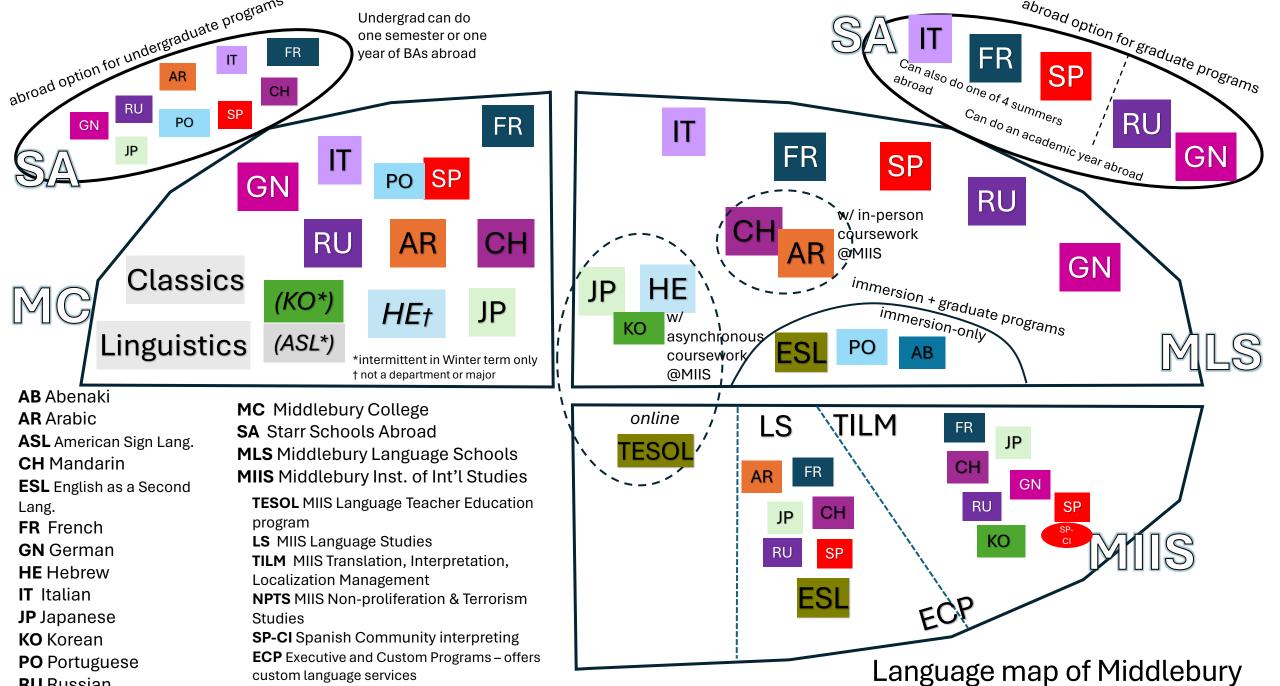
Pedagogy at Middlebury Language Schools

Why does the Language Pledge work?

What else are we (wanting to be) known for?



