

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR IN

LINGUISTICS & MODERN LANGUAGES

OVERVIEW OF MAJOR

The Department of Classics, Modern Languages and Linguistics at Concordia offers at the undergraduate level a Minor in Modern Arabic Language and Culture, a Certificate in Modern Arabic Language and Culture, Minor in Modern Chinese Language (Mandarin) and Culture, a Certificate in Modern Chinese Language (Mandarin) and Culture, a B.A. Honours in German, B.A. Major in German, Minor in German, B.A. Honours in Italian, B.A. Major in Italian, Minor in Italian, B.A. Honours in Spanish (Literature and Society), B.A. Specialization in Spanish (Expression and Culture), B.A. Major in Spanish (Option of Literature and Society or Expression and Culture), Minor in Spanish, Minor in Spanish Translation, B.A. Honours in Linguistics, B.A. Major in Linguistics, and a Minor in Linguistics. Non-program courses are offered in languages such as Hebrew, Modern Greek, Modern Irish, Modern Standard Hindi and Modern Russian. For the latest information on programs, and faculty and their research interests, go to the Department of Classics, Modern Languages and Linguistics' website at <http://cmll.concordia.ca/>

Better means of communications and faster modes of travel have made our world smaller and closer. Many of us have daily contact with people who either are from different cultures or who live, or have lived, in other countries. With this emphasis on globalization, the knowledge of languages and linguistics becomes increasingly important. It enhances an applicant's attractiveness to employers. Knowledge of languages becomes a key to furthering your career and creating a host of new opportunities.

**EXAMPLES OF JOBS ACQUIRED BY
CONCORDIA GRADUATES**

The following job titles are representative of the types of entry-level positions for which Concordia University students are qualified upon graduation. Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>

- Archivist Trainee (5113)
- Community Outreach Assistant
- Computational Linguist
- Copy Editor (5122)
- Cultural Facilitator
- Customer Service Representative (1453)
- Editor (5122)
- Educator (4214)
- ESL Teacher (4131, 4141)
- Game Tester (2174)
- Interpreter (5125)
- Language Lab Technician (4131)
- Linguist (4169)
- Phonetician
- Proofreader (1452)
- Reviewer, Book (5123)
- Teacher (4131, 4215)
- Technical Writer (5121)
- Translator (5125)
- Travel Agent (6431)
- University Professor (4121)
- Writer (5121)

CELEBRATED LINGUISTICS AND MODERN LANGUAGES MAJORS

Stephen Leacock Canadian Author, Professor, Lecturer and Humourist.

Michaëlle Jean. Journalist and Current Governor General of Canada.

Raymonde Folco. Member of Parliament for Laval-les Îles. Concordia Graduate.

Noam Avram Chomsky. Linguist, Philosopher, Political Activist & Author. Credited with the creation of the theory of generative grammar.

Marianna Simeone. CBC Award-winning Broadcast Journalist. Concordia Graduate

MORE JOB TITLES

Proficiency in languages and linguistics is a great asset in our global society. Language skills are needed in political, economic, military, media, tourism, law enforcement, health and social services settings. The titles below are not meant to be exhaustive but are representative of fields which modern languages and linguistic majors pursue. Keep in mind that some occupations require further education (e.g., a higher degree, second degree, diploma). Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>.

- Airline Customer Service Agent (6433)
- Anthropologist (4169)
- Applied Linguist (4169)
- Archaeologist (4169)
- Audiologist (3141)
- Biographer (5121)
- Conference Interpreter (5125)
- Criminologist (4169)
- Dialect Coach
- Diplomat (4168)
- Economist (4162)
- Etymologist (4169)
- Foreign Exchange Trader (1113)
- Foreign Language Instructor (4131)
- Geographer (4169)
- Historian (4169)
- Hotel Manager (0632)
- Immigration Inspector (1228)

- Import/Export Tradesperson (6411)
- Intelligence Officer (0643)
- International Business Consultant (1122)
- Journalist (5123)
- Judicial Interpreter/ Court Interpreter (5125)
- Language Assessor (4166)
- Law Enforcement Official (6463)
- Lexicographer (5121)
- Librarian (5111)
- Linguistic Anthropologist (4169)
- Philologist (4169)
- Police Officer (6261)
- Political Scientist (4169)
- Psycholinguist (4169)
- Radio Producer (5131)
- Recreation Officer (0513, 4167)
- Regional/Culture Expert (4169, 5125)
- Scientific Linguist (4169)
- Sociologist (4169)
- Speech-language Pathologist (3141)
- Speech & Language Software Developer (2174)
- Speech Therapist (3141)
- Speech Writer (5121)
- Teacher of English as a Second Language (4142, 4131)
- Television Reporter (5123)
- Volunteer Services Director (0314)

POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

Knowledge of languages and linguistics is useful in many fields including international affairs, consulting, research, education, travel, hospitality and technology development. The latter may involve occupations related to spell and grammar checks, software application, refining user interfaces and speech recognition modules. With the growing trend towards globalization, translation and interpretation skills have become indispensable in legal, political and business settings. To research specific employers who hire those in the field, there are many resources available in such locations as the Career Resource Centre, the Webster Library, Vanier Library and the Internet.

