

# MODERN LANGUAGE STUDIES

## Japanese Major and French Major are on hiatus until further notice.

Karen Spira, Associate Professor of Spanish, Chair

David J. Limburg, Professor of German

Hiroko Hirakawa, Professor of Japanese

Benjamin Romero Salado, Visiting Assistant Professor of Spanish

## Mission Statement

Offering courses in French, German, Japanese and Spanish, the Department of Modern Language Studies is integral to the College's mission to produce creative and critical thinkers with the global perspectives necessary to promote positive change in the world. Our purpose is to graduate students who effectively use the four major skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in the target language; who demonstrate familiarity with various cultures of the world where the target language is spoken; and who demonstrate the critical thinking, analytical and problem-solving skills necessary to function as global citizens. We likewise provide leadership in the internationalization of the College's curriculum.

## Introduction

The goal of the Department of Modern Language Studies is to impart a sense of global community in all students. More so than ever before, students must be aware of other cultures and their multiple ways of understanding the world. To this end, the Department of Modern Language Studies considers the study of language and culture as integral to the formation of global citizens.

Beginning at the introductory level, our courses stress communication in the target language. Throughout our curriculum, we emphasize culture broadly defined, from the political, social and historical to the artistic and literary. Essential to the modern language curriculum is study abroad, for no classroom can duplicate the experience of living in another land and interacting in another language. The Modern Language Studies Department helps to prepare all students, not just majors and minors, for their study abroad goals. The department's commitment to global understanding is evident in the many clubs, service projects, language tables and film festivals we organize. A modern language major is an excellent choice for any student desiring a career abroad or one that requires interaction with diverse groups of people. Students wishing to pursue careers in health care, law, human services, business, entertainment, or government, strengthen their portfolio by adding a double major in Modern Language Studies.

## Degrees Offered

The Bachelor of Arts degree is offered in Modern Language Studies with French, German/German Studies, Japanese Studies, and Spanish Tracks.

## Major Requirements

Each track (with the exception of Spanish) requires a minimum of 32 credit hours numbered 102 or above and including at least one 400-level course. The Spanish Track requires 34 credit hours, including a 2-credit internship. All majors are expected to study abroad with an appropriate Guilford program for a semester before graduating. Approval of the department is necessary to either waive this requirement or to participate in another program abroad. Please also note that a 3-week study abroad course does not satisfy this requirement. Students may complete a senior thesis (470) or departmental honors (490) on a topic approved by the department.

This will count as one of the required courses, but will not replace the required 400-level course. Students planning to attend graduate school are urged to choose the senior thesis. Modern Language Studies majors should consider a second major in a related field in order to consolidate and complement their major field of study or to enhance career opportunities.

## Course Prerequisites

Language courses require a specific sequencing. The introductory sequence (100 level) is a prerequisite for the intermediate level; the intermediate sequence (200 level) is a prerequisite for the higher levels.

**NOTE:** *With the exception of MLS 210, courses in English cannot count for the French, Spanish or German Tracks.*

### French Major is on hiatus.

- Modern Language Studies Major: French Track (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/academic-departments-majors/modern-language-studies/french/>)
- Modern Language Studies Major: German/German Studies Tracks (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/academic-departments-majors/modern-language-studies/german/>)
- Modern Language Studies Major: Japanese Studies Track (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/academic-departments-majors/modern-language-studies/japanese/>)
- Modern Language Studies Major: Spanish Track (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/academic-departments-majors/modern-language-studies/spanish/>)

### French Minor is on hiatus.

- French Language and Society Minor (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/academic-departments-majors/modern-language-studies/french-language-society-minor/>)
- German Language and Society Minor (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/academic-departments-majors/modern-language-studies/german-language-society-minor/>)
- Japanese Language and Society Minor (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/academic-departments-majors/modern-language-studies/japanese-language-society-minor/>)
- Spanish Language and Society Minor (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/catalog/academic-departments-majors/modern-language-studies/spanish-language-society-minor/>)

### MLS 210. Interdisciplinary Language Studies. 4.

A variable-topics course taught in English.

