

World Languages and Linguistics

WLC 173/Modern Iranian Film and History

1 course unit

(occasionally)

This course examines aspects of Iranian culture in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries as manifested in film and literature, with special attention to the aesthetics of the visual and verbal mediums of communication. Depictions of life in contemporary Iran in carefully selected short and feature films, and texts provide a gateway to more general discussions about Iran's political system, social structures and cultural specificities, including familial, social, artistic and political cultures.

WLC 215/Introduction to Linguistics

1 course unit

(every other year)

This course introduces basic concepts of descriptive linguistics with emphasis on the analysis of problems drawn from the languages of the world. Students will learn how to analyze languages in terms of phonetics and phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. Students will become familiar with the major language families of the world as they work on problems in language description in the various areas of linguistics covered in the course. WLC 215 will also include readings on the relationship of language and dialect, spoken and written language, language and society, language universals, and language variation. This course is taught in English.

WLC 220/Introduction to Romance Linguistics

1 course unit

(occasionally)

Prerequisite: FRE, SPA, or ITL 103, or a course in linguistics elsewhere in the College, or permission of instructor

This course introduces basic concepts of historical Romance linguistics. Students will study examples of sound change, morphological change, syntactical change, and lexical development. The course will introduce linguistic geography, language contact, the relationship of language and culture, the role of dialects, the creation of the national standards, minority languages, and the expansion of Romance languages beyond Europe. This course will contain a Languages Across the Curriculum (LAC) component. This course is taught in English.

WLC 270/Intermediate Topics in World Languages

1 course unit

(occasionally)

This course provides an examination of specialized topics related to a World Language. The course is taught in English.

WLC 271/Gender and Language

1 course unit

(occasionally)

Since its inception in the 1970's, the field of gender and language has grown to encompass a broad range of disciplines (sociolinguistics, anthropology, psychology, communication studies, literature, women's studies, etc.) and theoretical interests. This course will provide an overview of key themes in gender and language research. From this overview we will see that there is ongoing discussion about both the most effective approach to the study of gender and language, and about the theoretical underpinnings which are evoked by, for example, various definitions of key concepts such as "gender." Particular attention will be given in the course to approaches to language and gender that have developed within sociolinguistics and linguistic anthropology and which focus on the way in which both language and gender are embedded in structures of power, authority, and social inequality, and with conflicts over these social structures.

WLC 321/Introduction to Historical Linguistics
(occasionally)

1 course unit

Prerequisite: SPA 350 or SPA 372 or WLC 215 or LNG 202, or permission of instructor

This course introduces basic concepts of historical linguistics with a focus on the development of the Indo-European language family. Students will study examples of phonetic and phonological change, morphological change, syntactical change, lexical development, and the competition of centrifugal and centripetal forces in language communities. Students will study linguistic geography, the relationship of language and culture, the role of dialects, and linguistic register as factors in language change. Students will become familiar with the major language families of the world as they work on problems in historical linguistics and see the role of archaeology and history in historical linguistics. This course will contain a Languages Across the Curriculum (LAC) component.

WLC 370/Topics in World Languages
(occasionally)

1 course unit

This course focuses on a different topic each time it is offered. May be repeated for credit.

WLC 371/Topics in Foreign Literature in English
(occasionally)

1 course unit

This course focuses on a different topic each time it is offered. Taught in English. May be repeated for credit.

WLC 390/Second Language Acquisition and Related Methodologies
(spring)

1 course unit

Prerequisite: A minimum rating of Intermediate Mid on the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Exam

This course explores how the human brain acquires languages. It prepares pre- and in-service teachers by providing them with the in-depth theoretical and practical knowledge necessary to teach a foreign language. In keeping with the NCATE Foreign Language Teacher Standards and the New Jersey State Standards, this course explores: a) second language acquisition theories and applications; b) the teaching of the five Cs of the National Standards; and c) the use of technology-enhanced instruction. This course is usually taken during the junior year; it must be taken before student teaching. The course is taught in English. A B- in this course is the minimum grade necessary to begin Student Teaching (SPA 490.)