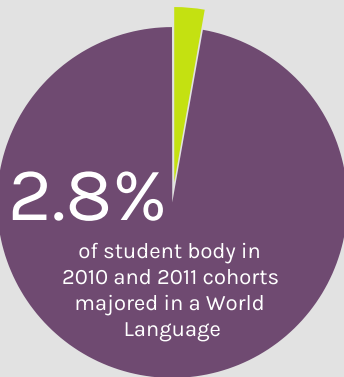


World Language Major at **CASSIE institutions***
 Descriptive statistics for 2010 and 2011 fall first-time freshman cohorts

4,355 out of a total of 154,587 students majored in a World Language



5 TOP WORLD LANGUAGE MAJORS**



- Spanish Language/Literature
- French Language/Literature
- World Language/Literature
- Classics Language/Literature
- German Language/Literature



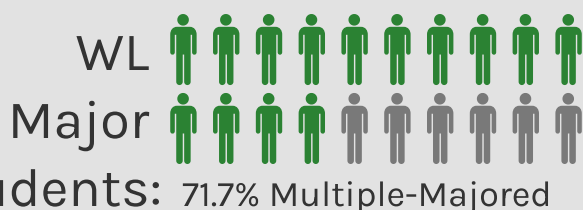
WORLD LANGUAGE & MULTIPLE MAJORS

3,122 out of a total of 4,355 World Language majors co-majored in at least one additional field

5 TOP CO-FIELDS WITH WL MAJOR



- Social Science
- Liberal Arts/General Studies
- Biological Sciences
- Business Management
- Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies



*Sample restricted to institutions that offer world language majors and submitted information on multiple majors.
 **Degree names are National Center for Education Statistics program names for the CIP codes submitted by CASSIE institutions.

World Language Major at **CASSIE institutions**

Descriptive statistics for 2010 and 2011 fall first-time freshman cohorts



WORLD LANGUAGE & STUDY ABROAD

5

TOP SA DESTINATIONS WITH WL MAJOR



Spain | France | Italy | Germany | Argentina

2,087 out of a total
of 4,355 World
Language majors
studied abroad



WORLD LANGUAGE MAJOR

- High School GPA = 3.69
- SAT Score = 1210
- % Received Need-Based Aid = 35.3%
- % Female = 69.1%
- % Underrepresented minority = 22.0%



NO WORLD LANGUAGE MAJOR

- High School GPA = 3.57
- SAT Score = 1163
- % Received Need-Based Aid = 31.3%
- % Female = 53.4%
- % Underrepresented minority = 17.4%

World Language Major at **CASSIE institutions**
Descriptive statistics for 2010 and 2011 fall first-time freshman cohorts



WORLD LANGUAGE MAJOR



Degree in 6 years = 82.9% *(90.1%)



Degree in 4 years = 59.4% *(65.1%)



Semesters to Degree = 11.9



GPA at Degree = 3.40



Credit Hours Earned at Degree = 162.2

These descriptive statistics suggest that World Language Majors have higher 6- and 4-year graduation rates, and higher GPA at graduation compared to Non World Language Major students.



NO WORLD LANGUAGE MAJOR



Degree in 6 years = 70.8% *(87.9%)



Degree in 4 years = 49.4% *(61.7%)



Semesters to Degree = 11.9



GPA at Degree = 3.27



Credit Hours Earned at Degree = 154.5

But because these students also differ in academic preparation, demographic, and socioeconomic characteristics, these descriptive statistics do not reveal the impact of **only** majoring in a World Language, but **also** the influence of other factors that contribute to student success.

Matching analysis: What does this statistical analysis mean?

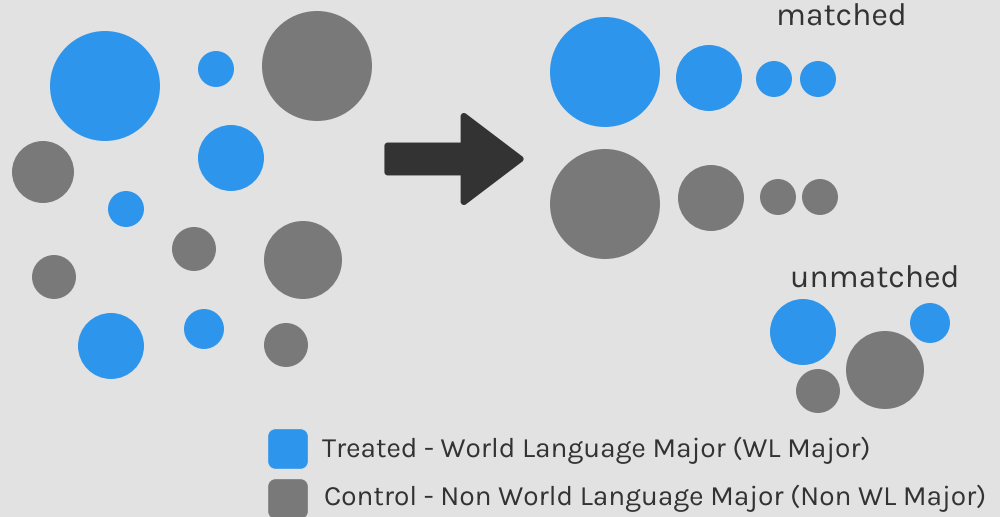
What does a Matching Analysis do?

