College: CLAS  
Department: World Languages & Literatures  
Degree: B.A. – concentrations in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, Spanish

Introduction
The Department of World Languages and Literatures offers undergraduate major programs in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish; minor programs in the above languages and in Italian, Persian, Turkish, and Classical Studies; and instruction in the above languages, as well as in American Sign Language, Ancient Greek, Modern Greek, Modern Hebrew, Italian, Korean, Latin, Norwegian, Portuguese, Swahili, Swedish, and Vietnamese. Other languages may be offered from time to time.

Mission: The Department of World Languages and Literatures plays a central role in preparing the students of Portland State University to function in the global community. It is committed to teaching for proficiency. All of our language classes are designed to develop functional skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking for eventual use in a broad variety of real-world settings.

Undergraduate Program Learning Outcomes

COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES (Oral & Written)

• to develop the strategies and skills for oral communication in the target language  
• to develop the strategies and skills for written communication in the target language  
• to comprehend spoken forms of the target language  
• to read and understand written forms and texts in the target language  
• to learn to recognize and respond to culturally distinct patterns of interaction within the target language  
• to develop language skills for academic and 'real world' contexts

MAKING CONNECTIONS & ACQUIRING CULTURAL LITERACY

• to appreciate and understand notions of language and its structures  
• to appreciate and understand cultural texts (literary, cultural or social documents)  
• to understand norms, values, ideas and themes of national cultures  
• to appreciate the aesthetic and intellectual components of human experience  
• to provide opportunities to interact in the target language through direct means (including audio, visual and electronic media, world wide web, service learning, practicum, internships)  
• to explore career opportunities, acquire vocational tools

INQUIRY AND CRITICAL THINKING /INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

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• to provide the foundations for continued learning in and about the language and culture of the target language
• to develop critical reasoning, interpretive and analytical skills
• to enhance awareness of diversity in local, national and global communities
• to enhance a reflective awareness of one's native culture