

Modern Languages & Cultures

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The Modern Language curriculum seeks to develop the ability to understand, speak, read and write a foreign language; to help students better understand the structure of language; and to expose them to the cultural patterns of other people.

We seek to educate students to become more effective participants in the global community of the twenty-first century by promoting linguistic competence and fostering awareness of other languages and cultures.

In the Jesuit tradition, the Modern Language curriculum has both humanistic and practical dimensions.

The goals of the Modern Languages and Cultures Department:

1. Offer an in-depth program of study for majors in French and Spanish with an emphasis on language structure, global literature and international cultures.
2. Offer a Romance Language major which combines the study of French and Spanish in order to enhance practical language skills for specific career purposes.
3. Offer a three semester core sequence in French, German and Spanish which lays the groundwork for fluency and fulfills the curriculum requirements.
4. Offer a minor program to assist all students in using the foreign language in business, professions, graduate school or travel.
5. Provide learning experiences and educational resources to enable students to understand world cultures and language communities.

Career Orientation

Recognizing the demands placed upon graduates in today's world, the faculty recommends that majors develop expertise in a specialty in addition to Modern Languages. This can be accomplished in one of several ways: a double major; a minor in another academic discipline, or an interdisciplinary major. Some which would complement a Modern Languages major include, but are not limited to: International Business, International Studies, History, Political Science, Political and Economic Philosophy, Professional Writing, English, Marketing, Technology Development, Respiratory Therapy and Teacher Preparation. Upon completion of the Modern Language programs, students will acquire the following competencies:

- a) listening: understanding main ideas and most details of connected discourse on a variety of topics
- b) speaking: discussing familiar topics in the context of common social situations
- c) reading: skimming and scanning cultural texts for global and specific information
- d) writing: joining sentences in simple discourse in paragraph length on familiar topics
- e) cultural awareness: understanding behavioral patterns and demonstrating knowledge of the achievements of the culture
- f) critical thinking: synthesizing language patterns and rules in order to create meaning in the target language

Requirements for Romance Language Major Bachelor of Arts Degree

The Romance Language Major combines the study of Spanish and French. To earn a bachelor of arts degree in Romance Languages, the student must:

- a) satisfy the core requirements, outlined on pp. 14-15 of this catalog,
- b) complete a minimum of 24 credits of Spanish and French courses beyond the core, with at least 15 credits in the primary language and at least 9 credits in the secondary language,
- c) complete two cognate courses from among the offerings in international studies, English and history or two MOL electives,
- d) complete a senior seminar and pass a comprehensive exam.

Romance Language majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad for a summer or for a semester, or to perform an internship either at home or abroad in order to develop communicative competence in the languages studied.

Romance Language majors who plan to teach both languages are also strongly encouraged to study abroad during the summer or an academic semester and to complete more than the minimum number of credits in both languages.

Requirements for Spanish or French Major Bachelor of Arts Degree

To earn a B.A. with a major in Spanish or French, the student must:

- a) satisfy the core requirements, outlined on pp. 14-15 of this catalog,
- b) complete a total of 27 credits beyond the core in the major language, with at least 15 credits (including senior seminar) taken at Wheeling Jesuit. The senior seminar will include a comprehensive exam.

To ensure transfer of credits, the student should obtain departmental approval before beginning a program of study abroad.

Requirements for a Minor in Spanish or French

Minors in Spanish or French are required to take five upper-level courses in the language, subject to departmental approval. Students may partially fulfill the requirement through study abroad during the summer or during an academic semester.

Study Abroad and International Internships

It is highly recommended that students who wish to develop an in-depth understanding of another language, culture and customs participate in a semester of study abroad, a service learning experience or an international internship. Through the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), students may undertake an international internship. Students should contact the faculty in Modern Languages and the Study Abroad Coordinator early in the process in order to ensure proper transfer of credits. Normally, students receive 12 credits for one academic semester abroad.

Core Requirements

Based on placement results, students will fulfill Modern Language Core by completing the appropriate requirements as outlined below:

For students who place in the 101 level:

Two courses in the same language:

FRE101 and FRE 102 or
SPA101 and SPA 102 or
GER101 and GER102

For students who place in the 102 level:

Two courses in the same language:
 FRE 102 and FRE111 or SPA102 and SPA111 or GER102 and GER111

For students who place in the 111 level:

One course: FRE111 or SPA111 or GER111 or an upper-level course (200+)

*For Nursing, Nuclear Medicine and Respiratory Therapy majors:
 One Course: SPA106 Medical Spanish I OR Completion of core sequence based on placement results: French, German or Spanish 101 and 102, 102 and 111 or 111

Placement

Placement for all students will be determined by prior study and/or an exam. Students placing in level 102 of a language must complete the 111 level. ONLY those students placing in 101 will be permitted to complete the core with the 102 level. Students placing in 102 may opt to begin their language study with 101; in these cases the credits earned for the 101 course will be considered as electives and not core credits. If English is a foreign language, there will be no requirement to study a language other than English. (See Notes, under Admission)

Core Fulfilling Courses

Core courses are offered in French, German and Spanish. The core sequence consists of three 3-credit courses: 101 (Intro 1), 102 (Intro 2) and 111 (Core Skills Development). The student enters the sequence on the basis of prior study and/or a placement exam. Courses 101 and 102 introduce basic pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar and syntax. Course 111 emphasizes conversational skills in the context of familiar material and introduces new cultural readings. SPA 106, Medical Spanish I (grammar and vocabulary for medical personnel) serves as an alternative core-fulfilling course for NUR, RET and NME majors only. SPA 106 will not satisfy the core for those students who subsequently change their major from Nursing, Respiratory Therapy or Nuclear Medicine. Successful completion of any upper-level course will also satisfy the core requirement.