### MLS 220. Experiential/Immersive Language Studies. 4.

A track-specific course taught in the target language.

## French Courses

### FREN 101. Communicating in French I. 4.

Basic building blocks of grammar, emphasis on oral communication and culture. Students may not receive credit for both FREN 101 and FREN 111. Fulfills foreign language requirement (1998). Modern language 101 requirement (2019).

### FREN 102. Communicating in French II. 4.

Continuation of French I with more emphasis on grammar and developing reading and writing skills. Emphasis still on oral communication and culture.

Prerequisite: FREN 101 or placement. Spring. Fulfills foreign language requirement (1998). Modern language 102 requirement (2019).

**FREN 111. French Around the World, Communication and Cultures. 4.**  
Basic building blocks of grammar, emphasis on oral communication and culture. For CE students only. Students may not receive credit for both FREN 101 and FREN 111.

**FREN 150. Special Topics. 1-8.**  
May also be offered at 250, 350 and 450 levels.

**FREN 203. Intermediate French I. 4.**  
Introduction of more advanced aspects of French grammar, vocabulary and culture in addition to continued speaking and comprehension, as well as increased emphasis on reading and writing in French.  
Prerequisite: FREN 102 or placement. Fall.

**FREN 204. Intermediate French II. 4.**  
Continuation of more advanced aspects of French grammar, vocabulary, and culture introduced in French 203, with an increased emphasis on reading and writing skills.  
Prerequisite: FREN 203 or placement.

**FREN 220. Introduction to Literary and Cultural Analysis. 4.**  
An introduction to important literary and cultural texts and to the tools required to understand and discuss them. This course enables students to engage more sophisticated texts and cultural artifacts from different discourses, periods and cultures, and is the prerequisite of all 300-level courses.  
Prerequisite: FREN 204 or placement.

**FREN 250. Special Topics. 1-9.**

**FREN 260. Independent Study. 1-8.**  
May also be offered at 360 and 460 levels.

**FREN 275. French-Speaking Africa, in English Translation. 4.**  
Study of significant literatures, cultures and major currents of French-speaking Africa, including the Maghreb and sub-Saharan regions.  
Prerequisite: Historical Perspectives. Fulfills humanities and intercultural requirements (1998). Art/humanities and sociocultural engagement requirements (2019).

**FREN 290. Internship. 1-8.**  
May also be offered at the 390 level.

**FREN 310. Contemporary France. 4.**  
Study of the institutions and society of France today, with an emphasis on developing the vocabulary and cultural context required to understand them.  
Prerequisite: FREN 220.

**FREN 311. The Francophone World. 4.**  
Study of significant literatures, cultures and major currents of the French-speaking world other than those of France, with particular emphasis on Africa and the Caribbean. Course is repeatable with different topics.  
Prerequisite: FREN 220 or placement. Fulfills humanities and intercultural requirements (1998). Art/humanities and sociocultural engagement requirements (2019).

**FREN 315. French and Francophone Cinema. 4.**  
Study of French and Francophone cinema as well as societal and cultural influences. Specific directors, films and themes will vary. Course is repeatable with different topics.  
Prerequisite: FREN 220. Fulfills humanities requirement (1998). Arts/humanities requirement (2019).

**FREN 350. Special Topics. 9.**

**FREN 360. Independent Study. 1-8.**

**FREN 365. Literature and Culture: Period. 4.**  
Study of French and Francophone culture and society within a defined period of time, e.g., the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, Romanticism, along with the period's defining characteristics and lasting influences. Course is repeatable with different topics.  
Prerequisite: FREN 220 and FREN 310, FREN 311 or FREN 315.

**FREN 375. Literature and Culture: Theme. 4.**  
Study of French and Francophone culture and society through the lens of a particular theme. Themes may be universal in nature (love, death, the nation, the Other) or more specific (the City of Paris, Revolutionary writings, the Dreyfus affair). Course is repeatable with different topics.  
Prerequisite: FREN 220 and FREN 310, FREN 311 or FREN 315.

