About the Program

The modern languages and cultures department’s mission is to prepare students for the challenges of an increasingly interconnected world. Our main goal is to enable the acquisition of world languages and cultural knowledge so that our students may succeed professionally in a global society and respect diversity. We aim to educate world citizens who will acquire linguistic skills and cultural competencies by taking into account the perspectives of target cultures.

We achieve these goals by:

• Providing dynamic and rich classroom experiences.
• Sponsoring extra-curricular activities.
• Offering direct contact with foreign cultures through an expansive study abroad program and providing travel opportunities to the following countries:
  - China
  - Korea
  - France
  - Costa Rica
  - Spain
  - Panama
  - Mexico
  - Japan
• Additional languages offered: Arabic, Chinese and Korean

Why study a modern language?

• Knowing more than one language gives students a competitive edge in the job market.
• Acquiring new languages provides personal enrichment by connecting the individual to the worldwide community.
• Taking a modern language course at SRU helps fulfill goal requirements in the global community block of the Liberal Studies Program.
• Passing the 103 level in any language satisfies the language requirement for the Bachelor of Arts degree in any discipline.

Course Placement and Exemptions

A placement test will determine the best course match for each individual if students have previous foreign language knowledge. Students can take this 15 to 20 minute computer-based placement test during orientation or any time in the modern languages and cultures department. To receive academic credit for previous experience, students may take the College Level Examination Program before enrollment in a foreign language course.

Career Opportunities

Modern languages and cultures graduates are prepared for a variety of fields, including social work, health care, safety, criminology, education, business, professions in law and tourism. Thus, as a student of modern languages, you should look forward to a world of career options. Feel free to discuss your career goals with your adviser or the department chairperson.

Majors/ Concentrations

• Modern Languages and Cultures (BA)
  • Cultural Area Studies
  • French
  • Professional French
  • Spanish
  • Professional Spanish

Minors

• Asian Studies
• French
• Spanish
• Spanish Professional

Certificates

• Latin American Studies
• Japanese Studies
• Middle Eastern Studies

Secondary Education Majors (BSED)

• French
• Spanish
• Spanish/ Post-Baccalaureate

Graduate

• Master of Arts in TESOL
• TESOL Certificate
Yearly Events

Events:
- Hispanic/Latino Cultures Series
  SRU celebrates this mostly during the month of October, but events can occur throughout the year. It is organized in conjunction with campus different departments as well as the Spanish Club and the Student Organization of Latinos and Allies.
  - Dia de los Muertos
  - Tango and Salsa Lessons
  - International Film Series
  - Mardi Gras
  - Guest Speakers
  - Calligraphy workshops

Study Abroad Opportunities

The study abroad programs sponsored by the modern languages and cultures department are coordinated with the Office of Global Engagement. Students accepted in any of the study abroad programs receive a $400 SRU Travel Grant. The department also offers several scholarships each year. Students should consult the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships for further information.

Student Organizations

- Pi Delta Phi - National French Honor Society
- Sigma Delta Pi - National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society
- Language Clubs: Arabic, French, Japanese, Spanish and Chinese

For more Information:

Admissions Office
146 North Hall Welcome Center
201 Campus Drive
Slippery Rock University
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
724.738.2015
asktherock@sru.edu
www.sru.edu/admissions

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“I like the Professional French major because I am able to take it as a secondary major without having any conflicts with my first major schedule. It also allowed me to spend a semester in France, which makes me more marketable to potential employers.”
- Abigail Benninger
(Double major Resort, Rec and Hospitality and Professional French)

“I declared the Professional Spanish major because I knew I wanted to use Spanish in my future and work with Hispanic populations in Public Health. I love the major because it allows me to learn more about my field (Public Health) in another language. People always say that knowing another language will help you find jobs, but knowing another language that is actually specific to my field (Public Health) is going to be an even greater benefit.”
- Rachel Good
(Double major Professional Spanish and Public Health)