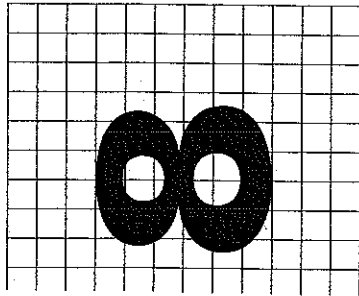


OTHER JOBS USING LANGUAGE AS A SECONDARY SKILL



Some U.S. medical personnel choose to practice medicine or nursing overseas. The Persian Gulf regularly hires American nurses, for example. An understanding of Arabic would be important for communicating with patients.

SOCIAL SERVICES

State, county, and municipal social service agencies, including welfare offices and immigration, need social workers and staff who can speak the appropriate language for the area and serve clients more efficiently. In various parts of North America, there is a need for workers who speak and understand Chinese, Spanish, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Vietnamese, and so on.

Police and firefighters need to speak the language of the community to save lives and fight crime more effectively in their districts.

Clergymen in bilingual neighborhoods and missionaries who work overseas need to speak the language or languages of their parish to minister to the needs of their parishioners. Latin and Greek are also helpful in seminary studies.

MEDIA

While editors and writers need a language as a primary skill, print and broadcast journalists, foreign news correspondents, and news photographers need it as a secondary skill. They write and report in their native language, but languages help them function better in the country to which they're assigned. In addition, they sometimes have opportunities to interview important international figures. Interpreters are usually available, but having good listening skills in the other's language is very useful.

RESEARCH CAREERS

Source material in a variety of disciplines is often in the original language. University professors and researchers in art and art history, world history, political science, literature, and sociology should be literate in several languages to be able to read material for their courses in the original language, and also to be able to do research in foreign countries. Science professors are often required to learn German to be able to read scientific documents.

Librarians with foreign language reading skills are invaluable for doing research, communicating with foreign libraries, and evaluating books and journals for possible adoption. Local and university libraries, as well as the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., employ librarians with foreign language skills.

Chapters 5, 6, and 7 cover careers that utilize language as a secondary skill. But these are not the only paths you can take to use your foreign language abilities. Here is an overview of other possibilities.

MUSEUM STUDIES

Art and natural history museums hire multilingual curators, assistants, archaeologists, anthropologists, and other social scientists to work with ancient or foreign texts and negotiate with foreign museums for acquisitions. These positions usually require an advanced degree and serious dedication to the field.

MEDICAL SERVICES

A foreign language comes in handy for nurses and other medical staff, including hospital administrators, working in ethnic communities in the United States.

Also falling into this category are paramedics and EMTs. They need to be able to speak the languages of their community to provide emergency medical treatment.

Pharmacologists and pharmacists can always use a background in Latin so they can read medical prescriptions.

Pharmaceutical sales representatives who speak a foreign language—French, Dutch, German, Spanish—are often given opportunities to work for multinational companies.

Because of the competition in the United States, some students study medicine overseas the first few years before transferring to a U.S. school. The most commonly studied language is Spanish, a must for students studying overseas.

THE ARTS

Professional classical musicians, such as opera singers and conductors of choirs and orchestras, must be able to read and speak several European languages—Italian, French, German—to understand and preserve the integrity of the text they will interpret.

The entertainment industry—filmmaking, recording, and so on—needs people with foreign language skills to help market products abroad and aid with projects on location.

ACQUIRING PRIMARY SKILLS

Again, it's important to note that, other than teaching a foreign language, interpreting, or translating, most careers require other skills that are used in the foreground and are considered more important than your language skills. University professors, researchers, and scientists usually have a Ph.D. in their discipline. Medical personnel have M.D.s, R.N.s, and other forms of licensure. Social workers pursue M.S.W.s, musicians hone their craft, and so on. Although an important asset to have, foreign language ability is seen as secondary. Of course, when it comes into play, when the need is there, everyone involved will be impressed and extremely grateful to the linguist who can save the day by communicating in a particular situation. Pursue your career, but by all means, keep your language skills current so they will be there when you need them.

