

Modern Language Course Descriptions

Courses are offered each semester unless otherwise designated.

195, 295, 395, 495 – Special Topics (1-12)

198, 298, 398, 498 – Tutorial (1-3)

Arabic

ARAB 101 – Modern Standard Arabic I (3) An introduction to speaking modern standard Arabic, to reading and writing Arabic script, and to Arab culture.

ARAB 102 – Contemporary Arabic II (3) Sequel to ARAB 101. Emphasis on the four communication skills, reading, listening, writing and speaking. Regular language practice in cultural context. Prerequisite: ARAB 101.

ARAB 103 – Contemporary Arabic III (3) Arabic 103 is a sequel to Arabic 102. Students will develop their four communication skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing, while being immersed in a cultural context, and using a modified version of Modern Standard Arabic (closer to the spoken language). This course will emphasize proficiency in communication on topics from everyday life and will foster reading ability of both classical and contemporary texts. The course features interactive methodologies, Arab music, art, and films dealing with contemporary issues of nationalism and colonialism, race, gender and religion. Gen Ed: ML credit.

ARAB 203 – Oral & Written Arabic I (3) This course focuses on expressing yourself; telling about your experiences, expressing opinions and wishes, presenting persuasive speeches. Social roles will be practiced and many cultural topics will be discussed. Grammar will be systematically reviewed. Since class preparation will regularly entail written expression, the emphasis in class will be on oral expression.

ARAB 213 – Intermediate Conversation (3) This course will offer opportunities for students to increase fluency and confidence in speaking, and to gain cultural understanding and cross-cultural competency. Communication will focus upon exploring needs, feelings, opinions, problems and plans. Gen Ed: ML credit.

ARAB 320 – Media Arabic (3) This course concentrates on newspaper Arabic. Modern Standard Arabic is used for all journalistic purposes, regardless of the country of publication. Due to the formal nature of the language of the media, certain fixed phrases and set expressions occur and reoccur many times, expressions which are not used in everyday colloquial speech. This course systematically presents these formulaic expressions, rhetorical devices and appropriate vocabulary in an authentic context. The textbook will be used in conjunction with ancillary material gleaned from Arabic language newspapers and magazines. Students will prepare translation exercises on a daily basis, and will keep a scrapbook journal of news clippings gleaned from the Internet with a running list of new lexical items, an item critical to the development of newspaper Arabic Skills.

ARAB 350 – North African Literature & Culture (3) Using texts by North African writers, this course will explore the societies and creative expression of post-colonial North Africa. The course will provide historical, literary and cultural perspectives for understanding North African voices expressed in fiction, folklore, poetry and film. Gen Ed: AC & XC credit.

Cultures and Literatures

LANG 292 – Languages, Cultures, Differences (3) This course examines the phenomena created by the intermingling of Hispanic/Latino and American cultures, and the intersection of English and Spanish. Students will scrutinize films, videos, magazines and also canonical pieces of literature to understand layers of differences (gender, race, ethnicity, and others) operating between and within Hispanic and American cultures. Globalization has forced us to understand cultural differences as a significant quest of ethical value for contemporary society. Participation is expected and different perspectives are emphasized. Gen Ed: XC credit. Fall and Spring.

LANG 296 – European Languages & Cultures: The French Case (3) This course presents the cultural and linguistic characteristics of contemporary France.

French society will be studied as a nation forged by a diversity of cultures. The focus will be placed upon both the economic and political integration and development of such diverse cultures and also their resistance to such integration. France, as a European nation, will be identified as a nation struggling with attractive poles; homogeneity and heterogeneity. Gen Ed: WC credit. Fall.

LITT 305 – Authentic Images and Voices from West Africa (3) Introduction to the main elements of West African civilizations, more precisely, those of Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Benin and Cameroon. Examination of the role of French colonization upon African consciousness. Significance of West African Languages and cultures in West Africa and in France. Attention will be given to the past and future of languages focusing upon “for whom do we write, sing, and film, and in which language?” As warranted.

LITT 350 – North African Literatures and Cultures (3) Introduction to the paradigm of plurality in the cultures of North Africa and to its determining role in the mediation, reinterpretation and transmission of culture between East and West, North and South. Historical, literary and cultural perspectives for understanding contemporary North African voices expressed in fiction, folklore, poetry, and film. As warranted.

LITT 450 – The Image of Women in Francophone Cinemas (3) This course examines the image of women in Francophone cinemas. Films and excerpts from texts that have shaped Film Theory and Feminist Criticism in the visual arts will constitute the basic material of the course. Prerequisite: FREN 325 or 326. As warranted.