Matching takes the existing sample of data where there are pre-existing differences in students who major in a world language and those who don't (e.g. High School GPA), and creates matches between students with similar characteristics.

What do we match on (i.e., control variables)?

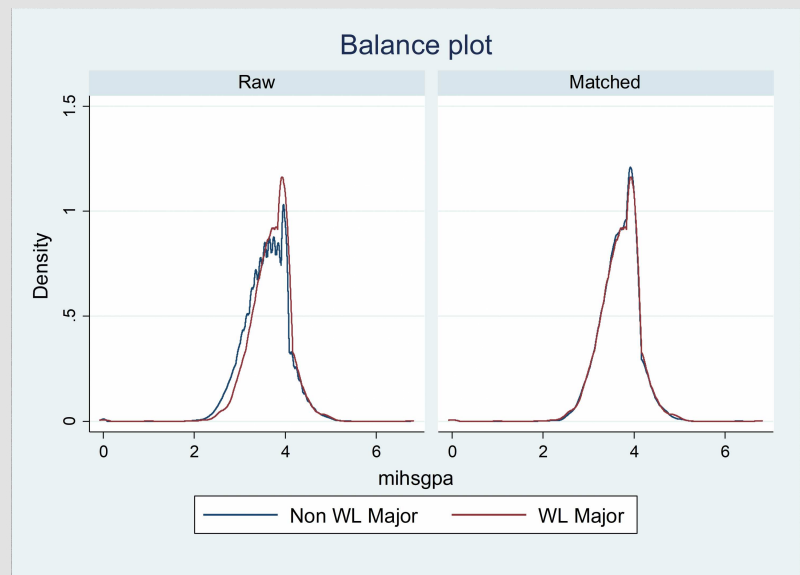
1. High School GPA,
2. SAT/ACT Score,
3. Need-Based Aid Receipt,
4. Race/Ethnicity,
5. Gender,
6. Age at matriculation,
7. Full time (or part-time)
8. Number of terms enrolled
9. Multiple major

Matching analysis improves the comparability of treatment and control groups.



Without matching, the outcomes of WL Major students are compared against those who are Non WL Major. This ignores other differences that can exist across students.

With matching, students are first matched to each other on the control variables. Then, the outcomes of only matched WL Major and Non WL Major students are calculated.



Example: Unmatched data shows a **notable difference** in HS GPA for WL Major vs. Non WL Major students.

Example: Once matches are constructed, the HS GPA for WL Major and Non WL Major are much **more similar**.

Outcomes: What is the effect of World Language Major for **CASSIE institutions?**



**DEGREE IN
6 YEARS**
-2.9pp

Students who major in a World Language are 2.9 percentage points less likely to graduate in 6 years compared with Non WL Major students.



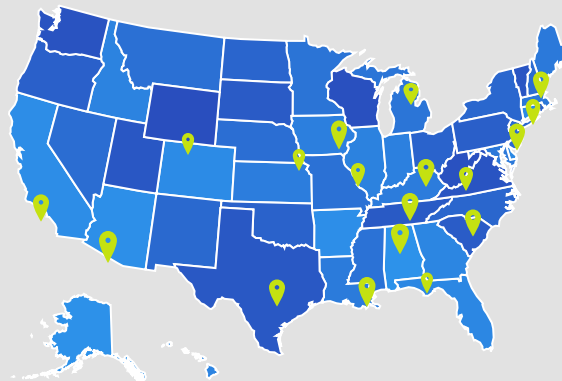
**DEGREE IN
4 YEARS**
-4.6pp

Students who major in a World Language are 4.6 percentage points less likely to graduate in 4 years compared with Non WL Major students.



**SEMESTERS TO
DEGREE**
[NSS]

No statistically significant difference between students who major in a World Language and Non WL Major students.



**CREDIT HOURS
EARNED**
[NSS]

No statistically significant difference between students who major in a World Language and Non WL Major students.



GPA AT DEGREE
0.03

Students who major in a World Language earn a 0.03 higher GPA than Non WL Major students.