**FREN 385. Literature and Culture: Genre. 4.**  
Study of French and Francophone culture and society through a particular literary genre, e.g. the novel, theatre, poetry. Consideration will be given to how historical periods have given rise to certain literary genres and how genres have influenced literary and cultural movements. Course is repeatable with different topics.  
Prerequisite: FREN 220 and FREN 310, FREN 311 or FREN 315.

**FREN 390. Internship. 1-8.**

**FREN 400. Senior Seminar. 4.**  
Topic of this capstone for majors will vary, but will focus on important questions in French and Francophone studies. Students will explore more advanced approaches to culture and literature and conduct research on a final paper. Required of majors.  
Prerequisite: FREN 220, a 300-level course and Historical Perspectives. Fulfills humanities requirement (1998). Arts/humanities requirement (2019).

**FREN 450. Special Topics. 1-8.**

**FREN 460. Independent Study. 1-8.**

**FREN 470. Senior Thesis. 1-8.**  
4.

**FREN 490. Departmental Honors. 1-8.**

## German Courses

**GERM 101. Communicating in German I. 4.**  
Basic building blocks of grammar, emphasis on oral communication and culture. Fall, also taught in Munich. Fulfills foreign language requirement (1998). Modern language 101 requirement (2019).

**GERM 102. Communicating in German II. 4.**  
Continuation of German I with more emphasis on grammar and developing writing skills. Emphasis still on oral communication and culture.  
Prerequisite: GERM 101 or placement. Fulfills foreign language requirement (1998). Modern language 102 requirement (2019).

**GERM 150. Special Topics. 1-8.**  
May also be offered at 250, 350 and 450 levels.

**GERM 201. Intermediate German. 4.**  
Review of basic structures and introduction of more advanced aspects of grammar and vocabulary. Increased emphasis on conversation, reading and writing skills. Fall semester, also taught in Munich.  
Prerequisite: GERM 102 or placement.

**GERM 202. Intermediate German II. 4.**

Continuation of German 201. Increased emphasis on discussion skills. Students read and discuss two youth novels. Prerequisite: GERM 201 or placement. Spring.

**GERM 250. Special Topics. 1-4.****GERM 260. Independent Study. 1-8.**

May also be offered at 360 and 460 levels.

**GERM 290. Internship. 1-8.**

May also be offered at the 390 level.

**GERM 310. Contemporary German Culture. 4.**

Analysis and discussion of literary and cultural texts and films from 1945 to the present. Further development of writing skills. Prerequisite: GERM 202 or placement. Fall, every third year.

**GERM 311. German Youth Culture. 4.**

Analysis and discussion of youth literature, as well as journalism and film aimed at German youth.

Prerequisite: GERM 202 or placement. Fall, every third year. Fulfills humanities requirement (1998). Arts/ humanities requirement (2019).

**GERM 312. German Composition. 4.**

Advanced grammar work and writing practice, with increased attention to complexity and style.

Prerequisite: GERM 202 or placement. Fall, taught in Munich.

**GERM 320. Culture and Society: The Weimar Republic. 4.**

Analysis and discussion of German films and literature of the Weimar Republic, as well as short texts of cultural, political and historical relevance.

Prerequisite: GERM 202 or placement. Fall, every third year. Fulfills humanities requirement (1998). Arts/humanities requirement (2019).

**GERM 350. Special Topics. 1-8.****GERM 360. Independent Study. 1-8.****GERM 390. Internship. 1-8.****GERM 400. Seminar. 4.**

Students will explore more advanced approaches to culture and literature and conduct research on a final paper. The seminar will focus on pre-19th century, 19th century, and 20th century/contemporary material in a three-year sequence. Required of majors.

Prerequisite: GERM 300 level or placement and Historical Perspectives. Spring; repeatable. Fulfills humanities requirement (1998). Arts/ humanities requirement (2019).