French

FREN 101 – Contemporary French Language I (3) Emphasis on spoken language. Designed for students with no prior study of French. Fall and Spring.

FREN 102 – Contemporary French Language II (3) Sequel to FREN 101. Fundamentals of reading French stressed in addition to speaking and listening. Prerequisite: FREN 101. Fall and Spring.

FREN 103 – Contemporary French Language III (3) Sequel to FREN 102 and entry-level course for students with prior study of French. Emphasis on basic grammatical concepts and reading techniques. Prerequisite: FREN 102. Gen Ed: ML credit. Fall and Spring.

FREN 202 – French for Business (3) Linguistic preparation and communication practice for the business world. Writing includes C.V., letters of request, ads and business report writing. Prerequisite: FREN 102. Gen Ed: ML credit.

FREN 203 – Oral and Written French I (3) Initial course in major sequence. Emphasis on expanding vocabulary, learning to write correctly in French and review of grammar. Prerequisite: FREN 103 or four years of high school French. Gen Ed: ML credit. Fall.

FREN 213 – Intermediate Conversation (3) Designed to increase fluency. Emphasis on comprehension of spoken French and developing strategies for conversation. Prerequisite: FREN 103 or four years of high school French. Gen Ed: ML credit. Spring.

FREN 220 – French Phonetics and Diction (3) Detailed analysis of the sound system of French, combined with extensive oral performance practice. Prerequisite: FREN 103 or three years of high school French, or permission. Gen Ed: ML credit. Spring, even years.

FREN 301 – Oral and Written French II (3) Advanced grammar and syntax in francophone cultural contexts. Sequel to FREN 203. Prerequisite: FREN 203. Spring.

FREN 303 – Contemporary France (3) Evolution of French nation. Attention to social structures, ideas and attitudes. Prerequisite: FREN 203. Every fourth semester.

FREN 304 – Contemporary Quebec (3) Evolution of New France into modern Province of Quebec. Emphasis on period since the Quiet Revolution. Attention to current social structures, ideas and attitudes, linguistic features and cultural achievements, as well as to Quebec's relations with France, English Canada and the United States. Prerequisite: FREN 203. Every fourth semester.

FREN 305 – Authentic Voices and Images from West Africa (3) Examination of

the salient features of the evolution of francophone West African civilizations. Study and appreciation of West African cultural expressions. Prerequisite: FREN 203. Every fourth semester.

FREN 315 – French Composition (3) Builds proficiency in use of written French. Correspondence and original expression through intensive short text reading and writing. Prerequisites: FREN 203 and 301. Spring.

FREN 325 – French Literature and Thought I (3) French literature from Middle Ages to French Revolution. Techniques of literary analysis. Emphasis on study of literary genres. Prerequisites: FREN 203 and 301. Spring.

FREN 326 – French Literature and Thought II (3) Principal writers, genres and schools from modern day to 1960. Methods in modern literary criticism. Emphasis on the study of literary genres. Prerequisite: FREN 203 and 301. Fall.

FREN 350 – North African Literatures and Cultures (3) Examination of “plurality” in Maghrebine cultures. Exploration of the historical, literary and culture perspectives. Prerequisite: FREN 203 and 301. Every fourth semester.

FREN 410 – French Translation (3) Varieties of written and spoken French at theoretical level. Applications in technology, business, politics, economics and others. Prerequisite: FREN 315. Even years.

FREN 450 – The Image of Women in Francophone Cinemas (3) Examination of the position of women in films from France and French-speaking countries in Africa, Europe and North America. Study of the historical development of film narrative, from a traditional to a more contemporary form. Texts from Film Theory and Feminist Criticism. Even years.

FREN 461 – French Literature I: Origins - 1700 (3) Authors from Middle Ages, 16th and 17th centuries. Specific topics and readings determined each semester. Prerequisites: FREN 315, 325, or 326. Even years.

FREN 462 – French Literature II: 1700 - Present (3-9) Authors from 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Specific topics and readings determined each semester. Prerequisites: FREN 315, 325, or 326. Even years

FREN 483 – Structure of the French Language (3) Development from Latin to modern vernacular. Analysis of contemporary language using linguistic concepts. Prerequisites: FREN 203 and 301. As warranted.

Spanish

SPAN 101 – Contemporary Spanish Language I (3) Spanish language and culture. Emphasis on spoken language. Designed for students with no prior study of Spanish. Fall and Spring.

