or a country that speaks that language, you may choose to take a placement test; directions at wright.edu/modlang.

Native and heritage speakers who speak and write the certificate language fluently should meet with a faculty advisor for a proficiency test (a fee of \$150 applies). Visit our website for more details.

Transfer students should submit their transcripts for evaluation.

What if my language level is higher than 2010?

If you place in 2020 or higher coming in you will need to take a minimum of 9 credits (3 courses) for the residency requirement.

Can I mix and match languages?

No. All courses must be taken in the same language.

Can I apply study abroad courses toward the Certificate?

Yes! You can study abroad with French or Spanish faculty or earn credits in the certificate language studying abroad with a university-approved program. Contact your language advisor to find out more and receive a study abroad course transfer pre-approval.

If I decide to add a language major or minor, will the courses taken for the Undergraduate Certificate apply to those programs?

Yes! Certificates are stackable, meaning you can apply courses earned in the Undergraduate Certificate program toward a major or minor in the same language.

I am currently majoring/minoring in a modern language. Will the course count if I switch to the Certificate?

Credits earned as part of a concurrently awarded degree may be considered as residency credit. Contact your faculty advisor for more information.

I already have an undergraduate degree and I took a foreign language. Can I count those courses toward the Certificate?

Credits earned prior to the awarding of a previous degree, including degrees earned at Wright State, will not be considered as residency credit. Our faculty advisors will help you place at the correct level.

How can I sign up for this certificate?

Contact modern_lang@wright.edu. We will work with your schedule to create a course of study and enter the certificate into the system. Please notify us when you have completed all of the certificate courses.

