

# Virtual Language & Culture Study At Your Fingertips



## START LEARNING ARABIC, CHINESE (MANDARIN), HINDI, KOREAN, RUSSIAN OR TURKISH

**Virtual National Security Language Initiative for Youth (Virtual NSLI-Y)**, a program of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, introduces U.S. high school students to languages critical to U.S. national security.

Virtual NSLI-Y is a 10-week, beginner-level foreign language and cultural experience for **Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Hindi, Korean, Russian, or Turkish**.

Successful candidates receive a scholarship to participate and will be placed into a virtual classroom with approximately 10 students and an experienced teacher to meet twice a week for 90 minutes per session.



### APPLY BY:

Thursday, June 10 by 5PM ET

## PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE

**LANGUAGES:** Beginner's level Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Hindi, Korean, Russian, or Turkish.

**SESSIONS OFFERED:** Week of September 13 through the week of November 15, 2021

**COSTS:** No program costs, but a computer and internet access is needed. Financial assistance may be available.

**WHO:** U.S. citizen high school students. Full eligibility rules at [www.nsliforyouth.org/languages-and-program-experience/virtual](http://www.nsliforyouth.org/languages-and-program-experience/virtual)

**SCHEDULES:** Sessions are 90 minutes per session, twice a week, with one of the following schedules:

- **Monday, Wednesday:** 6:30-8PM
- **Tuesday, Thursday:** 7- 8:30PM
- **Wednesday:** 6:30-8:00 PM; **Saturday:** 10:30AM-12PM
- **Thursday, Sunday:** 7-8:30PM

*All session times are ET. No sessions on U.S. federal holidays; schedule adjustments will occur accordingly.*



### CONTACT US

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The experience of learning the language greatly increased my passion and understanding of Chinese culture and language. Being able to speak some of the language has greatly increased my respect for Chinese culture and Mandarin speaking countries.

- Virtual NSLI-Y Student

## ACTIVITIES

No matter which language you choose, students can expect some of the following activities:

- Interactive instruction from an experienced language teacher via video conference and asynchronous class collaboration space
- Homework, quizzes, and language assessments
- Skits, roleplays, video entries, and projects
- Conversation practice
- Cultural and language learning opportunities, including featured guests such as:
  - NSLI-Y alumni
  - U.S. government or private sector employees who use language and cultural skills
  - Peers or professionals in countries where the target language is spoken
- Virtual tours of sites of historic and/or cultural significance, like museums and markets
- Videos related to cultural learning or grammatical concepts in the target language

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

Virtual NSLI-Y is designed to help students achieve a “Novice Low” rating in the target language, according to ACTFL’s Oral Proficiency<sup>1</sup> ratings (following ACTFL World Readiness Standards<sup>2</sup>). This is a big first step in learning a new language!

Upon completion, students are also expected to demonstrate abilities in global competence<sup>3</sup> by:

- Investigating the world
- Recognizing perspectives
- Communicating ideas and/or
- Taking action

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## LEARN MORE

[www.nsliforyouth.org/languages-and-program-experience/virtual](http://www.nsliforyouth.org/languages-and-program-experience/virtual)

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1. [www.language-testing.com/oral-proficiency-interview-opi/](http://www.language-testing.com/oral-proficiency-interview-opi/)

2. [www.actfl.org/publications/all/world-readiness-standards-learning-languages](http://www.actfl.org/publications/all/world-readiness-standards-learning-languages)

3. [sites.asiasociety.org/education/globalcompetence/](http://sites.asiasociety.org/education/globalcompetence/)