SPAN 102 – Contemporary Spanish Language II (3) Sequel to SPAN 101. Emphasis on listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Prerequisite: SPAN 101. Fall and Spring.

SPAN 103 – Contemporary Spanish Language III (3) Sequel to SPAN 102. Emphasis on basic grammatical concepts and reading techniques. Prerequisite: SPAN 102. Gen Ed: ML credit. Fall and Spring.

SPAN 203 – Oral and Written Spanish I (3) Intensive, systematic review. Phonetics, grammar, syntax and vocabulary building. Prerequisite: SPAN 103. Gen Ed: ML credit. Fall and Spring.

SPAN 204 – Oral and Written Spanish II (3) Continuation of SPAN 203. Prerequisite: SPAN 203. Gen Ed: ML credit. Fall and Spring.

SPAN 213 – Intermediate Conversation (3) Extensive practice in oral Spanish to develop listening comprehension, speaking and vocabulary. Prerequisite: SPAN 203. Gen Ed: ML credit. Spring, even years.

SPAN 301 – Current Idiomatic Spanish (3) Advanced grammar and syntax and composition. Vocabulary building. Prerequisite: SPAN 204. Fall.

SPAN 303 – Culture of Spain (3) Cultural history of Spain, from Roman era to present. Prerequisite: SPAN 204. Spring, even years

SPAN 304 – Cultures of Latin America (3) Cultural history of Latin American, From Spanish conquest to present. Prerequisite: SPAN 204. Fall.

SPAN 305 – Culture of Hispanics in U.S.A. (3) Cultural background, history and literature of the Spanish-speaking population of the United States. Prerequisite: SPAN 204. Spring, even years.

SPAN 306 – Readings in Hispanic Literature I (3) Readings and analysis of Spanish and/or Latin American literature. Focus on the four genres, including poetry and drama. Prerequisites: SPAN 203 and 204. Fall.

SPAN 308 – Readings in Hispanic Literature II (3) Basic principles of literary analysis through contemporary Spanish and/or Latin American literature. Focus on narrative: short stories, a novela, significant authors. Emphasis on building a sophisticated vocabulary in the field. Prerequisites: SPAN 203 and 204.

SPAN 315 – Spanish Composition (3) Extensive practice with written Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 301. Spring.

SPAN 461 – Literature Seminar I (3-6) May be repeated for credit. Topics selected from different periods in Spanish, Latin American or Hispanic literature. Prerequisites: SPAN 306 and 308. Recent offerings: “Afro-Caribbean Movement: La Negritud,” “Poetry Translation(s).” Fall and Spring.

SPAN 462 – Literature Seminar II (3-6) May be repeated for credit. Topics selected from different periods in Spanish, Latin American or Hispanic literature. Prerequisites: SPAN 306 and 308. Recent offerings: “Border Crossings,” “Spanish Romanticism.” Spring. Gen Ed: WI credit.

Other Languages

CHIN 101 – Contemporary Chinese I (3) This course is designed to introduce you to the basic linguistic elements of the Chinese language (mandarin) and help you understand and appreciate the Chinese culture. The first part of the course will teach you how to greet people, identify yourself, others and things, and how to compare. You will also start learning about writing, using traditional simplified Chinese characters. In the second part of the course, you will learn how to talk about yourself, and how to express your likes and dislikes. You will be able to read and write simple sentences. Every fourth semester.

CHIN 102 – Contemporary Chinese II (3) This is a sequel to Chinese 101. It is an elementary course designed for non-native Chinese speakers. It helps students to develop further communicative skills in Chinese. Speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills will be continuously improved and enhanced. Students will learn how to type Chinese text using pinyin input method. This course will also help students develop a further understanding of Chinese culture and society. Prerequisite CHIN 101. Every fourth semester.

CHIN 103 – Contemporary Chinese III (3) This is the third part of the elementary Chinese course. The course is designed for non-native Chinese speakers who have completed Chinese 101 and 102. In this course, students will learn to build vocabulary and sentence patterns in communicative contexts, and build a solid foundation in pronunciation. Students will expand their abilities to carry out simple conversations in Chinese on a limited range of topics. Reading and writing, simplified form, will be expected to speak, read, and write all new words that appear in the textbook vocabulary lists. This course will also lead students to deeper understanding of Chinese culture and society. Prerequisite: CHIN 102. Gen Ed: ML credit. Every fourth semester.

