

Area: Humanities
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Degree: A.A. - Language Studies
 A.A. for Transfer - Spanish
 • French • German • Italian
 • Russian • Spanish

American River College offers courses in foreign languages designed to help students develop a command of a variety of languages necessary to pursue career, transfer and degree goals.

Language Studies Degree

Major Code: 011158A01

The Language Studies degree provides an area of emphasis in communication skills in both English and foreign languages. It is intended for students wishing to develop communication skills for the work place. Students who work closely with their counselors can use this area of emphasis to prepare for majoring at a four-year college in foreign languages as well as any other majors which require proficiency in one or more foreign languages.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- write expository and argumentative papers.
- synthesize ideas and develop conclusions.
- examine the connection between culture and communication.
- engage in conversation and written correspondence in a language other than English.

Requirements for Degree 18 Units

A minimum of 6 units from the following:

ENGWR 300	College Composition (3)
or ENGWR 480	Honors College Composition (3)
ENGWR 301	College Composition and Literature (3)
or ENGWR 481	Honors College Composition and Literature (3)
ENGWR 302	Advanced Composition and Critical Thinking (3)
or ENGWR 482	Honors Advanced Composition and Critical Thinking (3)
ENGWR 303	Argumentative Writing and Critical Thinking Through Literature (4)
SPEECH 301	Public Speaking (3)
SPEECH 331	Group Discussion (3)
SPEECH 361	The Communication Experience (3)

And a minimum of 12 units from the following: 12¹

DEAF 310	American Sign Language I (4)
DEAF 312	American Sign Language II (4)
DEAF 314	American Sign Language III (4)
DEAF 316	American Sign Language IV (4)
DEAF 318	American Sign Language V (4)
FREN 401	Elementary French (4)
FREN 402	Elementary French (4)
FREN 411	Intermediate French (4)
FREN 412	Intermediate French (4)
GERM 401	Elementary German I (4)
GERM 402	Elementary German II (4)
GERM 411	Intermediate German (4)
GERM 412	Intermediate German (4)
ITAL 401	Elementary Italian (4)
ITAL 402	Elementary Italian (4)
ITAL 411	Intermediate Italian (4)
ITAL 412	Intermediate Italian (4)

RUSS 401	Elementary Russian (4)
RUSS 402	Elementary Russian (4)
RUSS 411	Intermediate Russian (4)
SPAN 401	Elementary Spanish (4)
SPAN 402	Elementary Spanish (4)
SPAN 411	Intermediate Spanish (4)
SPAN 412	Intermediate Spanish (4)

¹These 12 units must be completed in a single language.

Associate Degree Requirements: The Language Studies Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree may be obtained by completion of the required program, plus general education requirements, plus sufficient electives to meet a 60-unit total. See ARC graduation requirements.

Spanish A.A. for Transfer (AA-T) Degree

Major Code, CSU GE: 011671A01

Major Code, IGETC: 011671A02

This degree provides students with a major that fulfills the general requirements of the California State University for transfer. Students with this degree will receive priority admission with junior status to the California State University system. The Associate in Arts degree in Spanish for Transfer (AA-T) may be obtained by the completion of 60 transferable, semester units with a minimum 2.0 GPA, including (a) the major or area of emphasis described in the Required Program outlined below (earning a C or better in these courses) and (b) either the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education Breadth Requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- demonstrate proficiency in the five skills as mandated by the competency guidelines of the American Council of the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL): comprehension, speaking, reading, writing, and understanding the people and culture of the Spanish-speaking countries.
- utilize correct grammatical structures of standard Spanish.
- read Spanish proficiently as found, for example, in Spanish language newspapers, magazines, short stories, essays, and selections of poetry written by Spanish, Spanish-American, and Chicano authors.
- demonstrate appropriate writing and composition skills in Spanish.
- critique and discuss Latin American and Peninsular literature in a historical context.
- analyze and discuss major historical events and periods in the history of Spanish-speaking countries.
- compare and contrast aspects of the Spanish-speaking culture that are different or similar to one's own culture.
- compare and contrast aspects of Spanish to another modern language.

Career Opportunities

This degree is designed to facilitate students' successful transfer to four-year colleges that prepare them for a variety of career opportunities, such as airlines/travel, banking, bilingual education, bilingual telecommunications, emergency services, foreign service, Foreign Language Teacher, imports and exports, international business, intelligence/military services, IRS/State Franchise Tax Board, law enforcement/correctional officer, social services, translating/interpreting, and tourism. Some careers may require additional training specific to the trade.

