Which language should I take? Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, Latin, or Spanish?

Are you coming to K with experience studying a language other than English?

Yes

Take the required placement exam!

No

Do you enjoy that language?

Yes!

Take a placement exam to determine your course level and continue your language study at K! You will have higher proficiency when you study abroad and when you graduate!

Not really. I might want to try something new?

Check out the nine different languages we offer at K! Think about your personal interests and hobbies, study abroad plans, academic interests, and possible career paths. Talk to faculty during orientation!

101 (beginning level) course offering schedule:
- Arabic, Chinese, German, Hebrew, Japanese, Latin – fall term only
- French – fall and spring terms
- Greek – winter term only
- Spanish – fall, winter, and spring terms
Language Study at K: Frequently Asked Questions
A Guide for New Students

Did you know we offer nine different languages at K?
- Arabic
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hebrew
- Japanese
- Latin
- Spanish

How many language classes are required?
To graduate from K, students must demonstrate at least intermediate-level proficiency in a second language, either by completing the third language course in any given language sequence (103 or 201, depending on the language) or by a placement exam result.

Why is it important to start language study early?
- Language classes are fun and interactive, and you will get to know other students on campus.
- Language classes are taught in a sequence and starting right away ensures that you can continue with the language the next quarter. (Most 101 courses are offered in fall.)
- If you start early you will have better language skills when you study abroad (and graduate!).

Should I continue with a language I took in high school?
- Do I enjoy this language, and do I want to continue to improve my fluency/proficiency?
- What level of proficiency do I have? What are my placement exam results?

How do you decide which language to take at K?
- Continue a language you started in high school (by taking the required placement exam)
- Start a new language that interests you (starting with 101)
- Do both! Many students take more than one language while at K

What if I want to start a new language in college? What things might I consider?
- Is there some area of the world I would like to study abroad, visit, or live and work?
- Does a language connect with my other interests or hobbies? A soccer player might want to learn Spanish, French, or German; a fan of anime may want to learn Japanese, etc.
- Am I considering a career in the health professions? Spanish or Arabic may be useful?
- Would I like to learn a less commonly taught language, thus gaining a unique skill (Chinese, Japanese, Arabic, Hebrew, or a classical language like Latin or Greek)?
- Am I involved in choir or orchestra, and could German or Latin benefit me?
- Do I want to go into the Peace Corps, Doctors without Borders, Teach for America, or travel for a religious organization or NGO? If so, should I learn Spanish, French, or an Asian language?
- Am I interested in international business and politics? If so, might I consider French or German for the European Union, Chinese or Japanese for Asia, Arabic for the Middle East?
- Am I fascinated by art or art history? Which literary traditions or cultures interest me? Should I consider studying the language of that country?
- Am I interested in ancient history and culture? Should I consider studying Latin, Greek, Chinese, or Japanese? Or European Renaissance culture: French, German, or Spanish?
- Am I studying science, medicine, and/or engineering, and could a language be useful when doing research and mastering STEM terminology? Might German or French be useful for doing research abroad? Might Latin or Ancient Greek build disciplinary vocabulary?
- Am I fascinated by different alphabets or systems of language notation? Should I consider Arabic, Hebrew, Greek, Chinese or Japanese?
- Am I thinking about graduate school? Medical school? Seminary? Should I investigate which language(s) are required or recommended in the area I plan to study?