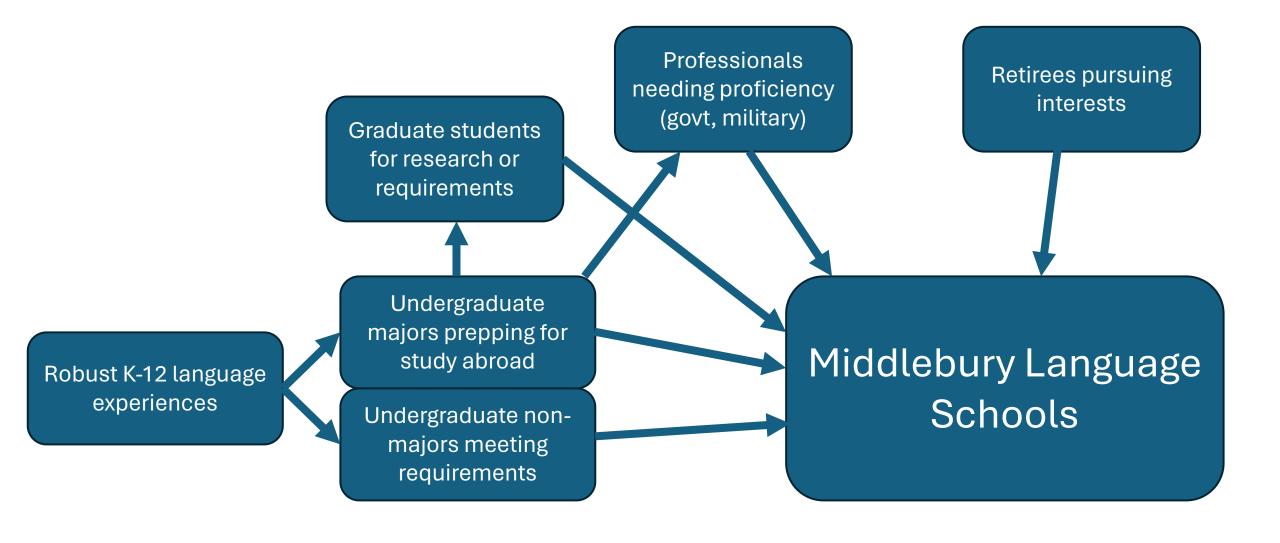
RU Russian

SP Spanish

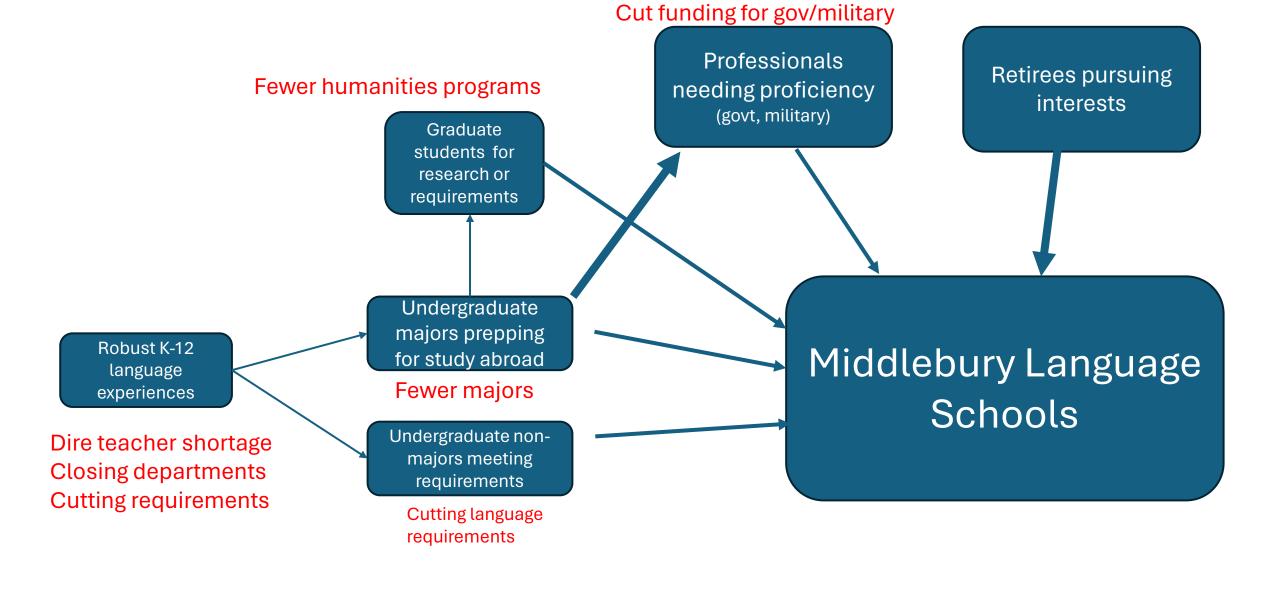
custom language services

MLS is known for Language Pledge. What exactly makes that work?