Requirements for Degree		19 Units
SPAN 401	Elementary Spanish.....	4
SPAN 402	Elementary Spanish.....	4
SPAN 411	Intermediate Spanish.....	4
SPAN 412	Intermediate Spanish.....	4
And a minimum of 3 units from the following:		3
FREN 411	Intermediate French (4)	
FREN 412	Intermediate French (4)	
HIST 327	History of the Chicano/Mexican American (3)	
HIST 373	History of Mexico (3)	
ITAL 411	Intermediate Italian (4)	
ITAL 412	Intermediate Italian (4)	
SOC 325	Chicano Culture (3)	
SPAN 361	Conversational Spanish, Intermediate (3)	

Associate in Arts for Transfer Degree Requirements: The Associate in Arts in Spanish for Transfer (AA-T) degree may be obtained by completion of 60 transferable, semester units with a minimum 2.0 GPA, including (a) the major or area of emphasis described in the Required Program, and (b) either the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education-Breadth Requirements.

French

FREN 401 Elementary French

4 Units

General Education: AA/AS Area I; IGETC Area 6
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course introduces the language and culture of the French-speaking world. It includes the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing French with emphasis on the communicative skills, as well as the fundamentals of French pronunciation and grammar.

FREN 402 Elementary French

4 Units

Prerequisite: FREN 401 with a grade of "C" or better or 2 years of high school French.
General Education: AA/AS Area I; IGETC Area 6
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course follows FREN 401 and provides continued development of all language skills (listening, speaking, writing, and reading), with emphasis on communicative skills. Language acquisition is approached through a historical and cultural perspective.

FREN 411 Intermediate French

4 Units

Prerequisite: FREN 402 with a grade of "C" or better or 3 years of high school French.
General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6, Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 72 hours LEC

This is the first course in a two-course sequence designed for intermediate students of French. It builds on the skills acquired in beginning level French in order to increase students' active vocabulary, reinforce their mastery of basic grammar, and develop their ability to deal with more complex structures (ex. verbal phrases, subordinate clauses). Films, phonetic exercises, and other auditory materials, as well as a variety of readings (literary classics, non-fiction, contemporary journalism, etc.) are used to increase students' proficiency in French, increase historical and cultural awareness, and also to develop critical thinking skills. It provides opportunities for students to use more language, with greater flexibility and proficiency, on a wider range of topics, and to speak and write at greater lengths. Additionally, it includes additional exploration of French and Francophone cultures. This course prepares students for FREN 412.

FREN 412 Intermediate French

4 Units

Prerequisite: FREN 411 with a grade of "C" or better or 4 years of high school French.
General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6, Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course is the second course in a two-course sequence designed for intermediate students of French. This course advances students' vocabulary and solidifies their command of grammar, including more complex components. It also enables increased comprehension of and proficiency in French. Lastly, it expands their historical and cultural knowledge of the French and Francophone worlds, furthering greater cross-cultural awareness.

German

GERM 351 Conversational German, Elementary 3 Units

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is designed for students at the first-semester level in German. Conversations and discussions, both controlled and spontaneous, are used to develop basic skills in German. Emphasis includes oral proficiency and development of German culture awareness.

GERM 352 Conversational German, Elementary 3 Units

Prerequisite: GERM 351 with a grade of "C" or better or two years of high school German

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is designed for students at the second-semester level in German. It continues the development of oral-aural skills in German through conversations and discussions, both controlled and spontaneous. Emphasis includes oral proficiency and development of German cultural awareness.

GERM 401 Elementary German I 4 Units

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B;

IGETC Area 6, Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the language of the German-speaking people. It includes the fundamentals of German pronunciation and grammar, as well as the development of listening, reading, and writing with emphasis on the communicative skills.

GERM 402 Elementary German II 4 Units

Prerequisite: GERM 401 with a grade of "C" or better or two years of high school German

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B;

IGETC Area 6, Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course continues to develop proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing German. It also explores the German culture and affords opportunities to make cross-linguistic and cross-cultural comparisons.

GERM 411 Intermediate German 4 Units

Prerequisite: GERM 402 with a grade of "C" or better or three years of high school German

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B;

IGETC Area 6, Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course, which is the third in a series of four German courses, continues to develop proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing German. It reviews German grammar and offers readings of varied texts, which further explore study of historical and cultural background of German-speaking countries and afford opportunities to make cross-linguistic and cross-cultural comparisons.

