



Virtual language and culture study



LEARN BEGINNER ARABIC, CHINESE (MANDARIN), KOREAN, OR RUSSIAN

Virtual National Security Language Initiative for Youth (Virtual NSLI-Y) is a program of the U.S. Department of State, introducing U.S. high school students to languages critical to U.S. national security.

The U.S. Department of State's **Virtual NSLI-Y program** is a 10-week language and culture experience for U.S. high schoolers. Participants gain critical language, cross-cultural communication, and other practical skills in an interactive online setting.

Participants receive a **full scholarship** to participate in virtual classes twice a week, led by an experienced teacher. Class size is approximately 10 students.

LEARN MORE

nsliforyouth.org/virtual



PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

FALL '25 LANGUAGES: Beginner-level Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Korean, or Russian

APPLICATION DEADLINE: June 9

PROGRAM DATES: 8 September - 16 November

COSTS: Covered by Virtual NSLI-Y scholarship

ELIGIBILITY: U.S. citizens currently enrolled in U.S.-based high schools

Full eligibility and participation requirements are available at www.nsliforyouth.org/virtual.

No prior foreign language learning experience required!



CONTACT US

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"Virtual NSLI-Y introduced me to the Russian language. Because of my experience, I now plan on studying and speaking Russian over the course of my life. I am more interested in global situations and foreign countries than ever before."

-Virtual NSLI-Y Russian alum

"The course was incredibly challenging, yet incredibly engaging and fulfilling. Every single class, day after day, I left wanting to learn more."

-Virtual NSLI-Y Korean alum

ACTIVITIES

Participants will engage in the following:

- Interactive instruction from an experienced language teacher
- Homework and language assessments
- Skits, roleplays, videos, and projects
- Conversation practice
- Cultural and language learning opportunities, featuring guests such as:
 - Experts on traditional arts or cuisine
 - NSLI-Y alumni
 - Regional subject matter experts
 - U.S. government or private sector employees who use language and cultural skills
- Virtual tours of sites of historic or cultural significance
- Optional community-building or supplemental information sessions



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PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES

Virtual NSLI-Y is meant for students with **no prior experience** in their chosen language. It is designed to expand critical language learning opportunities for U.S. high school students and to develop confidence and build a solid foundation for future language learning.

Through Virtual NSLI-Y, students will also gain global competence¹ through:

- Expanding their knowledge of the world
- Broadening cultural perspectives
- Effective communication
- Personal empowerment to engage locally, regionally, and globally



¹www.asiasociety.org/education/leadership-global-competence