**GERM 450. Special Topics. 1-8.****GERM 460. Independent Study. 1-8.****GERM 470. Senior Thesis. 1-8.**

4.

**GERM 490. Departmental Honors. 1-8.**

## Japanese Courses

**JAPN 101. Communicating in Japanese I. 4.**

Basic building blocks of grammar, emphasis on oral communication and culture. Laboratory Day required. Fulfills foreign language requirement (1998). Modern language 101 requirement (2019).

**JAPN 102. Communicating in Japanese II. 4.**

Continuation of Japanese I with more emphasis on grammar and developing writing skills. Emphasis still on oral communication and culture. Laboratory Day required.

Prerequisite: JAPN 101 (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/search/?P=JAPN%20101>) or placement. Fulfills foreign language requirement (1998). Modern language 102 requirement (2019).

**JAPN 150. Special Topics. 1-8.**

May also be offered at 250, 350 and 450 levels.

**JAPN 201. Intermediate Japanese I. 4.**

Advanced grammar study, conversation practice and increased emphasis on reading and writing.

Prerequisite: JAPN 102 (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/search/?P=JAPN%20102>) or instructor permission.

**JAPN 202. Intermediate Japanese II. 4.**

Continuation of JAPN 201 (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/search/?P=JAPN%20201>).

Prerequisite: JAPN 201 (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/search/?P=JAPN%20201>).

**JAPN 220. Women in Modern Japan. 4.**

Examines the lives of Japanese women within the contexts of such social institutions as education, marriage, family, work and mass media. Taught in English. Fulfills humanities and intercultural requirements (1998). Arts/ humanities and sociocultural engagement requirements (2019).

**JAPN 221. Contemporary Japanese Society. 4.**

Interdisciplinary course examines popular American attitudes toward Japan and social construction of national identity in contemporary Japan (as well as challenges to this identity). Studies social conditions, popular culture and racial and ethnic minorities in Japan. Taught in English. Fulfills humanities and intercultural requirements (1998). Arts/humanities and sociocultural engagement requirements (2019).

**JAPN 250. Special Topics. 1-8.****JAPN 260. Independent Study. 1-8.**

May also be offered at 360 and 460 levels.

**JAPN 290. Internship. 1-8.**

May also be offered at the 390 level.

**JAPN 301. Early-Advanced Japanese. 4.**

Solidifies the foundations of grammar, vocabulary and kanji that were built at the intermediate level, and helps students read and communicate more in detail and at greater lengths about various topics.

Prerequisite: JAPN 202 (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/search/?P=JAPN%20202>).

**JAPN 310. Media, Gender and Nation in Japan. 4.**

Examines the roles of mass media in the construction of gendered national identity in Japan. Taught in English. Fulfills intercultural requirement (1998). Sociocultural engagement requirement (2019).

**JAPN 350. Special Topics. 1-12.****JAPN 360. Independent Study. 1-8.****JAPN 390. Internship. 1-8.**

**JAPN 400. Senior Seminar. 4.**

Topic of this capstone for Japanese Studies track will vary, but will focus on important questions in Japanese studies. Students will explore more advanced approaches to culture and literature and conduct research on a final paper.

Prerequisite: JAPN 301 (<https://catalog.guilford.edu/search/?P=JAPN%20301>) and Historical Perspectives.

**JAPN 450. Special Topics. 1-16.****JAPN 460. Independent Study. 1-8.****JAPN 470. Senior Thesis. 1-8.****JAPN 490. Internship. 1-8.**

## Spanish Courses

**SPAN 101. Communicating in Spanish I. 4.**

Basic building blocks of grammar, emphasis on oral communication and culture. Students may not receive credit for both SPAN 101 and SPAN 111. Fulfills foreign language requirement (1998). Modern language 101 requirement (2019).

**SPAN 102. Communicating in Spanish II. 4.**

Continuation of Spanish I with more emphasis on grammar and developing writing skills. Emphasis still on oral communication and culture.