ESL 190 – Conversational English (1-3) This course assists speakers of English as a foreign language with areas where they need improvement in order to succeed at the university level, including listening comprehension, speaking, reading, grammatical structures, and cultural understanding, with possibilities for individualized help in areas of special needs. Spring

ESL 497 – Teaching English Practicum: Conversation Partners Program (3) Teaching ESL Practicum is a Service Learning course offering the opportunity to help international students adjust to social life in the U. S. and improve their English proficiency and their understanding of American culture. The course helps American students to understand another society and culture, gain an international perspective and experience, build cross-cultural competency, prepare to live in a multicultural world or to teach in a multicultural classroom. This linguistic and cultural exchange makes students more sensitive to language, offering opportunities to improve their English while also learning about their own culture and that of their partners.

GERM 101 – Contemporary German Language I (3) 1. Encounter the German language as spoken and written currently. 2. Encounter the German national culture (i.e., the facts of collective society in Germany), and other cultures of

the German-speaking world as existing currently. 3. Examine a restricted body of German linguistic and cultural data: sounds, words, language and behavior structures, symbol systems. 4. Practice manipulating these data to communicate in speech (talking and listening) and writing (composing and reading). As warranted.

GREK 101 – Intro to Classical Greek (3) Introduction to the study of ancient Greek language. Intended for beginning students. As warranted.

ITAL 101 – Contemporary Italian Language I (3) This course emphasizes spoken Italian and will concentrate on acquisition of an authentic accent. Extensive listening comprehension drills are a regular feature of the class. Italian language video clips and comic strips will provide variety and will serve as meaningful complements to the basic text. As warranted.

ITAL 102 – Contemporary Italian Language 2 (3) Sequel to ITAL 101. This course emphasizes spoken Italian and will concentrate on acquisition of an authentic accent. Extensive listening comprehension drills are a regular feature of the class. Italian language video clips and comic strips will provide variety and will serve as meaningful complements to the basic text. Prerequisite: ITAL 101.

LATN 101 – Elementary College Latin 1 (3) Introduction to Latin. Students will learn to read classical Latin passages, many of which will be from authentic Roman writers of the Golden Age of Latin literature. The selections will be a medium by which historical events and social aspects of the period can be examined. The course will introduce the basics of Latin grammar and its influence on the development of the Romance languages. Students will come to appreciate how Latin is alive and well in the extensive etymological roots of English vocabulary. Some time will be spent on deciphering ancient inscriptions as well as recognizing mottos and other uses of Latin in our society. Students will use Sharpley's Beginner's Latin text (from the Teach Yourself Language series) with audio cassettes and also Unit I of the Cambridge Latin Course. Every fourth semester.

LATN 102 – Elementary College Latin 2 (3) This course will build upon the bases of the Latin language learned in Latin 101 and introduce further grammatical constructions such as indirect statements and questions, the passive voice, relative pronouns, the subjunctive and other syntactical constructions necessary for developing a reading knowledge of Latin. The cultural content will focus on Britain and Alexandria during the first century A.D. during the Pax Romana. Students will examine, through readings with a rural Romano-British background and a cosmopolitan Alexandrian setting, the various provincial aspects of Roman life of both the conquered and the conquerors in various social and economic positions. Relevant study of some archeology, epigraphy, and historical events from this time period will be incorporated, as well as other influences of the Romans and the Latin language upon our cultural heritage. Prerequisite: LATN 101. Spring.

LATN 103 – Elementary College Latin III (3) Latin 103 is designed to be the culminating course in the introductory exploration of the Latin language. It will build on the grammar and vocabulary mastered in Latin 101 and 102 and extend these basic concepts with further work from Wheelock's Latin Grammar on-line. The focus will be on developing strategies for handling a variety of sight passages for comprehension and translation that might be used to demonstrate a "reading knowledge of Latin" as part of a graduate program in classical archaeology, anthropology or art. Background information on Roman culture and civilization will continue to be incorporated to enhance understanding of the literature being examined. Prerequisite: LATN 102. Gen Ed: ML credit. Every fourth semester.

MOHK 101 – Mohawk Language I (3) Fundamental elements of spoken and written Mohawk, integrating the language with the culture. Every fourth semester.

MOHK 102 – Mohawk Language II (3) Sequel to MOHK 101. Emphasis on spoken language with practice reading and writing Mohawk. Prerequisite: MOHK 101. Every fourth semester.

MOHK 103 – Mohawk III (3) Sequel to MOHK 102. Emphasis on spoken language with practice reading and writing Mohawk. Prerequisite: MOHK 102. Gen Ed: ML credit. Every fourth semester.