Why Learn A World Language?

- In the increasingly globalized world, the knowledge of a world language becomes an indispensable skill important not only for individual enrichment, but also for the 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.
- Knowledge of a world language increases your chances of landing a good job, as the recent poll of The Economist showed.
- 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.

Contact Us:

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For more information regarding Majors, Minors, courses, and other available resources in this language:

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Why Study Italian?

Knowing Italian is greatly beneficial in several career fields. Italy is a world leader in the culinary arts, music, opera, interior design, fashion, graphic design, furniture design, machine tool manufacturing, robotics, electromechanical machinery, shipbuilding, space engineering, construction machinery, and transportation equipment. An estimated 7,500 American companies do business with Italy and more than 1,000 U.S. firms have offices in Italy including IBM, General Electric, Motorola, Citibank, Fiat & Chrysler, ABB, Nestlè, Luxottica, Price-Waterhouse-Coopers, etc. Many Italian firms have offices in the U.S. Italy is the fourth language most spoken in U.S. homes and Italian literature as well as Italian music boasts some of the world’s most famous writers, and thinkers. The Italian program provides language instruction and offers majors and minors for students throughout the university, making for exciting dual and triple field combinations, based on your personal interests. The Italian program also sponsors a wide variety of co-curricular activities for the campus community, from music and cooking to sports, games, cultural programs and more.

Who speaks Italian?
Italian is a Romance language spoken mainly in Europe: Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, Vatican City and by expatriate communities in Europe, in the Americas and in Australia. Italian is spoken as a native language by 59 million people in the EU (13% of the EU population), mainly in Italy, and as a second language by 14 million (3%). It is the official language in Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, Vatican City, European Union, and Sovereign Military.

Famous Americans of Italian Descent
♦ Joseph Barbera - director and producer
♦ Roy Campanella - baseball player
♦ Madonna Ciccone - singer
♦ Christopher Columbus - explorer
♦ Stefani Germanotta (Lady Gaga) - singer-songwriter
♦ Amadeo Pietro Giannini - founder of Bank of America
♦ Richard A. Grasso - former chairman of NYSE
♦ Jay Leno - TV host
♦ Frank Sinatra - singer
♦ Sylvester Stallone - actor
♦ Frank Stella - painter and printmaker
♦ Gay Talese - author
♦ Frances Winwar - biographer, translator, and fiction writer

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
Hungarian
Indonesian
Italian
Japanese
Kazakh
Korean
Kurdish
Kyrgyz
Lakota
Latin
Macedonian
Mongolian
Norwegian
Old Church Slavonic
Pashto
Persian
Polish
Portuguese
Quechua
Romanian
Russian
Sanskrit
Spanish
Swahili
Tajik
Thai
Tibetan
Turkish (Ottoman)
Turkish
Turkmen
Ukrainian
Urdu
Uyghur
Uzbek
Yiddish
Yoruba
Yucatec Maya
Zulu

Learn these everyday phrases!
♦ Welcome ... Benvenuto (male) or Benvenuta (female)
♦ Hello (General greeting) ... Ciao / Salve / Pronto? (on phone)
♦ Long time no see ... Quanto tempo!
♦ Where are you from? ... Da dove viene? Di dov’è?
♦ I'm from (place) ... Vengo da (place)
♦ Morning greeting ... Buongiorno
♦ Afternoon greeting(s) ... Buongiorno / Buon pomeriggio
♦ Evening greeting ... Buonasera
♦ Nighttime parting phrase ... Buonanotte
♦ Parting phrase ... Ciao / Ci vediamo / Arrivederci / Arrivederla (formal)