GERM 412 Intermediate German 4 Units

Prerequisite: GERM 411 with a grade of "C" or better or four years of high school German.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B;

IGETC Area 6, Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course continues development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through reading, discussing, and interpreting various works of German literature; writing summaries, reports and short compositions; and studying the historical, artistic, and cultural background of the German-speaking world.

Italian

ITAL 351 Conversational Italian, Elementary I 3 Units

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is designed for students at the first-semester level in Italian. Conversations and discussions, both controlled and spontaneous, are used to develop basic conversational skills in Italian. Emphasis includes oral proficiency and development of Italian cultural awareness.

ITAL 352 Conversational Italian, Elementary II 3 Units

Prerequisite: ITAL 351 with a grade of "C" or better or two years of high school Italian

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is designed for students at the second-semester level in Italian. It continues the development of oral-aural skills in Italian through conversations and discussions, both controlled and spontaneous. Emphasis includes oral proficiency and development of Italian cultural awareness.

ITAL 401 Elementary Italian 4 Units

General Education: AA/AS Area I; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the Italian language and culture of Italy. It includes the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Italian with emphasis on the communicative skills, as well as the fundamentals of Italian pronunciation and grammar.

ITAL 402 Elementary Italian 4 Units

Prerequisite: ITAL 401 with a grade of "C" or better; or 2 years of high school Italian.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course provides continued development of the language and explores history and culture of Italian society. It includes further development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Italian and emphasizes communicative skills, as well as the fundamentals of Italian pronunciation and grammar. Language acquisition is approached through a historical and cultural perspective.

ITAL 411 Intermediate Italian 4 Units

Prerequisite: ITAL 402 with a grade of "C" or better; or 3 years of high school Italian.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B;

IGETC Area 6, Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This is the third course in a series of four Italian courses. It continues to develop proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing Italian. It reviews Italian grammar and offers readings of varied texts, many of which explore the historic, artistic and cultural backgrounds of Italy. It also explores the culture of Italy and affords opportunities to make cross-linguistic and cross-cultural comparisons.

ITAL 412 Intermediate Italian 4 Units

Prerequisite: ITAL 411 with a grade of "C" or better; or 4 years of high school Italian.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B;

IGETC Area 6, Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course continues the development of the four basic skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening through reading and discussion of major types of Italian literature (short story, drama, poetry). Writing of paragraphs and short compositions is included. The course discusses the historical and cultural background of the Italian-speaking world.

Russian**RUSS 401 Elementary Russian 4 Units**

General Education: AA/AS Area I; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the Russian language and culture of Russia. It includes the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Russian with emphasis on the communicative skills, as well as the fundamentals of Russian pronunciation and grammar.

RUSS 402 Elementary Russian 4 Units

Prerequisite: RUSS 401 with a grade of "C" or better OR two years of high school Russian.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course provides continued development of the Russian language and culture. It includes further development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Russian with emphasis on communicative skills, as well as the fundamentals of Russian pronunciation and grammar. Cross-linguistic and cross-cultural comparisons are emphasized.

RUSS 411 Intermediate Russian 4 Units

Prerequisite: RUSS 402 with a grade of "C" or better, or three years of high school Russian.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This intermediate-level Russian course provides continued development of the language and culture of the Russian-speaking world. It includes further development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Russian with emphasis on communicative skills.

RUSS 413 Russian for Heritage Speakers I 4 Units

Prerequisite: RUSS 411 or Russian heritage speaker proficiency as assessed by an oral interview with the instructor in Russian.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course offers the fundamentals of spoken and written Russian for heritage speakers with different levels of Russian who want to gain literacy and improve their Russian skills. It covers the structure of the language, oral communication, spelling, and fundamentals of grammar and composition. In addition, the course introduces the student to the geography and culture of the Russian-speaking world.

Spanish**SPAN 131 Elementary Spanish Lab I .5-1 Units**

Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in SPAN 401.

Hours: 27-54 hours LAB

This laboratory course enables Spanish language learners to develop, expand, and reinforce multiple Spanish language skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes integrated study topics related to vocabulary, grammar, reading, writing, listening, and oral skills covered in first semester Spanish courses. Students may register until the sixth week of the semester. This course may be taken up to 2 times, for a total of 1.0 unit, using different topics. Pass/No Pass only.