FIRSTHAND ACCOUNTS

Maxine Taylor
Emergency Medical Technician

Maxine has been a firefighter since 1991 and an EMT since 1993. She plans to study to become a paramedic.

ig Started

"My neighbor was the chief of my hometown fire department. As a kid I used to see his truck in the neighborhood, in front of his house, and it fascinated me. He talked to me about the profession, inspired and encouraged me."

the Work Is Like

"EMTs help the paramedics out, making their job easier. We do basic lifesaving, CPR when necessary, apply bandages, get the medications for the paramedics to administer—all the basics. We get a chance to see a lot of things, to be in on everything, because the EMTs go wherever the paramedics go. We get a chance to work with the people, up close and personal."

"We're involved with everything that has to do with saving lives. Calls could be heart attacks, people feeling faint, people having babies, shootings, stab-bings, slips and falls, or car accidents. Sometimes we even get called out for minor things, a cut finger or a scratched knee."

The Upsides and Downsides

"What I enjoy most is being around people. After the paramedics have done their work and taken the patient to the hospital, as an EMT I get to stay around and talk to the family, explain what we're doing, and reassure them that we have some of the best paramedics in the state, in the nation. We're going to do everything we can to make sure that patient gets better. The patient couldn't be in better hands."

"Because I work in South Florida, there's a large Haitian and Cuban population. I am trying to pick up some Creole, but it's difficult. I am pretty decent in Spanish, though, so that helps a lot."

"The downside is when there's nothing you can do. Where I live we have a lot of swimming pools and, therefore, drownings. The worst part is encountering a little kid who was left unattended and fell into the pool. You do everything you possibly can, but sometimes it's still not enough."

"I try to think about the flip side, that it's always joyful to bring a life into this world when we deliver a new baby and that we save a lot more lives than we lose."

Advice from Maxine Taylor

"You need to be the very best at whatever you choose to do, whether it's firefighter, EMT, or paramedic, and remember that hard work and perseverance make everything go well. This advice can go for anyone, really, it's universal. If the mind can perceive it, you can achieve it. If you think big enough, you can do anything."

Delores Lunceford Missionary

Delores Lunceford spent fifteen years, from 1955 to 1970, as a missionary in Seoul, Korea. She worked under the auspices of the Evangelical Alliance Mission in Wheaton, Illinois. She earned her B.A. with a double major in Bible and English at Bob Jones University and her master's in English at the University of Missouri in Kansas City.

Getting Started

"Missionaries, like the clergy, feel they have a responsibility to God to serve; I felt this strongly at age fourteen and never lost that conviction. Also, the one thing I was good at in school was language, so I felt confident I could cope with learning and working in a foreign language."

"A college degree was required by the sending organization (TEAM), as well as personal and spiritual qualifications. I studied Greek in college and reviewed it later in a seminary course. I took Latin and Spanish in high school but can read them only with a dictionary. I learned Korean in Seoul from the beginning and continued learning all fifteen years of my life there. I became fluent, but my skills are weakening now, since it's been a long time since I've used the language."

Work Was Like

"When I first arrived, it was a shock to be stared at, to have children line up on the streets to shout, '*Migook saram! Migook saram!*' (American person! American person!). One old lady came up to my husband and clutched the hairs on his arms and yanked; she couldn't believe they were real. This was rural Korea, not the more sophisticated city."

"I was taken by surprise when I arrived in Korea. No histories ever seemed to reflect the realities of postwar Korea. Also, I was dismayed by how complex the language was. I had loved studying Greek and, earlier, Latin, and so was not prepared for the differences in a non-Indo-European language. But I had to start somewhere."

"The rewards of my work were tremendous: changed lives, families rebuilt, suffering comforted. But the day-to-day work often seemed endless and fruitless. It was only as time passed that I could see that good had taken place, that success was in the tiny moments, in the details."

"A woman approached me in the marketplace and said, 'Have you come to tell us about God?' I said yes, so she said, 'Well, tell me.' I was on the spot, and from that day, I stumbled my way through the gospel story almost every day with someone. Sometimes they laughed. I couldn't blame them: the good news that God loves us is almost unbelievable, anyway, and coming with a foreign accent must be even more laughable."

