Overview
The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures (MLL) offers courses of study leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree with majors in French and Spanish. Academic minors are offered in Chinese Language and Cultural Studies, Mandarin Chinese, French, German, Italian, American Sign Language, and Spanish. Elementary courses are offered also in Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Persian, and Tagalog. Students may utilize all languages and literatures offered in the department as part of a special major in various areas of study.

The department faculty come from a wide variety of national and academic backgrounds and have traveled extensively in the countries whose languages they are teaching. Professors have lectured and published extensively in the United States, Asia, Europe and Latin America.

Films, lectures, dramatic performances, potluck dinners, student clubs, and other activities provide the opportunities for students to interact with one another and with their professors.

• MLL presents scholars annually, such as film directors, musicians, distinguished authors and lecturers.
• The Spanish division offers an intensive program in Spanish during the summer quarter, equivalent to one year of study.
• The Spanish division offered a summer program in Mexico (2007).
• The French division offered a summer program in Paris (2007).
• Students are also encouraged to take advantage of California State University International Programs, where they can take courses at a variety of universities abroad and apply this course work toward a Cal State East Bay degree.

Career Opportunities

Scholarships and Awards
Peter Boesch, originally for students of German (occasionally available for any language major).

Community Outreach
The department presents lectures at the university and at Bay Area public libraries. It also keeps links with community colleges and high schools.

Projects and Programs
• Spanish Certificate for the Professions (approved, 2006)
• Certificate for Languages and International Travel
• International Film Festival (winter and spring, 2007)

Partnerships
Joint projects are conducted with the Mexican Cultural Center in San Francisco, the Mexican Consulate in San Francisco, the San Francisco Public Library, and with various local and foreign universities.
**Recent Achievements**

**Students**
- Peter Boesch Awards:
  - Leslie Becerra (French) 2005-06 academic year
  - Amy Dobras (Spanish) 2005-06 academic year
  - Cándido Fombona (Spanish) 2005-06 academic year
  - Nancy Robles (Spanish) 2005-06 academic year
- Annual university-level French essay competition, Northern California Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French, 2006-07:
  - Charlene Yu, First Prize
  - Rebecca Dardenne, Third Prize
  - Lauren Hanzel, Honorable Mention
  - Ibula Katakanga, Honorable Mention
  - Vinilta Sagran, Honorable Mention

**Faculty**
- Marcelo Paz is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Cincinnati Romance Review* (1999-2005) and has recently worked on independent film projects in Ohio, Argentina, and Honduras.

**Alumni**
Many of our Spanish majors are successfully working in teaching positions; many have entered postgraduate programs:
- Nélida Mendoza, ’05, (Spanish graduate) is Executive Director of Centro Cultural Hispanomericano in Washington State
- Manuel A. Pérez, Amy Marie Starcher, and Banny Wilson, all ’04, are in the M.A. program at San Francisco State University