



Modern Languages & Literature

In today's increasingly global society, a well-rounded education should include foreign language skill and cross-cultural understanding. The international nature of business and politics, as well as changing demographics within the United States, have dramatically increased the demand for individuals who can navigate around linguistic and cultural barriers. These individuals will hold increasingly pivotal roles in industry, government, and education.

THE PROGRAM

Gonzaga's Modern Languages Department offers majors in French and Spanish, and minors in French, German, Italian Studies, and Spanish. The department also offers one to two years of Arabic, depending on demand. Lower-division language courses enable students to attain foreign language proficiency before going on to upper-division courses in literature, film, culture, and advanced language. Gonzaga's classrooms allow students to learn languages in a multimedia environment. A flexible placement policy allows incoming students with foreign language skills to begin their coursework at the most suitable level.

Gonzaga's Modern Languages faculty believe that by encountering new cultures, students develop tolerance for difference, an understanding of other cultures and languages, and greater insight into themselves and their own cultures.

The **French program** prepares students for professional life in the 21st century. Many French majors at Gonzaga have second majors and have successfully integrated their study of French with degrees in biology, business, public relations, or international studies in order to pursue careers in business, medicine, or law. French majors and minors are strongly encouraged to incorporate study abroad into their course work. Courses taken at the Institut Catholique (Paris) or at the Institute for American Universities (Aix-en-Provence) may be transferred to Gonzaga and applied to the major and minor. The French program also awards the Martin Blum Scholarship to

a second-year student who demonstrates outstanding ability in the study of French.

The **German minor** helps students develop grammatical competence and achieve oral proficiency. Upper-division courses that coordinate with the International Studies program focus on reading, writing, and speaking skills. German plays an important role in higher education and the global economy. Gonzaga's German program develops and perfects the German language skills that help students succeed in these environments. Language, literature, and culture classes focus on interactive acquisition of German. Students in the German program may experience Austrian life and culture while studying abroad for one semester or academic year at Karl-Franzens University in Graz, Austria or participate in a five-week summer immersion program in Graz.

The **Italian Studies minor** is an interdisciplinary program designed to foster understanding and appreciation of Italian culture. A **language-intensive minor in Italian** is also available. The Gonzaga in Florence program enriches the Italian Studies program by enabling students to immerse themselves in the heart of Italy's history and tradition for a summer, a semester, or a full year.

The **Spanish major and minor** focus equally on Latin America and Spain. Gonzaga students may study in Granada, Spain during the Fall or Spring semesters or attend a six-week summer immersion program in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Both immersion programs include coursework in Spanish (Spanish/Latin American literature and films), cultural trips, and a home-stay with a local

family. In South America, Gonzaga has also begun offering study abroad programs for Spanish students in Valparaíso, Chile, and in both Buenos Aires and Córdoba, Argentina.

Students can get a limited number of elective credits through these programs. A select group of students may also study in El Salvador through a program that focuses on issues of poverty and social justice. More than one-tenth of the U.S. population speaks Spanish, and trade with Latin America continues to expand. Spanish language proficiency and an awareness of Hispanic culture have



never been more important than they are in today's job market and global economy.

A major or minor in International Studies, with an Asian Studies concentration, is available through the International Studies program. This concentration requires proficiency in either Japanese or Chinese. At Gonzaga, students can take 100- to 300-level Japanese language courses and then pursue additional language studies through a study abroad experience. Japanese language students may study for a semester or a year at Sophia University in Tokyo or at Akita International University in Akita, Japan. Akita International University also offers a summer program. All indications are that the phenomenal growth in the Pacific Rim will continue, so Japanese language proficiency will be a powerful tool for students with an interest in this region.

Language students may also **major in International Studies with concentrations in European or Latin American Studies**—multidisciplinary programs that combine advanced language classes with courses on history, politics, and society related to these specific regions. Students acquire foreign language proficiency more readily by staying in a country where that language is spoken. Consequently, the Modern Languages Department works closely with the Study Abroad Office to locate suitable foreign study sites.



OUTCOMES

Mastery of a foreign language noticeably enhances students' career prospects, especially when combined with study in other disciplines. Department graduates have used their language backgrounds in fields such as business, journalism, the travel industry, teaching, sociology, and political science.

Since many students have a strong interest in social justice and a desire to serve others, some language graduates will spend a year or two volunteering prior to attending graduate school or entering the job market. Through programs such as the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, AmeriCorps, and the Peace Corps students find their secondary language skills indispensable. Additionally, many students have goals to pursue careers in law, government, and academia;

thus, they attend a variety of graduate programs at diverse universities.