"At first I disliked meeting my language teacher for six hours a day, with no recess, no cafeteria, no schoolhouse, in fact. The first teacher was a lady hired at random (what else could I do?), and she did not speak English. The theory then was that one should not be taught by anyone who knew English. She pushed me gently into a chair, pulled one up for herself, faced me with our knees touching, and spoke forcefully. I had no notion of what she was saying. (Later I realized she was teaching me the alphabet.) She roared into my face, 'KA!' and signaled me to repeat that. So I did, but I guess it was not well done, for she would yell 'KA' at me over and over until I satisfied her. Then followed 'NA,' then 'DA,' and so on, through the whole list. I kept scooting my chair farther back, but she scooted, too, and when we reached a corner, I finally gave up."

"The theory that one should learn like a two-year-old is all very well, but those of us who are not two feel foolish jabbering away without knowing if there is a subject and a verb. So I scrounged in the market and found a grammar book and at night made big charts that I put on the wall to show the way the language hung together. Later, schools were started, and perhaps those students got more help."

"By the end of my term, I loved having a teacher come once a week. We studied the Bible and poetry and idioms and nuances and oh, it was great! But that's the difference between being twenty-two when I started and thirty-seven when I finished. By the end of my term there, I was lecturing in a college and able to associate with more educated Korean people. Also, I was in charge of directing the language study of the new missionaries just arriving."

"Language played an important part in my work—sometimes in totally unexpected ways. My first neighbor eavesdropped on our family. She was hired as my teacher, but in fact, she learned English faster than I learned Korean. This is common because most countries teach English in school and there is a burning desire to learn it. But my sharp-eared neighbor was my first convert, because having learned what a believer's home life is like, she wanted to know more."

Salaries

"Missionaries who go out under the direction of a denomination are supported by that group. The great majority of missionaries are independent, though, since more young people want to go than the denominational budget will allow. They go out, as we did, relying on individuals and individual churches that have pledged to send a certain amount each month. There were few luxuries, but we were comfortable."

Advice from Delores Luncelford

"I will tell anyone what I was told: the rewards of this work are infinite, but if you are not wholeheartedly committed to being a missionary, it won't work for you."

"Also, if you do not like to study, if you are not enamored of words, of language itself, choose a country with a language closer to English. Spanish and French, for example, are hard enough, but to take on Japanese or Chinese or Arabic, you need to like to study language."

James Dow Cultural Anthropology Professor

James Dow is a professor at Oakland University in Rochester, Minnesota. He teaches Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Cultures of Mexico and Central America, Ethnographic Methods, Indians of South America, Medical Anthropology, and Mesoamerican Archaeology. He has been teaching in a university setting since 1962. He earned his B.S. in mathematics at MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1957, and his Ph.D. in cultural anthropology at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, in 1973. He is also fluent in Spanish.

Getting Started

"A bachelor's degree in anthropology is not necessary to go on for further study at the doctorate level. I was interested in doing research in a science that was more humanistic than applied mathematics."

"A fellow Ph.D. student who had a job at a local university told me of their search for a new faculty member. I was not satisfied with the working conditions where I was. I was still writing my dissertation and felt that this new university would be a hospitable place to finish it. I was supporting a wife and child at the time and needed a job that would provide income as well as a relaxed atmosphere in which I could finish writing up my field research. The university where I was working before had no interest in advancing the instructors and put a heavy teaching load on them."

WHAT the Work Is Like

"A university job in anthropology is very much like an academic job in any other field. The nature of the job depends much more on the university for which you work than on the discipline in which you teach and do research.

"Universities differ in the degree to which they emphasize research versus writing. The few large, old universities may emphasize scholarship as expressed in writing more than anything else. In anthropology this usually takes the form of producing books. At the more numerous, younger universities that do not have a hoary reputation to maintain, the pressure to publish will be much less.

"The most coveted jobs at universities are the ones that lead to tenure. Tenure guarantees people will not be fired for teaching what they feel is right; however, they have to prove the quality of their teaching and scholarship before being granted tenure. This usually takes five or more years. Faculty members usually have to work very hard proving that they can produce scholarship of a quality that gets their work published in good journals. Very innovative and creative ideas are often appreciated by one's peers, but they may not be recognized in the tenure-granting process. Quality teaching is important.

"Before and after tenure, university faculty work very hard. They are usually very dedicated to their jobs. They may concentrate on doing new research, setting up academic programs, supervising student research, or teaching. There is a great opportunity to know students and help them mature personally and intellectually. Many faculty find great rewards in this.

