Why learn another language? Why major in the Foreign Language concentration?

A foreign language concentration provides students with the opportunity to learn skills that are applicable across a wide range of career fields. Learning a language helps students round out their skills and widens their possibilities in the global economy.

Knowing a foreign language can be very valuable and typically gives students a competitive advantage in many areas including:

- **Employment opportunities**
  - A student may stand out in a competitive job market when s/he possesses foreign language skills.
  - A potential employer may equate knowledge of a foreign language with a student’s attention to detail, observation skills, as well as independent and creative thinking.

- **Travel and Study Abroad Experiences**
  - Knowledge of foreign languages makes adventures in foreign countries easier and more rewarding.

**Required Courses**

All Liberal Arts students must complete six (6) sequential credits of foreign language under the General Education requirements. Liberal Arts students who wish to pursue a Liberal Arts degree with a concentration in Foreign Languages are required to take an additional six (6) sequential credits of the same language, whether it be at the Intermediate 1 and 2 levels (2010 and 2020) or at the Advanced 1 and 2 levels (2210 and 2220), as well as complete three (3) credits in a second foreign language at the Elementary level (1010 and 1030) or above.

Students may choose among the following courses:

- 1010 (or 1030) - Elementary 1
- 1020 (or 1040) - Elementary 2
- 2010 - Intermediate 1
- 2020 - Intermediate 2
- 2210 - Advanced Conversation and Composition 1
- 2220 - Advanced Conversation and Composition 2
- and an elementary level course (1010, 1030, 1020 or 1040) in a language different from the language of the student’s concentration.

Students in the Liberal Arts program are eligible to concentrate in a foreign language. In addition, students must complete the category requirements of the Liberal Arts program. Upon completion of the program, students will earn an Associate of Arts degree.

- **Career Areas**
  
  Knowledge of a second language provides a wide variety of career choices. A few examples of the fields foreign language students can enter include:
  
  - **Art**
  - **Business**
  - **Education**
  - **Health Care**
  - **Interpreting/Translating**
  - **Journalism**
  - **Law Enforcement**
  - **Politics and Government**
  - **Social Service**
  - **Teaching**
  - **Technology**
  - **Travel and Tourism**

- **Academic Improvement**
  - Studying a foreign language expands a student’s understanding and appreciation of his or her own language.
  - Studying a foreign language helps to develop a student’s learning and thinking abilities.

- **Appreciation of Other People and Cultures**
  - Studying other languages opens minds and helps students develop a better attitude toward understanding native speakers and their cultures.

- **Number of living languages: 6,912^**

- **Mandarin Chinese has the greatest number of native speakers.**

- **Language with the most Oscars: Italian^**

- **Language began in 100,000 B.C.^**

- **Country with the most languages spoken: Papua New Guinea (820).^**

- **Most common consonant sounds: /p/, /t/, /k/, /m/, /n/.^**
Foreign Languages at CCRI

CCRI students earning their Liberal Arts degree may choose to concentrate in Foreign Languages and Cultures. This concentration prepares students for further study at the baccalaureate level. One of the only community colleges in New England to offer eight languages, CCRI’s Foreign Languages and Cultures Department provides students with opportunities and events that reach beyond the textbook, giving them a true feeling for what it is like to be a part of and experience a foreign culture.

Languages Offered
Chinese**
French*
German*
Italian*
Japanese**
Portuguese*
Russian**
Spanish*

*Areas of Foreign Language concentration.
**Basic spoken classes only.

Community College of Rhode Island
Department of
Foreign Languages and Cultures

Lincoln • Newport • Providence • Warwick • Westerly

The Student Experience

“I have studied several foreign languages here at CCRI and these courses have changed my life. The professors are dedicated to their students’ needs and success.”
– Matthew Aubin
Foreign Language student

“Learning a foreign language is very important in this globalized world. Not only will it enrich your life, avail yourself of job opportunities and personal success, but it is also life changing when you immerse yourself with people whose language and cultural backgrounds are diverse from your own.”
– Julie Felci
CCRI graduate and adjunct faculty member

For more information and complete faculty listing, please contact:
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