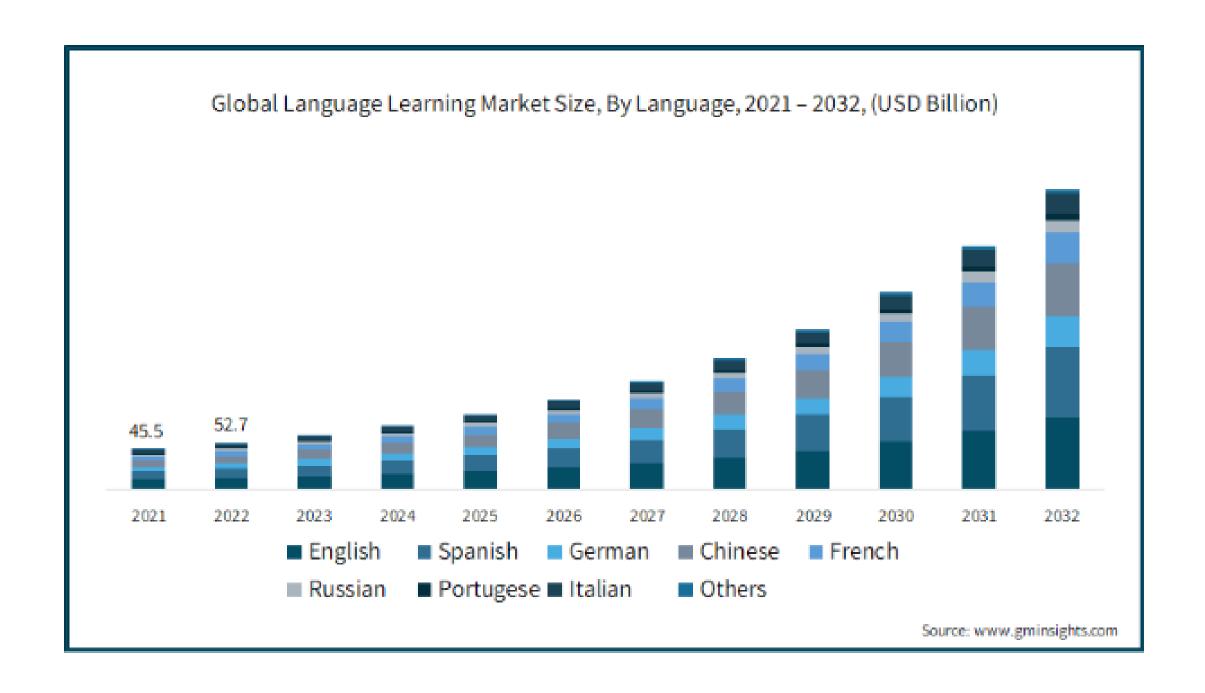
Major pathways which feed learners to Middlebury Language Schools



Most of these pathways are getting tightened

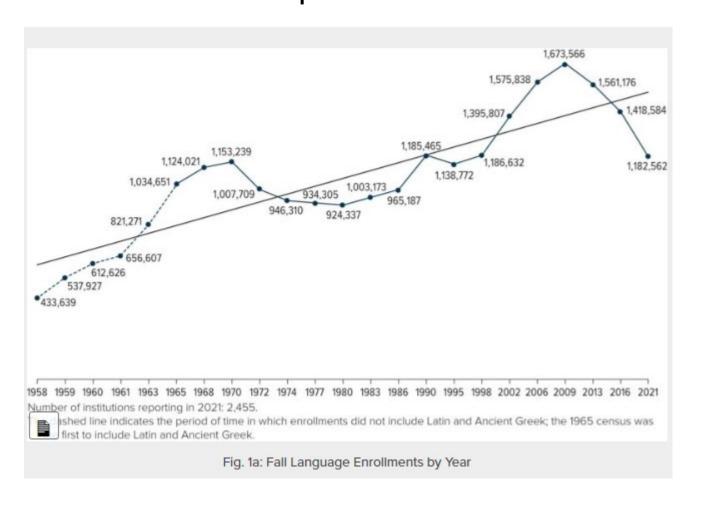
Yet languages are still valuable! So why are enrollments going down?





