

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

What can I do with this degree?

| AREAS | EMPLOYERS | STRATEGIES |
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GOVERNMENT

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| <p>Translation/Interpretation Journalism/Broadcasting Linguistics Diplomacy Civil Service Foreign Service Immigration/Naturalization Customs Intelligence/Law Enforcement</p> | <p><i>Federal Gov't Organizations:</i> *Overseas aid agencies *Intelligence/Law Enforcement Agencies such as FBI, CIA, Drug Enforcement Administration *Department of State *Armed forces *Immigration and Naturalization Service *Customs Service *Library of Congress *Voice of America</p> | <p>*Learn federal, state and local job application procedures. *Plan to attend a school that teaches foreign languages. *Join armed forces as a way to get experience. *The government is one of the largest employers of people with foreign language skills.</p> |
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ARTS, MEDIA, ENTERTAINMENT

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| <p>Advertising Translation/Interpretation Journalism/Broadcasting Publishing/Editing Public Relations</p> | <p>*Museums *Foreign news agencies *Book publishers *Television networks *Radio stations *Film companies</p> | <p>*Learn about the customs and culture of the country in which your language of study is primarily spoken. *Spend time studying/working abroad. *Read international newspapers to keep up with developments overseas.</p> |
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INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

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| <p>Translation/Interpretation Banking/Finance Sales/Customer Services Manufacturing Engineering/Technical Research Operations Management Consulting Imports/Exports Administrative Services</p> | <p>*Banks/Financial institutions *Import/Export companies *Foreign firms operating in U.S. *American firms operating in foreign countries *Manufacturers *Retail stores</p> | <p>*Supplement coursework with business classes. *Gain experience through an internship or work abroad program. *Find out which companies do business with the countries in which your language of study is spoken. *Be prepared to start in a position in the U.S. for a firm with overseas interests. Very few entry-level positions are available in international business.</p> |
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TRAVEL AND TOURISM

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| <p>Translation/Interpretation Airline Services Management Booking and Reservations Travel Services/Guidance</p> | <p>*Tour and excursion companies *Travel agencies *Hotels/Motels/Resorts *Restaurants *Airlines/Airports *Cruise lines *Railroads *Bus lines *Convention centers</p> | <p>*Take classes in hotel/restaurant admin. *Get a part-time job in a hotel or restaurant to gain experience *Brush up on knowledge of geography. *Spend some time abroad. *Plan to attend a travel school. *Develop office skills such as typing, organizing and working with computers. *Read international newspapers.</p> |
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INTERPRETATION/TRANSLATION

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| <p>Interpretation: Simultaneous Consecutive Conference Escort/Guide Judiciary</p> <p>Translation: Literary Localization Medical</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Freelance *Educational services *Business services *Government agencies *Healthcare organizations *International Organizations *Courts *Publishers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Develop "near-perfect" knowledge of the language. Seek out opportunities to converse with native speakers. *Gain experience through internships or volunteering. *Learn a third language. *Develop skills with computers/internet. *Get certified/accredited by an interpretation/translation organization. *Most who work in this field freelance. |
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SERVICE AND EDUCATION

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| <p>Translating/Interpretation Teaching Educational Administration Linguistics Civil Service Social Work Mission Work Library Science Health Services</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Hospitals *Religious/Volunteer organizations *International organizations *Law enforcement agencies *Social service agencies *Universities/Colleges *Preschools and K-12 schools *Professional language schools *English language institutes *Overseas dependents' schools | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Get state teacher licensure for K-12. *Specialize in an area of research. *Develop superior English communication skills/grammar/vocab. *Notify local hospitals, schools and chambers of commerce of your availability to translate for int'l visitors. *Minor or double major in another subject that you could also teach. *Consider teaching English abroad. *Obtain a graduate degree for college or university teaching opportunities. *Get experience-become a TA or tutor. *Be familiar with the cultural base of your language (literature, art, politics) as well as with cultural traditions. *Plan to take written/oral examinations to become an interpreter. *Volunteer with government programs such as Peace Corps or VISTA. |
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GENERAL INFORMATION

- *Choose an additional academic area of study to supplement the foreign language, one that requires a high degree of technical skill. Most with foreign language ability use those skills to assist them in other fields.
- *Related courses: geography, history, civilization, foreign relations, international law and word economics.
- *Choose a language necessary to your career, and the level of ability you need to acquire for success in your career. Possible languages: Spanish, German, French, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Italian, Arabic, etc.
- *Plan to attend a private language institute to learn additional languages and cultures.
- *Travel to a foreign country or study abroad in international exchange programs to learn different cultures.
- *Study and practice your foreign language skills by reading foreign newspapers, magazines and books.
- *Watch foreign movies and listen to foreign broadcasts to maintain your fluency.
- *Volunteer your language skills to churches, community organizations and programs that work with people who speak your target language.
- *Participate in summer programs, co-ops, and internships to improve your skills.
- *Pen pal with a correspondent from a foreign country.
- *Contact professional associations & read their publications to learn about job opportunities.
- *Research Internet job postings to get an idea of jobs in which knowledge of a foreign language is useful.