



# Foreign Languages

Degree: Bachelor of Arts

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## *Introduction*

Foreign Language is a branch of the language arts that involves the study of languages other than one's own native tongue. Studies in a foreign language seek to improve the ability to communicate, to develop cultural awareness and sensitivity, to expand general knowledge, and to promote more language study. It acquaints one with the geography, history, customs, and tra-

## *What are some of the job tasks?*

- Analyze and report international political issues
- Arrange educational and cultural exchanges
- Help other countries understand U.S. policies
- Hold press conferences and briefings
- Maintain relations with other nations
- Make the cultures of other countries accessible
- Serve as U.S. liaison
- Teaching
- Translating and mediating

## *What are some desirable personal qualities?*

- Think logically/quickly and make analogies
- Practice for long periods of time
- Adjust to new environments
- Organize/memorize detailed information
- Imitate sounds
- Background of general knowledge
- Comprehensive command of grammar/vocabulary
- High proficiency in reading/speaking/writing
- Proficiency in phonetics

## *What are some potential occupations?*

Bilingual Secretary/Diplomat  
Customs Inspector  
Flight Attendant  
Immigration Inspector  
Import/Export Clerk  
International Relations Officer  
Interpreter  
Journalist  
Missionary/Social Worker  
Special Agent/FBI/CIA  
Teacher  
Tour Guide  
Translator  
Travel Agent

## *Additional information*

Experience acquired through cooperative education or internships can prove valuable in obtaining professional positions.

Learning a language thoroughly requires time, patience, and practice.

Some excellent sources of up-to-date vocabulary for the more advanced student are foreign language magazines and newspapers.

Listening to the spoken language is excellent practice.

## *Who hires?*

- Advertising Agencies
- Banks/Investment Firms
- Educational Institutions
- Embassies
- Film Companies
- Foreign Language Textbook Publishers
- Government Agencies
- Hotel Chains
- Import/Export Companies
- International Airlines
- International Service Organizations
- International Trade Firms
- Magazines/Newspapers
- Military
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Professional Journals
- Public/Private Libraries
- Public Relations Offices
- Publishing Firms/Religious Organizations
- Radio/TV Industry
- Social Service Agencies
- Telephone Companies
- Transportation Agencies
- United Nations
- U.S. Immigration Service/U.S. Travel Service

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