



SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

SILC welcomes

The Summer Institute of Language and Culture (SILC) recognizes that a command of foreign languages and knowledge of foreign cultures and societies are critical skills in an increasingly integrated global community and internationalized job market. Based on this reality, SILC combines intensive language instruction and program offerings on international cultures and societies in order to enhance the ability of students to communicate and operate effectively as global citizens.

Currently, students at the SILC may choose from among French, Russian, German, Portuguese, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, Ki-Swahili, American Sign Language (ASL), Anishinaabemowin, Arabic, Hebrew and Italian. Courses take place over a six-week period in May-June or July-August, with some languages (Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Hebrew) featuring an additional cultural component.

Non-credit courses

Carleton's language teaching professionals understand that successful language learning results from using the target language to communicate for some real purpose, usually a task of some sort. The tasks used to facilitate language use in our non-credit courses are less academic in nature (and more fun!) than in our credit courses, and more focused on giving the learner a deeper understanding of certain specific aspects of the target culture. So instead of completing a survey or report, for example, learners may learn traditional songs and stories, dances, crafts, and more.

List of offered courses:

- Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture
- Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture
- Experience Spanish Culture and Language
- Experience Israeli Culture and the Hebrew Language
- Daily Chinese Conversation for Beginners
- Daily Chinese Conversation for Intermediate
- Traveling in China
- Chinese Words Essentials
- Topics on Chinese culture
- New Media Marketing in China
- Readiness for Chinese tourists

The Carleton Advantage

SILC draws on the extensive experience of the School of Linguistics and Language Studies (SLaLS), the Institute for African Studies (IAS), the Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (EURUS), the Confucius Institute, as well as number of associated departments on the Carleton University's campus.



Contact information

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Cultural Activities

Cultural activities are an integral component of Carleton's Summer Institute of Language and Culture. The program takes language learning beyond the classroom by connecting students to native speakers and cultural practitioners.

In its programming on international cultures, SILC draws on the extensive experience of the Institute for African Studies (IAS), the Institute of European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies (EURUS), the Confucius Institute, and a number of bodies on Carleton University's campus. The Institute also takes advantage of the university's location in Canada's multicultural capital, which comes alive in the spring and summer months with cultural events and activities. Additional to their language instruction, students may attend cultural performances at the city's numerous festivals, meet native language speakers at informal conversation groups, or join one of SILC's scheduled cultural events, such as a cooking class or foreign film night.

Benefits of SILC summer courses

- Earn extra credit over summer
- Benefit to those in international BA and MA programs
- Regional and language knowledge developed quickly
- Gain an advantage in the employment market and for future study
- Develop language skills before traveling or working overseas

Optional activities

- Film nights
- Introduction to art and literature
- Dance
- Guest lectures
- Music
- Culinary experiences
- Cultural excursions