"I usually spend ten or twelve hours a day doing something related to my job. I work as much as I can without jeopardizing my family life or friendships. This means that I usually work at something in the evening or on the weekends. It is often hard to define the boundary between work and leisure.

"Making new friends in a foreign land is a valuable part of cultural anthropology. So is having a foreign language so you can research and read original material and communicate orally with contacts and new friends.

"Many of my hobbies interdigitate with my work. I may be watching television and come across a well-put-together documentary. I may be reading a newsmagazine and find some research that is relevant to my interests. A new computer 'toy' often helps me in my job. My enjoyment of creative photography has been very helpful. I found that my ham radio was also useful when doing fieldwork."

"The most important thing to me is the freedom to investigate and write about things that are significant to me and, I think, the rest of the human race. I do not have to be beaten down by prevailing political ideologies or narcissistic management philosophies. I can burrow under social, political, and economic systems to see how they work.

"The least pleasant part of my work is the bureaucratic requirements of my job. These do not bother everybody, and many faculty enjoy participating in the bureaucratic structure of the university. The pleasantness of the bureaucracy can vary from university to university. Fortunately, I do not work for a university in which strong management has got the upper hand and treats the faculty like straggled employees. It may sound ridiculous, but there is a tendency in American universities toward 'professional,' rather academically untrained administrators who pay less and less attention to the academic values of the university, and who can make life miserable for everyone. It is important to work for a university in which academic values, which include positive experiences for students, are put first.

"I don't like to give exams and hand out grades. I would like all my students to be fascinated by cultural anthropology and do the best they can, but, alas, they have varied goals and interests. Human nature places limits on the freedom that one can give to students, and therefore the structure of teaching can be a burden at times."

Salaries

"One starting out can expect to earn around \$30,000 per year. Salaries can go up to \$70,000 and into six figures at the most wealthy and prestigious universities. The skills held by most faculty can bring in twice as much in the business world if used competitively."

Advice from James Dow

"Check to see what the unemployment level is for the degree you are pursuing. Cultural anthropology can have a rather high level of Ph.D. unemployment.

"Be honest in examining your motives. Ask yourself if you are willing to put up with long years of graduate education, long years of fieldwork, and then long years of job hunting. You will probably have to move to find a job. Cultural anthropologists are expected to enjoy living in foreign countries in rural, underdeveloped areas. Although you may do research in a developed country, you should be excited about living with and studying any sort of human being. You don't have to love them, but you should be willing to live with them."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Museums and Social Sciences
American Anthropological Association
1703 New Hampshire Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20009

American Association for Museum Volunteers
6307 Hardy Drive
McLean, VA 22101

American Association of Museums
1575 Eye Street, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005

American Library Association
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Archaeological Institute of America
675 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215

Museum Reference Center, Office of
Museum Programs
A&I Building, Room 2235
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC 20560

Society for American Archaeology
808 Seventeenth Street NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20006-3953

Medical Services

American Association of Colleges of
Osteopathic Medicine
6110 Executive Boulevard, Suite 405
Rockville, MD 20852

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
1426 Prince Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

American Pharmaceutical Association
2215 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20037-2985

Advocates for Child Psychiatric Nursing
437 Twin Bay Drive
Pensacola, FL 32534

American College of Nurse Midwives
1522 K Street NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005

American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM)
Member and Chapter Services Department
P.O. Box 1440
Indianapolis, IN 46206

American Health Care Association
1201 L Street NW
Washington, DC 20005-4014

American Medical Association (AMA)
515 North State Street
Chicago, IL 60610

The American Organization of Nurse Executives
840 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60611

American Osteopathic Association
Department of Public Relations
142 East Ontario Street
Chicago, IL 60611

American Psychological Association
750 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242

American Red Cross
National Headquarters
17th and D Streets NW
Washington, DC 20006

Association for the Care of Children's Health
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20814

Association of American Medical Colleges
Section for Student Services
2450 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20037-1131

Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
c/o 64 Neron Place
New Orleans, LA 70118

Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses
409 Twelfth Street SW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20024

**Council on Graduate Education for Administration
in Nursing**

Duquesne University
630 College Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

Department of Veterans Affairs
Title 38 Employment Division
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20420

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA)
6309 North O'Connor Road, Suite 215
LB117
Irving, TX 75039-3510

National Alliance of Nurse Practitioners
325 Pennsylvania Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20003-1100

