German programs help students to become proficient in a foreign language. Proficiency in a foreign language also includes understanding historical context, sensitivity to nuances and values, and an appreciation for dialects. You will learn to speak, listen to, read, and write the language you are studying. You will learn the grammar, syntax, punctuation, and pronunciation of the language. Also you will study the culture and literature produced in the country and in other areas where the language is spoken. In this way you will learn the importance of the language and you will develop a sensitivity and appreciation for the culture.

Programs at Montana State University will teach foreign cultures, languages, and literature as an integral part of a basic education and an essential component of one's university training. It provides students with the knowledge to better understand their own language and culture and to function intelligently as members of a multicultural society.

Characteristics associated with success in this major include a desire to learn about people and cultures that are different from yours.

Occupations in this field require ability to:

- Have a high level of proficiency in the German language
- Have a good ear for language and communication patterns
- Communicate well orally and in writing
- Have a willingness to continue education and to stay up-to-date on current issues related to the target culture

Related occupations include:

- Interpreter
- Foreign Service Officer
- College/University Faculty
- Travel Guide
- FBI Agent
- Foreign Trade Clerk
- Welfare Eligibility Worker
- Technical Translator
- Customs Inspector
- CIA Agent
- Historical Preservationist
- Flight Attendant
- Adult Education Teacher
- Translator
- Travel Guide
- Foreign News Analyst
- English as a Second Language Teacher
- Teacher (Foreign Language)
- Immigration and Customs Inspector
**MSU graduates (Bachelor’s degree) were hired in the following selected fields**:  
Compliance Director—U.S. Senate Campaign  
Intern—Gaia Text  
Recreation Aid (Youth Activities) - Edelweiss Lodge and Resort  

**Salary averages of survey respondents: (# of respondents in parentheses)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>MT:</th>
<th>Out of State:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Insufficient Data*</td>
<td>Insufficient Data*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Insufficient Data*</td>
<td>Insufficient Data*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Insufficient Data*</td>
<td>Insufficient Data*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Insufficient Data*</td>
<td>Insufficient Data*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the field for “Interpreters and Translators” lowest 10% of salaries for 2012 (comparable to new college graduate starting salaries) was $23,600 annually. The median wages in the nation for 2012 is estimated at $45,400 annually. In 2012 there were 63,600 positions nationally with an expected growth forecast of 46% through 2022. In Montana, the lowest 10% of salaries for 2012 was $25,300 annually, while the median wages in Montana for 2012 is estimated at $35,100 annually. In 2012 there were 170 positions in Montana with an expected growth forecast of +27% through 2022. Job openings nationally, due to both growth and net replacement. Please remember when reviewing the salary information that it is the “median”, meaning 50% of reported wages fell below and 50% above the reported wage.

**Graduates from this program entered programs of further education at these institutions:**

None available at this time*

**Other Sources of Information:**

- American Association of Teachers of German: www.aatg.org  
- The Modern Language Association: www.mla.org  
- Rocky Mountain Modern Languages Association: http://rmmla.wsu.edu  
- Department of Modern Languages – Montana State University: www.montana.edu/wwwml  

*Insufficient Data: Each year the Career, Internship & Student Employment Services Office at Montana State University conducts a survey to determine placement rates and salary survey information from recent MSU graduates. Graduates were requested to participate in the survey to provide relevant information regarding the transition from college to career/graduate school. At times, there are limited or no respondents. Statistics, therefore, are not always based upon the response of the total sample group and are sometimes listed as “Insufficient Data”.

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1 University of Oregon. 2007. Created by intoCareers, a unit of the University of Oregon.  
2 Montana State University Department of Modern Languages  
3 Montana State University Career & Internship Services  
4 O*Net: online.onetcenter.org  
Number of graduates/number of respondents: 2012: 3/0; 2011: 2/0 2010: 3/1; 2009: 4/1