

GLOBAL LANGUAGES

Undergraduate Study

Bachelor of Science in Global Studies and Languages (Course 21G)

Program I in French Studies (<https://catalog.mit.edu/degree-charts/global-studies-languages-course-21g>), Program II in German Studies (<https://catalog.mit.edu/degree-charts/global-studies-languages-course-21g/#germanstudiestext>), and Program III in Spanish Studies (<https://catalog.mit.edu/degree-charts/global-studies-languages-course-21g/#spanishstudiestext>) are designed to provide competence in reading, writing, and speaking; general knowledge of French, German, or Spanish culture and literature; and advanced subjects in literature, film, and cultural studies.

For each option, the student designs a program in consultation with an advisor in order to meet individual interests, abilities, and goals. However, all majors reflect a balance of historical, geographical, cultural, and linguistic competence.

Other Degree Programs

Joint degree programs are offered in French, German, and Spanish, and include majors in combination with a field in engineering or science (21E, 21S). See the Department of Humanities section for further information on joint degree programs (<https://catalog.mit.edu/schools/humanities-arts-social-sciences/humanities/#undergraduatetext>).

Minor in Chinese

The Minor in Chinese typically consists of six subjects arranged into three levels of study as follows:

Tier I

Two language subjects at the intermediate level:

Select one of the following options: 24

Option 1:

21G.103 Chinese III (Regular)

21G.104 Chinese IV (Regular)

Option 2:

21G.109 Chinese III (Streamlined)

21G.110 Chinese IV (Streamlined)

Tier II

Select two language subjects at the advanced level from either Option 1 or Option 2: 24

Option 1 (Regular):

21G.105 Chinese V (Regular): Discovering Chinese Cultures and Societies

21G.106 Chinese VI (Regular): Discovering Chinese Cultures and Societies

21G.112 Intermediate Chinese in Shenzhen

21G.118 Advanced Chinese in Shenzhen

21G.120 Business Chinese

Option 2 (Streamlined):

21G.113 Chinese V (Streamlined)

21G.112 Intermediate Chinese in Shenzhen

21G.118 Advanced Chinese in Shenzhen

21G.120 Business Chinese

Tier III

Select two of the following subjects in Chinese literature, history, or culture, at least one of which must be a Chinese Language Option subject: 25

21G.041[*J*] Foundations of East Asian Literature and Culture: From Confucius to the Beats

21G.042[*J*] Three Kingdoms: From History to Fiction, Comic, Film, and Game

21G.043[*J*] From Yellow Peril to Model Minority: Asian American History to 1968

21G.045[*J*] Global Chinese Food: A Historical Overview

21H.151 Dynastic China

21H.152 Modern China

21H.186 Nature and Environment in China

21H.351

21T.241 China on Stage

*Chinese Language Option (CLO) Subjects:*¹

21G.133 Three Kingdoms: From History to Fiction, Comic, Film, and Game

21G.190 Advertising and Media: Comparative Perspectives

21G.192 Modern Chinese Fiction and Cinema

21G.193 Introduction to East Asian Cultures: From Zen to K-Pop

21G.194 China in the News: The Untold Stories

21G.195 Classics of Chinese Literature in Translation

21G.196 Global Chinese Migration, 1567-Present

Total Units

73

¹ The seven 13-unit Chinese Language Option subjects— 21G.133, 21G.190, 21G.192, 21G.193, 21G.194, 21G.195, and 21G.196—include some assignments that require reading and writing in Chinese, and they meet with the following 12-unit subjects, respectively: 21G.042, 21G.036[*J*], 21G.046, 21G.030[*J*], 21G.038, 21G.044[*J*], and 21G.075[*J*]. The 12-unit subjects may be substituted for the 13-unit subjects.

