
MAJOR-SPECIFIC CAREER GUIDE

Language and Area Studies

Marketable Skills

Language and Area Studies majors develop professional skills including:

- Knowledge of a range of geographic, literary, linguistic, historic, and cultural issues
- Translation / interpretation experience
- The ability to provide insightful policy analysis
- Strong writing skills in English and other languages
- Experience adapting content for different audiences
- Experience and comfort with intercultural communication
- The ability to employ primary sources in research

Relevant Fields

- Advocacy
- Business Management
- Communications
- Consulting
- Education
- Government
- Health
- International Development
- Law
- Museum Administration
- Nonprofit Administration
- Social Services

Sample Occupational Titles

Bachelor's Degree:

- Development Officer
- Educator
- Journalist
- Public Relations Specialist
- Teacher
- Translator

Advanced Degree:

- Advertising Executive
- Consultant
- Foreign Correspondent / Editor
- Professor
- Program Manager
- Public Relations Director

Print Resources

Find these titles and additional books, periodicals, and handouts in the [Career Resource Library](#):

- [Careers for Foreign Language Aficionados & Other Multilingual Types](#) by J. Laurence Day
- [Opportunities in Foreign Language Careers](#) by Wilga M. Rivers
- [Realities of Foreign Service Life, Volume 2](#) edited by Melissa Brayer Hess, Patricia Linderman, and Marlene Manfiletto Nice
- [Working for Change: Making a Career in International Public Service](#) by Derick and Jennifer Brinkerhoff
- [Working World: Careers in International Education, Exchange, and Development](#) by Sherry Mueller and Mark Overmann

Online Resources

Visit these websites and others listed in our [School-Specific Resources](#):

- Hoovers at www.hoovers.com
- Idealist at www.idealist.org
- International Jobs Center at www.internationaljobs.org
- Occupational Outlook Handbook at www.bls.gov/oco
- O*NET Resource Center at www.onetcenter.org
- TwoLingos at www.bilingual-jobs.com
- U.S. Department of State at www.state.gov
- USAJOBS at www.usajobs.gov

Professional Associations

The following professional associations offer career-related information and job listings:

- American Association for Applied Linguistics at www.aal.org
- The American Association of Language Specialists at www.taals.net
- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages at www.actfl.org
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association at www.asha.org
- Linguistic Society of America at www.lsadc.org

Find more professional associations at American Society of Association Executives at www.asaecenter.org/Directories/AssociationSearch.cfm