- Advertising Firms
- Artificial Intelligence Systems
- Banks
- Colleges and Universities

CONT. – POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

- Computational Linguistics Centers
- Correctional and Rehabilitation Services
- Credit Unions
- Cultural Organizations
- Dialect Coaching Centers
- Electronic Media
- Government (Federal, Provincial, & Municipal)
- Import/Export Firms
- Information Technology
- International Organizations
- Language Training Centres
- Law Firms
- Libraries
- Marketing & Marketing Research
- Military
- Neuroscience Research Centres
- NGOs
- Publishing Companies
- Radio & TV Stations
- Recreational Centres
- Software Houses
- Technology Manufacturers
- Telecommunications Companies
- Translation Agencies

SKILLS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Those who study modern languages and linguistics have a knowledge of the origins, structure and function of language. They have an understanding of language theory and an awareness of the role that language plays in the transmission of culture. In addition, students will find the following skills, interests, values and other characteristics valuable for succeeding in the field.

- Ability to Do Precise Work
- Ability to Work Alone
- Analyze Sound Systems (ie. Phonics)
- Clear Diction
- Communication Skills
- Concentration for Long Periods of Time
- Creativity
- Critical Thinking
- Curiosity
- Efficient Written and Oral Presentation
- Eye and Ear for Detail
- Good Listener
- Interest in Cultures
- Knowledge of Trends
- Language Fluency
- Language Interpretation Skills
- Leadership Skills
- Patience
- Presentation Skills
- Project Management
- Research Skills

- Speech Clarity
- Strong Analytical Skills

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER LINKS

Making wise career decisions requires exploring your field. A multitude of Internet sites and other resources will help you do this to the best of your ability. Professional association sites, in particular, are very useful for their career descriptions and job hunting tips. Moreover, these authoritative sites frequently provide links to Internet sites which announce job openings and list potential employers. A few recommended sites are included below.

CANADIAN

Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics (ACLA)

<http://www.aclacaal.org>

Aim is to promote research and teaching in all fields of applied linguistics. Provides opportunities to keep current with developments in the discipline through its annual conference and journal. Site also provides useful Links and Jobs sections.

Canadian Linguistic Association (ACL/CLA)

<http://homes.chass.utoronto.ca/~cla-acl/>

Promotes the study of languages and linguistics in Canada through conferences, publications and annual meetings. Its e-mail list provides information about jobs and conferences. Provides useful links.

Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec (OTTIAQ)

<http://ottiaq.org/>

Membership in the Order not only affords networking opportunities with professionals in the fields of translation, terminology and interpretation but provides, among other things, certification, access to salary surveys and job postings.

INTERNATIONAL

International Linguistic Association

<http://www.ilaword.org/site/>

Through its meetings, annual conference and its journal WORD, the Association provides a forum for the international community to exchange ideas and research in the area of linguistics.

Linguistic Society of America (LSA)

<http://www.linguisticsociety.org/>

Besides its job listings, the LSA provides opportunities to network with professionals and keep current with new developments in the field through its publications, courses, seminars and workshops. Offers a student membership. Under Jobs Center click Career Resources to find helpful material. Click Sitemap to uncover all this organization has to offer.

Modern Language Association of America

<http://www.mla.org/>

Good site for those in the field of modern languages. Among other information, it includes career resources, a job list, a guide to doctoral programs, language brochures, a list of related organizations and a book store. Also produces reports about academic career prospects for graduates of doctoral programs in languages.

CREATE YOUR AMAZING CAREER – CAREER RESOURCE CENTRE TITLES

For those who need more help with their career and educational planning, the Career Resource Centre (CRC) offers books, pamphlets, DVDs and recommended Internet sites. It is located in the Hall Building, H-440, at 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. The following titles are just a few of the titles available in the CRC.

- Becoming A Translator
- A Career in Language Translation
- Career Opportunities in the Publishing Industry
- Career Opportunities in the Travel Industry
- Careers for Foreign Language Aficionados & Other Multilingual Types
- Careers in International Affairs
- Careers in International Business
- Careers in Languages Panel Discussion (DVD Format)
- Getting Started: A Newcomer's Guide to Translation and Interpretation
- Great Jobs for Foreign Language Majors
- How to Succeed As a Freelance Translator
- Life on the Tenure Track
- The MLA Guide to the Job Search: A Handbook for Departments and for PhDs and PhD Candidates in English and Foreign Languages
- Opportunities in Foreign Language Careers
- Opportunities in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
- Performing Without a Stage: The Art of Literary Translation
- Prosperous Translator
- So, You Want to Be a Lawyer, Eh?