

Department of Modern Languages

Mission | Programs | Skills | Values

MISSION

The Department of Modern Languages (**MODL**) prepares students for success—**global competence**—in an increasingly interconnected world. Global competence is a critical component of 21st-century education; it encompasses skills such as:

- Proficiency in a foreign language
- Ability to learn and work with people from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds
- Knowledge and understanding of other peoples and their cultures

Since global competence is a national imperative, this skill set has a meaningful impact at the local, national, and international levels and informs matters of national security, cultural diplomacy, public health, environmental sustainability, and economic growth.

PROGRAMS

MODL offers courses in language, literature, culture, linguistics, interpreting, and localization and translation in **eight** world languages:

- American Sign Language
- Arabic
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Korean
- Russian
- Spanish

Undergraduate Degree programs include:

- Bachelor of Arts in Critical Languages & International Studies, *with concentrations in Chinese, German, Korean, or Russian*
- Bachelor of Arts in French
- Bachelor of Arts in Spanish for Global Competence
- Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Translation & Interpreting
- B.A./M.A. Fast Track in French or Spanish

The department also participates in Bachelor of Business Administration degree plans in International Business with concentrations in Chinese, French, German, Russian, and Spanish. MODL offers minors in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Korean, Russian, and Spanish, and contributes to minors in other areas. Students may pursue a minor or a certificate in Localization and Translation in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Korean, Russian, or Spanish. Other certificate programs include Spanish Interpreting, Spanish Translation, and Spanish for the Professions.

Graduate Degree programs include:

- Master of Arts in Modern Languages *with concentrations in French or Spanish*
- Certificates in French or Spanish

SKILLS

Our substantive programs prepare students for work in the public and private sectors, in:

- Communication
- Research
- Health, legal, and social services
- Business
- The cultural heritage sector—museums, libraries, and archives
- Education
- Writing, publishing, and the media
- Government
- International relations

Graduates may pursue advanced degrees in a variety of fields including language, localization and translation, linguistics, culture, and literature.

In addition to development in the four basic language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing, the goal of language study is to develop translingual and transcultural competence through experiential learning. Another major aim is to gain understanding of the diversity of human culture as represented in several of the world's languages, literatures, and other cultural media. Moreover, through team work and collaboration, hands-on experience with technological and digital tools, and training in the analysis of written, visual, and oral material, **MODL** fosters the development of critical-thinking, communication, and problem-solving skills.

VALUES

An integral part of the department's mission is to work with university and community partners to engage students in a truly interdisciplinary experience. Likewise, we work with students from disciplines in Education, Nursing, Engineering, Science, Social Work, and Business, to prepare them for a multilingual and multicultural world. Through the **MODL Advantage**, which offers opportunities in Career Preparedness, Community Engagement, Global Connections, Leadership, and Research, as well as through interdisciplinary study, students are able to complement their experiences with world languages and cultures. Ultimately, these aims contribute to the development of well-rounded and well-informed 21st-century global citizens who are not only able to communicate and interact with others locally, nationally, and internationally, but who are also able to reflect on the world and themselves through the lens of other languages and cultures.

Go Bold | Go Global with MODL.

The Department of Modern Languages' mission aligns with that of the University of Texas at Arlington, as well as with the vision, mission, and values of UTA's College of Liberal Arts. We are committed to the goals of the university's Strategic Plan I 2020, with its guiding themes of Health and the Human Condition, Sustainable Urban Communities, Data-Driven Discovery, and Global Environmental Impact. MODL's mission and values reflect the national imperatives of the National Education Association, the Asia Society, the Modern Language Association, the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (see [Lead with Languages](#)), and the American Academy of Arts & Sciences (see Commission on Language Learning report [America's Languages: Investing in Language Education in the 21st Century](#)).

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