Why Learn A World Language?

♦ In an increasingly globalized world, the knowledge of a world language becomes an indispensable skill important not only for personal enrichment, but also for broadening employment opportunities.

♦ According to a study from the University of Chicago, knowledge of a world language helps you boost decision-making skills.

♦ Students who study world languages score higher on standardized tests, as a study from York University in Toronto showed.

Students who study a world language for at least one year score an average of 38 points higher on the SATs.

♦ Knowledge of a world language increases your chances of landing a good job, as demonstrated in a recent poll of The Economist.

An MIT study shows that people who know two or more languages earn an average of $128,000 more over their lifetimes.

♦ Learning a second language has compelling health benefits, as suggested by a study from York University in Toronto that connects prevention of the onset of dementia with foreign language learning.
Learning Modern Greek can help open the door to a variety of study abroad opportunities and possible careers. Currently, IU offers study abroad programs in Greece through the Kelley School, SPEA, and the Education School’s Global Gateway for Teachers. Greek can also be a stepping-stone to a career in the Foreign Service or other government agencies. Additionally, it can help facilitate and enrich career opportunities in international education and assisting high school teachers and college professors in planning study-abroad opportunities for their students. Careers in business and shipping law are possibilities as well. Greek ship owners rank first in the world in volume, controlling approximately 20% of the world’s tonnage. Finally, Modern Greek can help augment academic careers in a variety of fields: history, philosophy, the classics and archaeology, linguistics, political science, literature, folklore, and anthropology. It is a research language of growing importance and a rich field in which to conduct research.

Who speaks Greek?
Greek is spoken by about 13 million people and is the official language of Greece and Cyprus. There are also traditional Greek-speaking settlements and regions in the neighboring countries of Bulgaria, Albania, and Turkey. Historically, Greek was also spoken in many countries in the Black Sea area, such as Ukraine, Russia, Romania, Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, and around the Mediterranean Sea in Southern Italy, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Lebanon, and ancient coastal towns along the Levant. It is still a recognized minority language in some of these countries. The language is also spoken by Greek emigrant communities in many countries in Western Europe, especially the United Kingdom and Germany, as well as Canada, the United States, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and others.

Famous Greek People (Descent)
- Spiro Agnew - 39th Vice President of the US
- Jennifer Aniston - actress
- Maria Callas - renowned soprano opera singer
- Tina Fey - actress, comedian
- Zach Galifianakis - actor, stand-up comedian
- Tommy Lee - musician, drummer Mötley Crüe
- Aristotle Onassis - prominent shipping magnate
- Telly Savalas - actor
- Billy Zane - actor

Languages
Indiana University is home to as many as 70 world languages!
- Akan/Twi
- American Sign Lang
- Arabic
- Avestan
- Azerbaijani
- Bamana
- Bengali
- Bosnian/Croatian
- Serbian
- Catalan
- Chinese
- Czech
- Dari
- Dutch
- Egyptian (Demotic)
- Egyptian (Middle)
- ESL
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- Georgian
- German
- German (Old High)
- Greek (Classical)
- Greek (Modern)
- Haitian Creole
- Hausa
- Hebrew (Biblical)
- Hebrew (Modern)
- Hindi
- Hungarian
- Indonesian
- Italian
- Japanese
- Kazakh
- Korean
- Kurdish
- Kyrgyz
- Lakota
- Latin
- Macedonian
- Mongolian
- Norwegian
- Old Church Slavonic
- Pashto
- Persian
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Quechua
- Russian
- Sanskrit
- Spanish
- Swahili
- Tajik
- Thai
- Tibetan
- Turkish
- Turkish (Ottoman)
- Turkmen
- Ukrainian
- Urdu
- Uyghur
- Uzbek
- Wolof
- Yiddish
- Yoruba
- Yucatec Maya
- Zulu