

WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

Scofield Hall, Room 211
 711 E. 51 Street
 (816) 235-1311
 worldlanguagesandcultures@umkc.edu
 World Languages and Cultures (<https://shss.umkc.edu/areas-of-study/world-languages-and-cultures/>)

Mailing Address:

University of Missouri-Kansas City
 Department of World Languages and Cultures
 Scofield Hall, Rm 211
 711 E. 51 Street
 Kansas City, MO 64110-2499

Department Chair:

Gayle Levy

Associate Chair:

Alberto Villamandos

Professors Emeriti:

K. Scott Baker, Patricia P. Brodsky, Rafael Espejo-Saavedra, Louis Imperiale, Iman O. Khalil, Kathy Krause, Raymond T. Riva

Associate Professors:

Matthew Edwards, Nacer Khelouz, Gayle Levy (Chair), Alice R. Reckley Vallejos, Alberto Villamandos (Associate Chair)

Department Description

The Department of World Languages and Cultures offers programs of study leading to the bachelor of arts degree in Languages and Literatures, with an emphasis in French Language and Literature, Spanish Language and Literature, Classical Languages and Cultures and International Studies; and graduate-level work leading to a master of arts in Romance Languages and Literatures (French and Spanish). In addition, undergraduate minors are offered in French, German Studies, Spanish, and Classics.

Career Implications

Aside from pursuing teaching careers, holders of degrees in foreign languages are in demand by government, the media and international business in growing numbers, as the need for increased sophistication and expertise in international affairs continues to expand. Multinational companies and organizations now view foreign language skills as an asset in a prospective employee. In the past 10 years this notion has become widespread in such areas as business, industry, commerce, civil service, education, law, communications media and health services. The changing conditions of international economics, politics and communications indicate that this trend will continue.

Higher Educational Applications

Reading knowledge of a foreign language is a requisite for many graduate degrees. Foreign language proficiency, moreover, is gaining increasing importance on all levels of university instruction as curricula are internationalized. Scholars and professionals in many fields have long recognized the need for, and advantages of, foreign language competency for improved international communication and effective conduct of basic and applied research.

Special Resources

Credit by Exam

Beginning-level courses (110, 120) are not applicable toward requirements for the major.

Departmental testing or "Credit by Examination," is available for 211-level and 221-level credit. Students should first speak to the appropriate language advisor. A minimum grade of C is necessary to receive credit. Please contact the department for more information.

Study Abroad

UMKC has exchange and study agreements with other institutions in many parts of the world. Students have an opportunity to spend a year or a semester of study at a number of universities around the globe, including at the University of Seville in Spain, the University of Lyon II in France and the

University of Klagenfurt in Austria. Summer programs are held at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina; the University of Malaga, Spain; and the University of Lyon II, France.

The department encourages students to travel and study abroad on our programs or those offered by any accredited American university. It should be noted, however, that the department must approve in advance any courses taken abroad for major or graduate credit. Interested students should contact the appropriate departmental advisor.

Requirements for Teacher Certification in Foreign Languages

Certification as a Foreign Language teacher K-12 is offered at UMKC as a Master of Arts in Teaching through the School of Education, Social Work, and Psychological Sciences. For acceptance in the program, applicants must have: A B.A. in French, German or Spanish, or the equivalent course work in the target language, with a GPA of 3.0. See undergraduate B.A. requirements in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

For further application requirements, see School of Education, Social Work, and Psychological Sciences: <https://education.umkc.edu/academics/masters-program/ma-in-teaching/>

For further information about the program, contact Dr. Reckley Vallejos, reckleya@umkc.edu, and the School of Education, Social Work, and Psychological Sciences at (816) 235-2234.

Faculty

Matthew Edwards¹

Associate Professor of Spanish
B.A. (McGill University); M.A. (University of Ottawa); Ph.D. (Emory University)
217 Scofield Hall
816-235-5856 ext 3
edwardsmatt@umkc.edu

Nacer Khelouz

Associate Professor of French
Licence, Maîtrise (Université de Paris VIII); Ph.D. (University of Pittsburgh)
204 Scofield Hall
816-235-5996
khelouznacer@umkc.edu

Gayle A. Levy

Associate Professor of French
Chair of the Department of World Languages and Cultures
A.B.(University of California-Berkeley); M.A.(Johns Hopkins University);Ph.D.(Duke University)
218 Scofield Hall
816-235-2820
levyg@umkc.edu

Alice Reckley Vallejos

Associate Professor of Spanish
B.A., M.A. (Ohio University, Athens); Ph.D. (University of Kansas)
214 Scofield Hall
816-235-5855, ext 4
reckleya@umkc.edu

Alberto Villamandos¹

Associate Professor of Spanish
Associate Chair of the World Languages and Cultures Department
Licenciatura (University of Navarra, Spain); M.A., Ph.D. (University of Ottawa, Canada)
219 Scofield Hall
816-235-2324
villamandosa@umkc.edu

Professors Emeriti

K. Scott Baker

Professor Emeritus of German
.A. (University of Oregon), M.A., Ph.D. (University of Washington)

Patricia P. Brodsky

Professor Emerita of German

B.A. (University of Iowa); M.A., Ph.D. (University of California, Berkeley)

Rafael Espejo-Saavedra

Professor Emeritus of Spanish

B.A., M.A. (Occidental College); Ph.D. (University of California, Los Angeles)

Louis Imperiale

Professor Emeritus of Spanish

Licence ès Lettres (Université de Grenoble); M.A. (University of Puerto Rico); Ph.D. (Catholic University of America)

Iman Osman Khalil

Associate Professor Emerita of German

M.A., Dr.Phil. (University of Munich)

Kathy Krause

Professor Emerita of French

B.A. (Dartmouth College), M.A., Ph.D (University of Pennsylvania)

Raymond T. Riva

Professor Emeritus of Spanish

B.A., Ph.D. (University of Illinois); A.M. (Middlebury College)

¹ Member of the UMKC Doctoral Faculty

Undergraduate Undergraduate Programs:

- Bachelor of Arts: Languages and Literatures (<http://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/academic-departments-programs/world-languages-cultures/bachelor-of-arts-languages-literatures/classical/>) (Emphasis in Classical Languages and Cultures)
- Bachelor of Arts: Languages and Literatures (<http://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/academic-departments-programs/world-languages-cultures/bachelor-of-arts-languages-literatures/french/>) (Emphasis in French)
- Bachelor of Arts: Languages and Literatures (<http://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/academic-departments-programs/world-languages-cultures/bachelor-of-arts-languages-literatures/spanish/>) (Emphasis in Spanish)
- Bachelor of Arts: Languages and Literatures (<http://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/academic-departments-programs/world-languages-cultures/bachelor-of-arts-languages-literatures/international-studies/>) (Emphasis area in International Studies)

Minors:

- Minors in French, Spanish
- Minor in German Studies

Graduate Graduate Programs:

- Master of Arts in Romance Languages