Minor in French

The Minor in French consists of six subjects typically arranged into three levels of study as follows:

Tier I	
Two subjects or fewer depending on demonstrated level of entering competence:	0-24
21G.303	French III
21G.304	French IV
Tier II	
Select two or three of the following intermediate subjects in French language, literature, and culture:	24-36
21G.308	Writing (Like the) French
21G.310	French Conversation: Intensive Practice
21G.311	Introduction to French Culture
21G.312	Basic Themes in French Literature and Culture
21G.315	A Window onto Contemporary French Society
21G.316	Marseille Unveiled: Digital Stories and Intercultural Encounters
Tier III	
Select two or three of the following advanced subjects in French literature and culture:	24-36
21G.049[J]	French Photography
21G.050[J]	Looking East/Looking West
21G.052	French Film Classics
21G.053[J]	Understanding Contemporary French Politics ¹
21G.054[J]	France and Haiti: Enlightenment, Slavery, and Revolution
21G.056[J]	The Making of Modern Europe: 1789-Present ²
21G.068	The Invention of French Theory: A History of Transatlantic Intellectual Life since 1945
21G.320[J]	Introduction to French Literature
21G.321[J]	Childhood and Youth in French and Francophone Cultures
21G.322[J]	Frenchness in an Era of Globalization
21G.323[J]	French Literature and the Goncourt Prize
21G.325[J]	New Culture of Gender: Queer France
21G.326	Global Africa: Creative Cultures
21G.328	African Migrations
21G.341	Contemporary French Film and Social Issues

21G.342[J]	French Pop Music
21G.344[J]	French Feminist Literature: Yesterday and Today
21G.346	Topics in Modern French Literature and Culture
21G.347[J]	Social and Literary Trends in Contemporary Short French Fiction
21G.348	Global Paris

Total Units **72**

¹ 21G.353[J], which is equivalent to 21G.053[J] but taught entirely in French, is an acceptable substitute.

² 21G.356 is an acceptable substitute — it is a 13-unit French language option subject which meets with 21G.056[J], and includes some assignments that require reading and writing in French.

Minor in German

The Minor in German consists of six subjects arranged into three levels of study as follows:

Tier I	
Two subjects or fewer depending on demonstrated level of entering competence: ¹	0-24
21G.403	German III
21G.404	German IV
Tier II	
Select two or three of the following subjects in German language, literature, and culture: ¹	24-36
21G.408	German Conversation Practice: Online Immersion
21G.409	Advanced German: Visual Arts, Media, Creative Expression
21G.410	Advanced German: Communication for Professionals
21G.411	Conflict, Contest, Controversy: A Literary Investigation of German Politics
21G.412	Advanced German: Literature and Culture
Tier III	
Select two or three of the following advanced subjects in German literature and culture: ¹	24-36
17.561	European Politics
21G.055[J]	Media in Weimar and Nazi Germany
21G.057[J]	Gender, Race, and Environmental Justice
21G.058[J]	Race and Migration in Europe ²
21G.059	Paradigms of European Thought and Culture
21H.240	The World of Charlemagne

21G.414	German Culture, Media, and Society	
21G.417	Cultural Geographies of Germany: Nature, Culture, and Politics	
21G.419	City Living: Ethnographies of Urban Worlds	
21G.420	German Cinema	
Total Units		72

¹ For students who start at German IV or above, the remaining subjects, six in total, must be taken within Tiers II and III to be determined in consultation with the minor advisor.

² 21G.418 is an acceptable substitute—it is a 13-unit German language option subject which meets with 21G.058, and includes some assignments that require reading and writing in German.

Minor in Japanese

The Minor in Japanese consists of six subjects arranged into three levels of study as follows:

Tier I		
Two language subjects at the intermediate level:		
21G.503	Japanese III	12
21G.504	Japanese IV	12
Tier II		
Two language subjects at the advanced level:		24
21G.505	Japanese V	
21G.506	Japanese VI	
21G.510	Project-based Japanese Learning with Multimedia	
Tier III		
Select two of the following subjects in Japanese literature, history, or culture, at least one of which must be a Japanese Language Option subject:		25
17.433	International Relations of East Asia	
17.537	Politics and Policy in Contemporary Japan	
21G.030[J]	Introduction to East Asian Cultures: From Zen to K-Pop	
21G.041[J]	Foundations of East Asian Literature and Culture: From Confucius to the Beats	
21G.050[J]	Looking East/Looking West	
21H.154	Inventing the Samurai	
21H.155	Modern Japan: 1600 to Present	
21H.354	World War II in Asia	
Japanese Language Option subjects: ¹		
21G.554	Inventing the Samurai	
21G.555	Modern Japan: 1600 to the Present	
21G.556	World War II in Asia	
21G.591	Gender and Japanese Popular Culture	