SPAN 132 Elementary Spanish Lab II .5-1 Unit

Advisory: SPAN 131, or concurrent enrollment in SPAN 402.

Hours: 27-54 hours LAB

This laboratory course enables Spanish language learners to continue developing, expanding, and reinforcing multiple Spanish language skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes integrated study topics related to vocabulary, grammar, reading, writing, listening, and oral skills covered in second semester Spanish courses. Students may register until the sixth week of the semester. This course may be taken up to two times for a total of 1.0 unit, using different topics. Pass/No Pass only.

SPAN 133 Intermediate Spanish Lab I .5-1 Unit

Advisory: SPAN 132 or concurrent enrollment in SPAN 411.

Hours: 27-54 hours LAB

This laboratory course enables Spanish learners to develop, expand, and reinforce multiple Spanish language skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes integrated study topics related to vocabulary, grammar, reading, writing, listening, and oral skills covered in third semester Spanish courses. Students may register until the sixth week of the semester. This course may be taken up to 2 times, for a total of 1.0 unit, using different topics. Pass/No Pass only.

SPAN 351 Conversational Spanish, Elementary 3 Units

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. It includes the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish with emphasis on communicative skills. Class discussions and group interaction, both controlled and spontaneous, are used to develop basic conversational skills in Spanish.

SPAN 352 Conversational Spanish, Elementary 3 Units

Prerequisite: SPAN 351 OR SPAN 401 with a grade of "C" or better or two years of high school Spanish.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is for students at the second-semester level in Spanish. It includes the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish with emphasis on communicative skills. Class discussions and group interaction, both controlled and spontaneous, are used to develop basic conversational skills in Spanish. Emphasis includes oral proficiency and development of Hispanic cultural awareness.

SPAN 361 Conversational Spanish, Intermediate 3 Units

Prerequisite: SPAN 352 OR SPAN 402 with a grade of "C" or better, or three years of high school Spanish.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is designed for students at the third-semester level in Spanish. It includes the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish with emphasis on communicative skills. Discussions and group interaction, both controlled and spontaneous, are used to develop basic conversational skills in Spanish. Emphasis includes oral proficiency and development of Hispanic cultural awareness.

SPAN 362 Conversational Spanish, Intermediate 3 Units

Prerequisite: SPAN 361 OR Spanish 411 with a grade of "C" or better or 4 years high school Spanish

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This fourth-semester course covers language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. It continues the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish with emphasis on communicative skills. Class discussions and group interaction, both controlled and spontaneous, are used to develop conversational skills in Spanish.

SPAN 401 Elementary Spanish 4 Units

General Education: AA/AS Area I; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course introduces the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. It includes the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish with emphasis on the communicative skills, as well as the fundamentals of Spanish pronunciation and grammar. (C-ID SPAN 100)

SPAN 402 Elementary Spanish 4 Units

Prerequisite: SPAN 401 with a grade of "C" or better or two years of high school Spanish.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course provides continued development of the language and explores history and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. It includes further development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish with emphasis on communicative skills, as well as the fundamentals of Spanish pronunciation and grammar. Language acquisition is approached through a historical and cultural perspective. (C-ID SPAN 110)

SPAN 411 Intermediate Spanish 4 Units

Prerequisite: SPAN 402 with a grade of "C" or better OR three years of high school Spanish.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This intermediate-level Spanish course provides continued development of the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. It includes further development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Spanish with emphasis on communicative skills. Additionally, it covers more complex grammar topics and provides further study of the cultural and historical background of Spanish-speaking countries. (C-ID SPAN 200)

SPAN 412 Intermediate Spanish 4 Units

Prerequisite: SPAN 411 with a grade of "C" or better or 4 years of high school Spanish

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This intermediate-level Spanish course provides continued development of the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. It includes further development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Spanish with emphasis on communicative skills. Additionally, it reviews and provides further study and complex grammar topics of the cultural and historical background of Spanish-speaking countries as well as their major literary types and works. (C-ID SPAN 210)

SPAN 427 Introduction to Spanish American Literature 3 Units

Prerequisite: SPAN 412 with a grade of "C" or better

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course introduces students to Spanish and Latin American Literature. It covers the analysis of a variety of literary formats that include short stories, poems, plays, and novel excerpts from the established literary canon. Films are integrated to develop auditory skills and to engage students in discussions. It emphasizes critical thinking, interpretation, speaking, and writing skills, and is conducted entirely in Spanish.