

# WHAT CAN I DO WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN LANGUAGES ?

## *Facts about a language degree:*

- Proficiency in more than one language is becoming an increasingly valuable skill and greatly enhances one's occupational possibilities and employability.
- A foreign language degree, especially in conjunction with another major or minor, will prove to be very useful to most students.
- Language can be used as either a primary or an auxiliary skill in a career. If a foreign language is a primary skill, you are using the language everyday; the job could not be done without it. If your language skill use is auxiliary, it is complimentary to your career and not an essential/necessary skill (ex: health care and social service careers).

## **SKILLS POSSESSED BY LANGUAGE GRADUATES**

Many employers are interested in the skills which language majors tend to possess. These include:

- ability to communicate between cultures
- ability to understand historical language change
- ability to explain complex concepts
- ability to read and write articulately and analytically
- comprehensive knowledge of grammar and vocabulary
- ability to organize and memorize detailed information
- proficiency in phonetics and ability to imitate sounds
- knowledge of other cultures

## **SAMPLE JOB TITLES FOR LANGUAGE GRADUATES**

(some may require additional education and/or training beyond the bachelor's degree)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Tourism Promotion/Development Officer   | Travel Writer  |
| Tour Guide / Organizer                  | Student Affairs Professional   |
| Information/Communications Officer      | International Student Advisor  |
| Conference and Event Planner            | Exchange Program Coordinator   |
| Border Services Officer                 | Intelligence Officer   |
| Immigration Officer                     | Foreign Language Intelligence Analyst  |
| Customer Service Agent                  | Fundraiser   |
| Literacy Program Coordinator            | Educational Assistant  |
| Police Dispatcher                       | Employment Counsellor  |
| ESL/EAL Teacher                         | Interpreter/Translator *   |
| Foreign Service Officer                 |  |
| Immigrant/Refugee Support Worker        | Knowing an additional language is a valuable and employable skill in public service occupations, including**: Police Officer, Social Worker, Nurse, Speech-Language Pathologist, Financial Advisor, Journalist (Foreign Correspondent) |
| Foreign Exchange Trader                 |  |
| Front Desk Clerk - Hospitality Industry |  |
| International Development Worker        |  |
| Language Consultant                     |  |
| Flight Attendant                        |  |
| Foreign Travel Advisor                  |  |

\*Visit the *Association of Translators and Interpreters of Manitoba* for more info..

\*\*speak with a Career Advisor re. qualifications and related options.

## AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT: (this list is not exhaustive)

Travel/Tourism Departments/Companies	Government Departments – Municipal, Provincial, and Federal (consider the <i>Canadian Security Intelligence Service, Communications Security Establishment &amp; Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada</i> )
Import/Export Companies	Health Care & Social Service Facilities
Employment Agencies	Airlines/Cruise Lines/Bus/Train Companies
Universities & other educational institutions	Advertising Agencies/Public Relations Agencies
International Development Agencies	Museums/ Art Galleries/Cultural Centres
Customer Contact Firms	Non-profit Organizations
Communications & Broadcasting Companies	
Publishing Companies	
Customer Contact Firms	
Private Language Schools	
Refugee/Immigrant Assistance Organizations	

### Check Out These Websites for More Information!

Check our website at: [www.umanitoba.ca/student/careerservices](http://www.umanitoba.ca/student/careerservices)

- Click on “**Job Postings and Volunteer Opportunities**” and register as a **Student** to view current job postings

#### **National Occupational Classification**

[www23.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca](http://www23.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca)

#### **Association of Translators and Interpreters of Manitoba**

[www.atim.mb.ca/](http://www.atim.mb.ca/)

#### **Foreign Language - What Can I Do with This Degree? (DePaul Career Centre)**

[careercenter.depaul.edu/\\_documents/foreign.pdf](http://careercenter.depaul.edu/_documents/foreign.pdf)

#### **The Big Guide to Working and Living Overseas (Free access for UM students!)**

[www.workingoverseas.com/umanitoba](http://www.workingoverseas.com/umanitoba)

#### **U. of Toronto Mississauga Career Centre—Careers By Major: Languages**

[www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/cbm/languages.html](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/cbm/languages.html)

#### **University of Delaware Career Services Centre—Foreign Language & Literature**

[www.udel.edu/CSC/forlang.html](http://www.udel.edu/CSC/forlang.html)