

**The state of foreign language study
in the United States, university
General Education
Requirements, and implications for
high school language programs**

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The Ohio State University

	Fr	It	Sp	Ger	Rus	Chin	Jap	Arabic
2009	215,244	80,322	861,008	95,628	26,753	59,876	72,359	34,908
2013	197,757	71,285	790,756	86,700	21,962	61,055	66,740	32,286
change	-17,487	-9,037	-70,252	-8,928	-4,791	+1,179	-5,619	-2,622

MLA Language Enrollment Database 2009-2013

<https://www.mla.org/Resources/Research/Surveys-Reports-and-Other-Documents>

		2010	2011	2012	2013	change
Spanish Lang & Lit	First	9202	9013	8847	8563	-639
	Second	4210	4135	4073	4140	-70
	Total	13,412	13,148	12,920	12,703	-709
French Lang & Lit	First	2494	2502	2365	2284	-210
	Second	1275	1304	1277	1249	-26
	Total	3769	3806	3642	3533	-236
Italian Lang & Lit	First	336	313	332	289	-47
	Second	165	140	148	175	+10
	Total	501	453	480	464	-37
German Lang & Lit	First	1120	1114	1088	1017	-103
	Second	534	571	552	510	-24
	Total	1654	1685	1640	1527	-127

Numbers of first majors and second majors from Title IV institutions (Institutions that participate in the Federal student financial assistance programs). Not all institutions reported on second majors, so these numbers are incomplete.

	AU 12-SU13	AU13-SU14	AU14-SU15	AU15-SU16	AU16-SU17	Change
French Major/Minor	139/99	117/109	95/147	88/176	77/185	-57/86
Italian Major/Minor	27/60	35/47	26/55	18/46	16/48	-11/-12
Spanish Major/Minor	343/520	297/654	270/672	213/617	223/796	-120/276
German Major/Minor	89/66	70/62	58/92	53/123	48/118	-41/52
Russian Major/Minor	51/39	53/31	35/71	42/66	57/72	6/33
Chinese Major/Minor	85/30	92/33	83/45	84/55	79/67	-6/37

Language Majors and Minors at The Ohio State University AU12-SU 17.

Fighting for survival in the University General Education Requirements

American Academy of Arts and Sciences

*America's Languages: Investing in
Language Education for the 21st Century*

Two key findings of the report by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences are the following:

- The ability to understand, speak, read, and write in world languages, in addition to English, is critical to success in business, research, and international relations in the twenty-first century.
- The United States lags behind most nations of the world, including European nations and China, in the percentage of its citizens who have some knowledge of a second language.

Number of elementary schools offering world languages

1997: 31%

2008: 25%

Public elementary schools offering world languages

15%

Private elementary schools offering world languages

50%

Number of middle schools offering world languages

1997: 75%

2008: 58%

Examples of support



(K-12/HE) PURPOSEFUL, INTERACTIVE FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

Self-paced

COURSE DATE:

Ongoing

DURATION:

9 weeks

COMMITMENT:

2 hrs/week

REQUIREMENT:

None

COURSE TYPE:

Self-paced

CREDENTIAL:

None

TILCA

Teaching Italian Language and Culture Annual



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February 2018

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Alternative modes of delivery:

- Undergraduates teaching Italian at the local K-8
- Undergraduates teaching Italian at a local High School
- Global Citizen Summer Camp