Why are language enrollments going down?

"Intermediate" stage problem is part of it The younger you are the better The more compressed the better



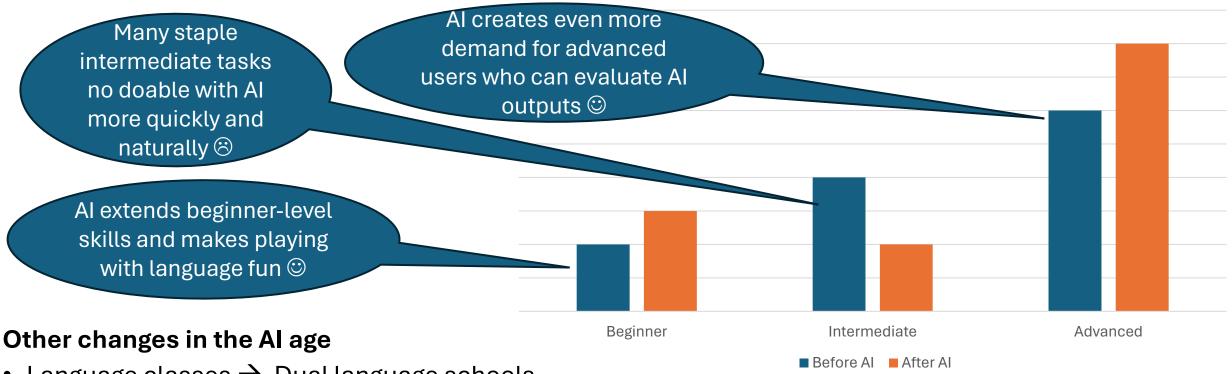
Language Enrollment Database, 1958–2021

Note: If drop-down icons appear, expand rows to see enrollments by state and institution. You can revise your search, or you can start over.

ARABIC								
		2021	2016	2013	2009	2006	2002	1998
		Fall						
	Entire US	22,121	30,257	32,282	34,908	23,987	10,584	5,505
CHINESE								
		2021	2016	2013	2009	2006	2002	1998
		Fall						
	Entire US	45,272	53,106	61,084	59,876	51,382	34,153	28,456
FRENCH								
		2021	2016	2013	2009	2006	2002	1998
		Fall						
	Entire US	135,088	176,285	197,679	215,244	206,019	201,985	199,064
GERMAN								
		2021	2016	2013	2009	2006	2002	1998
		Fall						
	Entire US	53,543	80,567	86,782	95,613	94,146	91,100	89,013
JAPANESE								
		2021	2016	2013	2009	2006	2002	1998
		Fall						
	Entire US 🕒	65,661	68,517	66,771	72,357	65,410	52,238	43,141
KOREAN								
		2021	2016	2013	2009	2006	2002	1998
		Fall						
	Entire US	19,270	13,912	12,256	8,449	7,146	5,211	4,479
RUSSIAN								
		2021	2016	2013	2009	2006	2002	1998
		Fall						
	Entire US 🕒	17,598	20,302	21,979	26,740	24,784	23,921	23,791
SPANISH								
		2021	2016	2013	2009	2006	2002	1998
		Fall						

Al changing felt needs and demands for language

Felt usefulness of proficiency levels



- Language classes → Dual language schools
- Language requirement \rightarrow Seal of biliteracy, professional certifications
- Language as a humanity → Language combined with professional skills
- Learners as creators of texts → Learners as co-editors of texts
- Basic speaking → Sophisticated listening
- Texts + time → Multimodality, immediacy, rise of oracy

What do we want to be known for in this changing language education space? (besides the pledge)

- Discuss in groups what else the Language Schools will need to be known for (in terms of pedagogy) to keep it relevant?
- Language Pledge is probably *necessary* still, but maybe not sufficient to meet all the changes and challenges...