National Association of Boards of Pharmacy
700 Busse Highway
Park Ridge, IL 60068

National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
9140 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64114

National Association of Orthopedic Nurses (NAON)
Box 56, East Holly Avenue
Pitman, NJ 08071

National Nursing Staff Development Organization
437 Twin Bay Drive
Pensacola, FL 32534

Orthopedic Nurse Certification Board (ONCB)
Box 56, East Holly Avenue
Pitman, NJ 08071

Society for Education and Research in Psychiatric/
Mental Health Nursing
437 Twin Bay Drive
Pensacola, FL 32534

Social Services

Council on Social Work Education
1600 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3421

National Association of Social Workers
750 First Street NE, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20002-4241

National Network for Social Work
Managers, Inc.

6501 North Federal Highway, Suite 5
Boca Raton, FL 33487

Media

American Newspaper Publishers Association
The Newspaper Center
11600 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 22091

American Society of Journalists and Authors
1501 Broadway, Suite 302
New York, NY 10036

American Society of Magazine Editors
919 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

American Society of Media Photographers
14 Washington Road, Suite 502
Princeton Junction, NJ 08550

American Society of Newspaper Editors
P.O. Box 4090
Reston, VA 22090-1700

Associated Press Broadcasters Association
1825 K Street NW, Suite 710
Washington, DC 20006

Association of American Publishers
71 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10010

Association of Authors Representatives (AAR)
10 Astor Place, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10003

Association of Independent TV Stations
1320 Nineteenth Street NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20015

Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers
625 Broadway, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10012

Authors League of America
330 West 42nd Street, 29th Floor
New York, NY 10036

Broadcast Education Association
1771 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20036

The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund
P.O. Box 300
Princeton, NJ 08543-0300

Investigative Reporters and Editors
100 Neff Hall
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211

Magazine Publishers Association
919 Third Avenue, 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10022

National Association of Broadcasters
1771 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20036

National Association of Publisher
Representatives
399 East 72nd Street, Suite 3F
New York, NY 10021

National Cable Television Association
1724 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036

National Conference of Editorial Writers
6223 Executive Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20852

National Newspaper Association
1525 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22209

National Press Photographers Association
3200 Cloasdale Drive, Suite 306
Durham, NC 27705

The Newspaper Guild
8611 Second Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Producers Guild of America
400 South Beverly Drive, Room 211
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

Radio and Television News Directors Association
1717 K Street NW, Suite 615
Washington, DC 20006

Society of National Association Publications
1150 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 1050
Washington, DC 20036

Research

Academy of Certified Archivists
600 South Federal Street, Suite 504
Chicago, IL 60605

American Association of Law Libraries
53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 940
Chicago, IL 60604

American Library Association (ALA)
Office for Library Personnel Resources
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611

American Society for Information Science
8720 Georgia Avenue, Suite 501
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Association for Library and Information Science Education
4101 Lake Boone Trail, Suite 201
Raleigh, NC 27607

Library of Congress
Personnel Office
101 Independence Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20540

Medical Library Association
6 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 300
Chicago, IL 60602

National Archives
Eighth and Constitution Avenue
Washington, DC 20408

National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators
c/o Director, New York State Archives
10A46 Cultural Education Center
Albany, NY 12230

Society of American Archivists
600 South Federal Street, Suite 504
Chicago, IL 60605

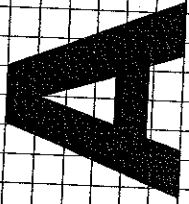
Special Libraries Association
1700 Eighteenth Street NW
Washington, DC 20009

The Arts

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Academy Foundation
8949 Wilshire Boulevard
Beverly Hills, CA 90211-1972

National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences
111 West 57th Street, Suite 1020
New York, NY 10019

CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE JOBS



This is a list of addresses, websites, and contacts for information sources and/or potential employers and internships for language-skilled personnel.

Abbott Associates
801 North Tipp Street
Alexandria, VA, 22314
(Editorial skills)

American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service
200 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10003
(Various)

American Foreign Policy Institute
1101 Seventeenth Street NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20036
(Various)

American Translation Association
Accreditation Committee
109 Croton Avenue
Ossining, NY 10562
(Translators)

Defense Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20301-6111
(Editorial)