Overview

The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures is a multidisciplinary unit that offers students the opportunity to learn languages, develop an understanding of literary and cultural traditions, and pursue studies in the field of Linguistics.

The Department offers language courses in Anishinaabemowin, Arabic, Chinese, German, Hebrew, Inuktitut, Italian, Japanese, Mohawk, Oneida, Portuguese, and Spanish, Degree Plans in: German Studies; Hispanic Studies; Indigenous Studies; Italian; Languages, Literatures and Cultures; Linguistics, Spanish and Latin American Studies; and World Language Studies, and a Certificate in Indigenous Languages and Cultures. Learning a language prepares students to travel, live, or work internationally and makes them more linguistically competent in Canada’s multicultural environment.

The Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures also offers over fifty courses in English on various cultural and literary topics. These are open to non-LLCU students and can be taken as electives. A degree focusing on languages, literatures, and cultures, or focusing on Linguistics, provides students with valuable transferable skills that are increasingly important in our global world – especially intercultural competencies which are becoming ever more relevant in today’s global work environment. The Department encourages students in all our disciplines to participate in one of the many international study opportunities supported by Queen's.

Departmental Policies

Additional fees may be required for certain materials/courses.

Advice to Students

Students with prior knowledge of a language they wish to study are advised to meet with the Undergraduate Chair to discuss their Degree Plan progress and course selection.

Courses and Degree Plans

The Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures offers a wide range of Degree Plans in the broad areas of languages, literatures, and cultures, and linguistics as described below.

Languages, Literatures and Cultures

The Department offers a wide selection of Degree Plans: Major (Hispanic Studies; Indigenous Studies; Languages, Literatures and Cultures; Linguistics), Joint Honours (German Studies, Hispanic Studies; Indigenous Studies; Italian) and Minor/General (German Studies, Hispanic Studies, Indigenous Studies, Italian, Spanish and Latin American Studies and World Language Studies [which can include any of the above languages and also Anishinaabemowin, Arabic, Chinese, French, Ancient Greek, Hebrew, Inuktitut, Japanese, Latin, Mohawk, Oneida, and Portuguese]).

The Major and Joint Honours Degree Plans, and their associated courses, examine the influence of key social, historical, political, and artistic developments, and sharpen students’ awareness of varied cultural traditions. In many cases, studies can be enhanced through study abroad and exchange opportunities.
In the Minor/General Plans you will learn to communicate in one or more languages other than English and/or receive an introduction to their literatures and cultures. The Plans prepare you for an international career, allow you to gain insights into literatures and cultures, and prepare you for a global future.

Queen’s University offers students the opportunity to learn to communicate in some fourteen different languages, other than English. Within the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, language courses are offered in Anishinaabemowin, Arabic, Chinese, German, Hebrew, Inuktitut, Italian, Japanese, Mohawk, Oneida, Portuguese, and Spanish. Language courses form a central part of all the Department’s Degree Plans (see below). Basic language courses are popular electives for students with little or no knowledge of these languages, but are also important starting points for the study of literature and culture, not to mention valuable background in Linguistics and many other disciplines available at Queen’s, such as Global Development Studies, Political Studies, and Music.

Linguistics
Linguistics is the scientific study of language, from the sounds of speech to the internal structure and meaning of words, phrases, and sentences. Linguists (people who are specialists in Linguistics) investigate specific languages with a view to understanding the nature of language in general.


First-Year Language Courses and Acceleration
While students are permitted to take certain language courses concurrently, they will not be allowed to take for credit a language acquisition course with a number lower than that of a course already completed. To ensure that students are properly placed according to their levels of linguistic competence, they will be allowed to change to a more advanced or to a more elementary language course during the first few weeks of term. Students must in any case consult with their instructors before changes are made in registration so that proper placement and progression in course-work may be determined. Students who are unsure of their linguistic level should consult with the Undergraduate Chair.

Students who have little or no knowledge of another language and are interested in pursuing a Plan in that language are encouraged to accelerate their language training by taking two courses in either their first or second year. Students wishing to complete a Joint Honours or Major Plan are strongly encouraged to take advantage of study abroad opportunities.

Students who have completed 4U or equivalent in their language of study will normally begin at the intermediate level while students with native or near-native language proficiency should begin at the advanced level. Students with any previous training in their language of study will not be allowed to take beginning language courses.

Special Study Opportunities
Exchange and Study Abroad Opportunities
Students in all our Plans are encouraged to take advantage of the study abroad opportunities, spend their third year abroad, or participate in the Certificate in International Studies (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/international-studies/international-studies-certificate/). Those wishing to avail themselves of this opportunity should contact the Undergraduate Chair early in their second year of studies in order to discuss course selection and details of transfer credit arrangement.

Certificate of Competence (in a language listed below)
Students who are not registered in one of our Degree Plans but have taken certain courses in the language at Queen’s are eligible for a Certificate of Competence in the language. Note that this is not a Senate-approved Certificate Program and therefore will be noted as an Academic Milestone on the transcript. The Certificate will be issued by the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures on behalf of the Faculty of Arts and Science. Applications for the Certificate should be received by the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures before the last day of classes. An administrative fee will be charged ($35).

Chinese
Intermediate Level
6.0 units in CHIN 100
6.0 units in CHIN 200
6.0 units in CHIN 300
With an overall GPA of 2.90 on these courses.

**German**
**Intermediate Level**
6.0 units in GRMN 101 and GRMN 102
6.0 units in GRMN 201 and GRMN 202
6.0 units from GRMN at the 300-level
With an overall GPA of 2.90 on these courses.

**Italian**
**Intermediate Level**
6.0 units from ITLN 111 and ITLN 112
6.0 units from ITLN 204 and ITLN 205
6.0 units from ITLN
With an overall GPA of 2.90 on these courses.

**Spanish**
**Intermediate Level**
6.0 units from SPAN 111 and SPAN 112
6.0 units from SPAN 204 and SPAN 205
6.0 units from (SPAN 301 and SPAN 302) or (SPAN 303 and SPAN 304)
With an overall GPA of 2.90 on these courses.

**Certificate in Indigenous Languages and Cultures**
The Certificate in Indigenous Languages and Cultures ([https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/languages-literatures-cultures/indigenous-languages-cultures-certificate/](https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/languages-literatures-cultures/indigenous-languages-cultures-certificate/)) is open to current undergraduate degree students at Queen's. The Certificate can be taken in conjunction with a degree program, in which case the Arts and Science regulations about limited double counting of courses apply, or as a stand-alone credential. All students enrolled in the Certificate in Indigenous Languages and Cultures need to meet the Faculty of Arts and Science 1.60 GPA or high school prerequisite and the progression criteria. The Certificate consists of 15.00 units in Oneida Language and Culture (LLCU 101; LLCU 102), Mohawk Language and Culture (MOHK 101; MOHK 102), Inuktitut Language and Culture (INUk 101), and Anishinaabe Language and Culture (ANSH 101, ANSH 102).