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French & Francophone Studies, B.A.

Speaking French and studying French culture is a great way to better understand the world and to open new doors leading to potential career paths at the domestic or international level. With a curriculum closely aligned to that of the Francophone world, this program emphasizes the language, literature, and culture of France and Francophone countries.

Experience Your Learning

There is no better way to learn a language than to spend time with others who speak it. From Paris to Senegal, and many choices in between, French & Francophone Studies majors spend time abroad immersed in the culture of a French-speaking country.

The Nantes Program in France is an intense 10-week summer immersion in the French language and culture. You will live in university dorms with other French students, take classes five days a week, participate in activities with local organizations, and participate in various academic visits to outstanding cultural sites in France.

Join Club Francophone and become a part of a group of beginning, intermediate, and advanced French speakers. Drop by if you want to learn, teach, or just enjoy some company.



Did you know?

- Students trained to help language learners provide free peer tutoring to students in lower division French, German, and Spanish courses.
- The David E. Webb Language Learning Center is a dedicated space for language speaking, practice, tools and technology, group work, clubs, and classes. The center is also used for regularly scheduled tutoring sessions for French, German, and Spanish.
- French is the world's fifth most spoken language. More than 300 million people worldwide speak French as their primary language.



Department of World Languages & Cultures

wlc.humboldt.edu • wlc@humboldt.edu • (707) 826-3226



Academics & Options

French & Francophone Studies, B.A.,

The program integrates social, cultural, historical, and political aspects of the French-speaking world in the classroom. Courses also include different themes each year, and our professors and visiting scholars come from diverse backgrounds and fields of expertise, exposing you to an array of accents, speaking styles, and cultural perspectives.

Minor

- French & Francophone Studies Minor

Get Involved

Club Francophone

Parlez-vous français? For beginning, intermediate, and advanced French speakers. Drop by if you want to learn, teach, or just enjoy some company. Meetings are Fridays in the Behavioral & Social Sciences Building, Room 209, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Coffee, tea, and snacks provided.

Scholarships

French majors are eligible for several scholarships through the Department of World Languages & Cultures:

- Benavides-Garb Family International Travel Award
- Joe and Helen Bottino Memorial Travel Award
- Budig-Markin Family Francophone African Studies Award (exclusive to study abroad to Africa)
- Frank B. Wood Scholarship



Careers

Students with understanding of cultural, ethnic, and racial issues, coupled with second or third language competency, will be better equipped to meet the professional challenges of the 21st century. Potential careers include the following:

- Airline Employee
- Bilingual Occupations
- Foreign Correspondent
- French tour operator
- Health Care Worker
- Import-Export Business Person
- International Financier
- Interpreter
- Linguist
- Literary Translator
- Teacher
- Technical Translator
- Travel Agent
- U.S. Government Service Officer



The absolute best part of participating in the French & Francophone Studies program was the pilot study abroad program that Joseph led in 2017 to Senegal ... I often still reminisce of the experience and I have made long-time friends from it."

Binta Wright ('18, French & Francophone Studies)



Spanish, B.A.

Spanish is all around you. In fact, Spanish is the world's second-most spoken native language and the fourth-most spoken language. You can understand the language, its nuances, and the culture that goes with it. In addition to language proficiency, you will learn the literature and cultures of Spanish, U.S. Hispanic, Mexican, Central American, and South American peoples. Our caring professors bring a wealth of international experience to your education, as do faculty visiting from Mexico, Colombia, Ecuador, Argentina, Chile and many other countries.

Experience Your Learning

To immerse students in the language, all classes are taught in Spanish, from basic to advanced levels, with a focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Courses in literature and civilization provide a critical understanding of the cultural heritage of the Spanish-speaking world, including the United States.

Take part in full language and cultural immersion through our study abroad options in Oaxaca, Mexico and León, Spain. There, you can participate in meaningful Service Learning by combining your studies with an internship that makes a difference in the lives of local citizens. You'll also have the option to participate in California State University study abroad programs in Madrid or Granada, Spain, Queretaro, Mexico, or Santiago, Chile.

The Cal Poly Humboldt Center for Translation & Interpretation (CTI) provides free Spanish language oral interpretation and written translation services for students, staff, and faculty. The CTI also offers Spanish majors opportunities to provide critical interpretation and translation support for Latinx parents and families of K-12 students in Humboldt County.

X Did you know?

- Hosted by El Centro Académico Cultural de Humboldt, one of four cultural centers at Humboldt, Hispanic Heritage Month is a series of campus events that celebrate Hispanic and/or Spanish cultures.
- The largest demographic among Cal Poly Humboldt's student population is Latino students.
- *El Leñador* is the student-run, award-winning bilingual English/Spanish newspaper, which serves the Latino community on campus and in Humboldt County.



Academics & Options

Spanish, B.A.

The Department of World Languages & Cultures prepares students to become global citizens of an increasingly interconnected world. The Spanish Program provides the well-balanced course offerings necessary to acquire and consolidate language skills, up to advanced, native, and near-native proficiency levels, as well as expertise in the areas of literatures and cultures.

Spanish Minor

Study the language, literature, and cultures of Spanish, U.S. Hispanic, Mexican, Central American, and South American peoples.

Spanish Media Minor

The Spanish Media minor combines Spanish language study with journalistic writing and media experience. An interdisciplinary minor, it is an excellent choice for anyone interested in pursuing a degree in business, communication, pre-law, or for professional careers in bilingual news media, advertising, and public relations.

Get Involved

Spanish Translation & Interpretation Club

For students of all majors who are interested in the ways Spanish and English are translated from text to text and interpreted from speakers to audiences. The club provides translation and interpretation services to individuals and community organizations from schools and businesses to nonprofits. All students are welcome, from beginners to bilingual speakers. This is the perfect club to enrich one's Spanish and English speaking and writing skills. The club is supervised and supported by a Spanish faculty member.

Scholarships

Spanish majors are eligible for several scholarships through the Department of World Languages & Cultures:

- The Benavides-Garb Family International Travel Award
- The Joe and Helen Bottino Memorial Travel Award
- Budig-Markin Family Francophone African Studies Award (exclusive to study abroad to Africa)
- The Frank B. Wood Scholarship

Careers

Students with national and international understanding of cultural, ethnic, and racial issues, coupled with second or third language competency, will be better equipped to meet the professional challenges of the 21st century. Potential careers include the following

- Customs Officer/Inspector
- ESL/EFL Teacher
- Foreign Language Teacher
- Foreign Service Officer/Diplomat
- Immigration Specialist
- Intelligence Specialist
- International Relations Officer
- Interpreter/Translator
- Language Specialist
- NGO Administrator/Director



It was so valuable to gain a different cultural perspective as a college student. My experiences at Humboldt definitely sowed seeds for the work I'm doing today."

Kaitlin Yarnall ('05, Geography and Spanish), Chief Storytelling Officer at National Geographic, recalls studying Spanish literature and spending a semester abroad in Quito, Ecuador