21G.592	Introduction to Japanese Culture	
21G.593	Japanese Media Cultures	
21G.594	Japanese Cinema	
21G.595	Cultures of Popular Music in East Asia: Japan, Korea, China	
21G.596	Anime: Transnational Media and Culture	
21G.597	Digital Media in Japan and Korea	
Total Units		73

¹ The ten 13-unit Japanese Language Option subjects— 21G.554, 21G.555, 21G.556, 21G.591, 21G.592, 21G.593, 21G.594, 21G.595, 21G.596 and 21G.597—include some assignments that require reading and writing in Japanese, and they meet with the following 12-unit subjects, respectively: 21H.154, 21H.155, 21H.354, 21G.039[J], 21G.064, 21G.065[J], 21G.094[J], 21G.063, 21G.095[J], and 21G.067[J]. The 12-unit subjects may be substituted for the 13-unit subjects.

Minor in Spanish

The Minor in Spanish consists of six subjects arranged into three levels of study as follows:

Tier I		
Two subjects or fewer depending on demonstrated level of entering competence:		0-24
21G.703	Spanish III	
21G.704	Spanish IV	
21G.706	Spanish for Medicine and Health	
Tier II		
Select three or fewer of the following subjects, depending on demonstrated level of entering competence from the Spanish Intermediate Subjects in Language, Literature, and Culture listing:		24-36
21G.707	Graphic Stories: Spanish and Latin American Comics	
21G.710	Advanced Communication in Spanish: Topics in Language and Culture	
21G.711	Advanced Spanish Conversation and Composition: Perspectives on Technology and Culture	
21G.712	Spanish Conversation and Composition	
21G.713	Spanish through Film: Mexico, Chile, Argentina, and Spain	
21G.714	Spanish for Heritage Learners	
21G.715	Topics in Medicine and Public Health in the Hispanic World	
Tier III		

Select two or more of the following subjects, depending on demonstrated level of entering competence from the Spanish Advanced Subjects in Literature and Culture listing: 24-36

21G.070[J]	Latin America and the Global Sixties: Counterculture and Revolution
21G.072[J]	The New Latin American Novel
21G.073[J]	The Spanish Incubator
21G.078[J]	Latin America Through Film
21G.084[J]	Introduction to Latin American Studies
21H.173	Socialism in Latin America, from Che Guevara to Hugo Chávez
21H.270[J]	Latinx in the Age of Empire
21H.273	From Coca to Cocaine: Drug Economies in Latin America
21L.019	Introduction to European and Latin American Fiction
21G.716[J]	Introduction to Contemporary Hispanic Literature and Film
21G.717[J]	Power and Culture: Utopias and Dystopias in Spain and Latin America
21G.731[J]	Creation of a Continent: Media Representations of Hispanic America, 1492 to present
21G.735	Advanced Topics in Hispanic Literature and Film
21G.736[J]	The Short Form: Literature and New Media Cultures in the Hispanic World
21G.738[J]	Literature and Social Conflict: Perspectives on Spain
21G.739[J]	Globalization and its Discontents: Spanish-speaking Nations
21G.740[J]	The New Spain: 1977-Present
21G.784	Introduction to Latin American Studies

Total Units 72

Other Minors

Please also refer to the Minor in Applied International Studies (<https://catalog.mit.edu/interdisciplinary/undergraduate-programs/minors/applied-international-studies>) and the HASS Minors in Regional Studies, which include African and African Diaspora Studies (<https://catalog.mit.edu/interdisciplinary/undergraduate-programs/minors/minor-african-studies>), Asian and Asian Diaspora Studies (<https://catalog.mit.edu/interdisciplinary/undergraduate-programs/minors/asian-studies>), Latin American and Latino/a Studies (<https://catalog.mit.edu/interdisciplinary/undergraduate-programs/minors/latin-american-latino-studies>), Middle Eastern Studies (<https://catalog.mit.edu/interdisciplinary/undergraduate-programs/minors/>

[middle-eastern-studies](https://catalog.mit.edu/interdisciplinary/undergraduate-programs/minors/middle-eastern-studies)), and Russian and Eurasian Studies (<https://catalog.mit.edu/interdisciplinary/undergraduate-programs/minors/russian-urasian-studies>).

Inquiries

Information on subjects and programs may be obtained from the Global Languages Section Office (<http://mitgsl.mit.edu>), Room 14N-305, 617-253-4771, or via email (mitgsl@mit.edu).