Center for the Study of Languages

The School of Humanities

Director
Wendy Freeman

Associate Director
Claire Bartlett

Director of Language Resource Center
Claire Bartlett

Senior Lecturers
Patricia Brogdon-Gómez (Spanish)
Evelyne Datta (French)
Christa Gaug (German)
Raquel Gaytán (Spanish)
Jonathan Ludwig (Russian)
Jose Narbona (Spanish)
Peggy Patterson (Spanish)
Marcela Salas (Spanish)
Hiroko Sato (Japanese)
Chao-Mei Shen (Chinese)
Richard Spuler (German)
Meng Yeh (Chinese)

Lecturers
Victoria Arbizu-Sabater (Spanish)
Carl Atlee (Spanish)
Maher Awad (Arabic)
Suzana Bloem (Portuguese)
Elizabeth Cummins-Muñoz (Spanish)
Viviana Diaz (Spanish)
Maryam Emami (French)
Liang Fu (Chinese)
J. Won Han (Korean)
Luisa Kluger (Spanish/Hebrew)
Gheorghe Socaciu (French)
Pei-Ting Tsai (Chinese)
Luziris Turi (Spanish)

The Center for the Study of Languages (CSL) was founded in 1997 to promote and enhance the study of languages at Rice University and is responsible for teaching 12 languages through the third year of instruction. The role of the center is to establish innovative approaches to language acquisition, expand opportunities for language learning across the curriculum, and increase Rice students’ participation in study and work abroad. The Language Resource Center (LRC), the technology division of the CSL, provides resources such as specialized computer software and enhanced videos to support and supplement all aspects of the teaching and learning of languages.

Degrees Offered: None

The CSL does not offer degree programs itself, but students are able to pursue language degrees from language departments. Some of those degrees include: BA in Asian Studies (Asian Studies); BA in Classical Studies (Classical Studies); BA, MA, and PhD in French Studies (French Studies); BA in German Studies (German Studies); and BA in Spanish (Hispanic Studies). See each department for degree requirements.

Placement Testing

Foreign language classes are popular among Rice University students who wish to enhance their knowledge of world languages and cultures. Students who have some background in the language they intend to study are required to take a placement test to ensure that they are placed in the appropriate course. Placement tests can be taken online prior to matriculation or during O-Week. Additional information regarding language placement tests can be found on the Language Resource Center Web page at www.ruf.rice.edu/~lrc/placement.html.
Transfer Credits

The CSL will determine equivalency for foreign language classes taken at other colleges or universities and approve them for transfer credit. University transfer credit guidelines (see Undergraduate Student section, pages 15–16) as well as requirements of the degree-granting department still apply. Students who study abroad should have their transfer credits approved before they commit to a study-abroad program. When requesting Rice equivalent credit for foreign language acquisition courses students must submit no less than the following to the CSL for approval: 1) the appropriate transfer request form from the Office of the Registrar, 2) a program description for courses taken abroad or catalog description for courses taken in the United States, and 3) a syllabus for the course they wish to take or have taken. Students should be aware that the approval process takes about one week and should plan accordingly.

Scholarships

Three scholarships are offered yearly through the CSL. The Donne Di Domani and the Ugo di Portanova donate money to be awarded to outstanding Rice University students. These scholarship are to be used for tuition and books and are awarded to students committed to study of the Italian language and are based on need and merit. The Ministry of Education, Republic of China in Taiwan also offers a scholarship to study Mandarin Chinese in Taiwan. Students interested in applying for either of these scholarships should contact the CSL at the beginning of the spring semester.

See ARAB, CHIN, FREN, GERM, HIND, HEBR, ITAL, JAPA, KORE, PORT, RUSS, and SPAN in the Courses of Instruction section.