



MERRIMACK COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

ROMANCE LANGUAGES



The Romance Languages major provides students with opportunities and experiences that are not available to individuals who are proficient in only one language. Gaining competency in a second language exposes students to systems of thought and expression different from their own, introducing them to new ideas, customs, habits, and values. In so doing, second language study helps fulfill one of the core components of the mission/vision of Merrimack College, which calls for students to develop global awareness through knowledge and experience of diverse cultures. Moreover, in the process of acquiring a second language, students develop the ability and sensitivity to see their own set of cultural norms from an entirely new perspective, thus broadening their view of the world and appreciation of differences. Language study also fosters the understanding of grammar structures in one's native language, improves oral and written skills, and affords a deeper awareness of the dynamics of communicative exchanges.

ENGAGING COURSEWORK

A dynamic curriculum builds strong practical knowledge from introductory classes to specialized coursework.

The major is designed to develop skills in reading and writing, promote understanding and appreciation of world cultures and literatures, and enhance students' ability to communicate in foreign languages.

A selection of program coursework includes:

- FRE 3010 Composition and Culture
- FRE 3130 Studies in Modern French Literature I
- ITA 3020 Conversation and Culture
- SPA 3510 Culture and Civilization of Spain and the Hispanic World

REWARDING CAREER PATHS

Directly and indirectly, the study of languages and their cultures and literatures will provide you with important job-related knowledge and skills that can give you a competitive edge. These include the ability to solve problems and to think analytically and creatively, to communicate effectively and confidently in writing and in person, and to act with versatility and flexibility. Graduates of the Romance Languages major program pursue careers in business, education, government, and the non-profit sector; and many also pursue advanced degrees.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Study Abroad Programs

Romance Language majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad for a semester or more at our Study Abroad Programs (in Bilbao, Spain, or Buenos Aires, Argentina for Spanish; in Angers, France; or in Florence, Italy), which offer an exceptional variety of courses and opportunities for students of Romance Language majors.

Teacher of Foreign Languages

Students interested in preparing for a career as teachers of French, Italian, or Spanish at the secondary and middle school level have the following two options: they may major in French, Spanish, Italian Studies, or Romance Languages and pass the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL) to obtain a 5-year preliminary license to teach French. Alternatively, they may double major in French or Spanish and Education to obtain an Initial License. Elementary teachers can easily double major in French, Spanish, Italian Studies, or Romance Languages and Elementary Education.



QUESTIONS?

Contact the **Department of World Languages & Cultural Studies** at:

- (978) 837-5376