Below is a sample of schools recent Gonzaga graduates have attended or are attending:

- American Graduate School of International Management (Thunderbird)
- Boston College
- Duke University
- Georgetown University
- Monterey Institute
- Sophia University (Tokyo, Japan)
- Stanford University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Los Angeles



THE PEOPLE

Gonzaga's Modern Language Department faculty members offer personalized attention and academic mentoring in the classroom and during individual advising sessions. In addition, all faculty teach beginning and intermediate language classes.

Faculty Publications

Gabriella Brooke

- Le Parole di Bernfrieda. Sellerio editore. Translated in Italian by the author. (2001).
- The Words of Bernfrieda. Eastern Washington University Press. (1999).
- Gendering Italian Fiction. Co-authored with Maria Marotti. Associated University Press. (1999).

Luis Garcia-Torvisco

- Several articles on the literature, culture, and film of the democratic period in Spain.

Rebecca Marquis

- "(De)Constructing Confession: Transgressing Borders in Yanitzia Canetti's *Al otro lado*." *Chasqui*. 41.2. 79-94. (2012).
- "From the Convent to the Back Room: Confessional Writing in Carmen Martín Gaité's *El cuarto de atrás*." *Letras Femeninas*. 36.2. 83-108. (2010).

Torunn Haaland

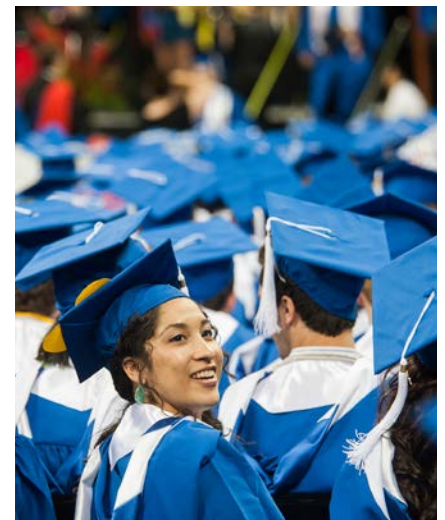
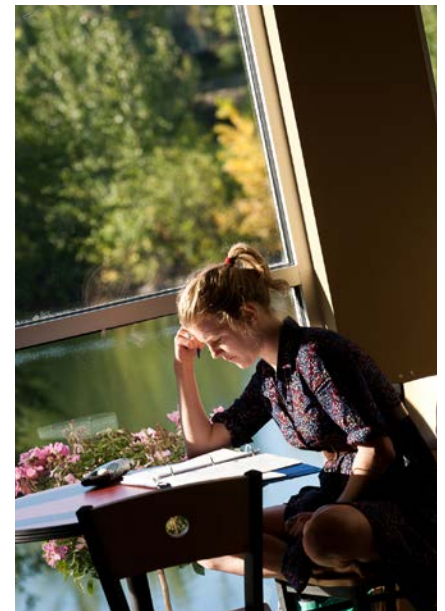
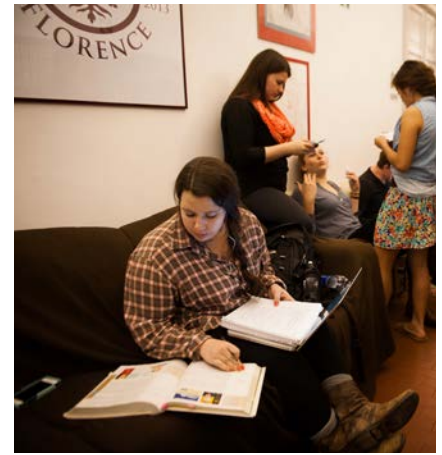
- "Bernardo Bertolucci." *Oxford Bibliographies in Cinema and Media Studies*. (2016).
- *Italian Neorealist Cinema*. Edinburgh University Press. (2012).

Benjamin Semple

- Several articles on 14th Century writer Christine De Pizan.

Rebecca Stephanis

- "Comite fundador de la revista *Brujula*, La Brujula de Ricardo Piglia." *Brujula: revista interdisciplinaria sobre los estudios latinoamericanos*, 11, 1-7. (2017).
- "Exploring Space/Excavating Place: Alejo Peyret, the Misiones Territory, and the Argentine State." *L'Erudit franco-espagnol*. (2013).
- "El mensú como héroe nacional: Cuestiones de pertinencia en la obra periodística de Alfredo Varela." *La Revolución en Tiempos del Bicentenario: América Latina entre la Liberación y la Dependencia*. Ed. Maximiliano. Posadas (Misiones): EdUNaM. (2011).



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