Course Descriptions

FRE 205 Grammar Review (3 crs)

Review of difficult grammatical topics; four skills enhancement. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 210 Readings (3 crs)

Emphasis on reading French texts, both literary and nonliterary, with discussion and composition. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 220 Culture Through Communication (3 crs)

Examination of the culture of the Francophone world through written and oral communication. Study of beliefs, lifestyles, attitudes, habits. Reading of periodicals, correspondence, role-playing, films and other activities to enable students to make cross-cultural comparisons. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 230 Conversation (3 crs)

Emphasis on communicative skills in the context of everyday experiences in a Francophone environment; basic phonetics. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 240 Composition (3 crs)

Development of basic composition skills; grammar and syntax; reading for models. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 320 French Civilization and Culture (3 crs)

Four-skills enhancement through an examination of the foundation and the highlights of French culture. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 321 Survey of French Literature I (3 crs)

Medieval through 18th Century. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 322 Survey of French Literature II (3 crs)

19th and 20th Century. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRENCH - Recommended Course Sequence

| | Freshman | Sophomore | Junior | Senior |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| FALL | FYS 101 1 | INS/SSC 3 | French Upper Level 6+ | PHI/RST 305 3 |
| | ENG 105/110 3 | SCI Core 3 | FAS 1xx 3 | French 484 3 |
| | HIS 110 3 | French Upper Level 3 | Science 3 | Electives 9 |
| | MAT Core 3 | Electives 6 | Elective 3 | |
| | French Upper Level 3 | | | |
| | Elective 3 | | | |
| Semester total | 16 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| SPRING | LIT 120 3 | Global Persp. 3 | RST 2xx/3xx 3 | French Upper Level 3 |
| | HIS 120 3 | PHI 105 3 | PHI 205 3 | Electives 12 |
| | RST 106/107 3 | LIT 250 3 | French Upper Level 3 | |
| | French Upper Level 3 | French Upper Level 3 | Minor/Electives 6 | |
| | Elective 3 | Elective 3 | | |
| | Semester total | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Total Credits | 31 | 30 | 30 | 30 121 |

FRE 330 Advanced Conversation (3 crs)

Discussion of topics related to Francophone world advanced phonetics
Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 340 Advanced Composition (Stylistics) (3 crs)

Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 350 Special Topics (3 crs)

Period, genre, or author studies; may be repeated when topics change.
Core completion or instructor's permission.

FRE 484 Senior Seminar (3 crs)

An individualized capstone course, to synthesize the historical and artistic achievements of the culture; one component will be a comprehensive exam (which may be repeated once if necessary) to evaluate the content of the student's program of studies as well as skills development. Another component may be a research project.

MOL 250 Modern Language Methods (3 crs)

Introduction to foreign language methodology and assessment tools for teachers. The course is taught in English. Prerequisites: core completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 205 Grammar Review (3 crs)

Review of difficult grammatical topics; four skills enhancement.
Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 210 Readings (3 crs)

Reading selected Spanish texts, both literary and nonliterary, with discussion and composition. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 220 Culture Through Communication (3 crs)

Examination of the culture of the Hispanic world through written and oral communication. Study of beliefs, lifestyles, attitudes, habits. Readings of periodicals, correspondence, role-playing, films and other activities to enable students to make cross-cultural comparisons. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 222 Medical Spanish II (3 crs) (Designed as a follow up to SPA 106)

Skills enhancement and vocabulary building in the medical area.
Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 224 Business Spanish (3 crs)

Skills enhancement and vocabulary building in the business area.
Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 230 Conversation (3 crs)

Emphasis on communicative skills in the context of everyday experiences in a Hispanic environment; basic phonetics. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 240 Composition (3 crs)

Development of basic composition skills; grammar and syntax; reading for models. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 320 Hispanic Civilization and Culture (3 crs)

Four-skills enhancement through an examination of the foundation and the highlights of Hispanic and Hispano-American culture. Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 321 Survey of Peninsular Spanish Literature (3 crs)

Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 322 Survey of Spanish American Literature (3 crs)

Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 330 Advanced Conversation (3 crs)

Discussion of topics related to the Hispanic world advanced phonetics.
Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 340 Advanced Composition (3 crs)

Prerequisite: Core Completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 350 Special Topics (3 crs)

Period, genre, or author studies; may be repeated when topics change.
Core completion or instructor's permission.

SPA 484 Senior Seminar (3 crs)

An individualized capstone course, to synthesize the historical and artistic achievements of the culture; one component will be a comprehensive exam (which may be repeated once if necessary) to evaluate the content of the student's program of studies as well as skills development.

SPANISH - Recommended Course Sequence

| | Freshman | Sophomore | Junior | Senior |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| FALL | FYS 101 1 | INS/SSC 3 | SPA Upper Level 6+ | PHI/RST 305 3 |
| | ENG 105/110 3 | SCI Core I 3 | FAS 1xx 3 | SPA 484 3 |
| | HIS 110 3 | SPA Upper Level 3 | Science 3 | Electives 9 |
| | MAT 102 3 | Electives 6 | Elective 3 | |
| | SPA Upper Level 3 | | | |
| | Elective 3 | | | |
| Semester total | 16 | 16 | 15 | 15 |
| SPRING | LIT 120 3 | POS/PSY/ECO 110 3 | RST 2xx/3xx 3 | SPA Upper Level 3 |
| | HIS 120 3 | PHI 105 3 | PHI 205 3 | Electives 12 |
| | RST 106/107 3 | LIT 250 3 | SPA Upper Level 3 | |
| | SPA Upper Level 3 | SPA Upper Level 3 | Minor/Elective 6 | |
| | Elective 3 | Elective 3 | | |
| | Semester total | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Total Credits | 31 | 30 | 30 | 30 121 |