Prerequisite: SPAN 101 or placement. Students may not receive credit for both SPAN 102 and SPAN 112. Fulfills foreign language requirement (1998). Modern language 102 requirement (2019).

**SPAN 111. Communicating in Spanish for Business I. 4.**

Basic building blocks of grammar, emphasis on oral communication and culture. Special emphasis on vocabulary for the workplace. For CE students only. Fulfills foreign language requirement. Students may not receive credit for both SPAN 101 and SPAN 111.

**SPAN 112. Communicating in Spanish for Business II. 4.**

Continuation of SPAN 111. Basic building blocks of grammar, emphasis on oral communication and culture, particularly as they relate to the workplace in various settings such as business, health, travel and social services. For CE students only. Students may not receive credit for both SPAN 102 and SPAN 112.

Prerequisite: SPAN 111 or SPAN 101. Fulfills modern language requirement.

**SPAN 150. Special Topics. 1-8.**

May also be offered at 250, 350 and 450 levels.

**SPAN 201. Intermediate Spanish. 4.**

Introduction of more advanced aspects of Spanish grammar and vocabulary in addition to continued speaking and comprehension, increased emphasis on reading and writing in Spanish using culture-oriented material. Students cannot receive credit for both SPAN 201 and SPAN 211.

Prerequisite: SPAN 102 or placement.

**SPAN 202. Intermediate Conversation and Composition. 4.**

Thorough review of Spanish grammar as needed, intensive work on oral and written expression on a variety of topics and exposure to a wide range of cultural texts (from traditional literature to more recent media). Students cannot receive credit for both SPAN 202 and SPAN 212.

Prerequisite: SPAN 201 or instructor permission.

**SPAN 211. Intermediate Spanish for Business I. 4.**

SPAN 211 parallels SPAN 201 (Intermediate Spanish) in its emphasis on learning and practicing more advanced elements of Spanish grammar, developing vocabulary as well as improving speaking and comprehension skills using culture-oriented materials related to the workplace and stressing practices in the Hispanic business world. Students may not receive credit for both SPAN 201 and SPAN 211.

Prerequisite: SPAN 102 or SPAN 112 or placement.

**SPAN 212. Intermediate Spanish for Business II. 4.**

Again, paralleling SPAN 202 (Intermediate Spanish Conversation/Composition) this course will review aspects of grammar learned in previous Spanish courses to help students attain greater proficiency in the use of Spanish structures. Class sessions will emphasize oral and speaking skills using a wide range of cultural texts related to the workplace. Class is conducted in Spanish. Students may not receive credit for both SPAN 202 and SPAN 212.

Prerequisite: SPAN 211 or placement or instructor permission.

**SPAN 221. Advanced Spanish for Business. 4.**

In this course students will strengthen their communicative skills in Spanish for professions with an emphasis on business and increase their knowledge of the cultures of Spanish-speaking peoples. Class is conducted in Spanish.

Prerequisite: SPAN 212.

**SPAN 250. Special Topics. 1-9.****SPAN 260. Independent Study. 1-8.**

May also be offered at 360 and 460 levels.

**SPAN 290. Internship. 1-8.**

May also be offered at the 390 level.

**SPAN 301. Advanced Grammar and Composition. 4.**

In this theoretical and practical course, students study advanced Spanish grammar while reading more complex texts (including a full-length novel) and further developing their composition skills as well as their cultural knowledge. SPAN 301 is a bridge course that prepares students to succeed in upper-division courses. Course must be taken at Guilford College.

Prerequisite: SPAN 202.

**SPAN 310. Contemporary Latin America. 4.**

Through multiple perspectives (economic, historical, political, social and religious), students will explore different themes relating to situations in contemporary Spanish America, utilizing art, literary texts and public speeches to illustrate these themes and to form connections between the various countries.

Prerequisite: SPAN 221 or SPAN 301. Fulfills intercultural requirement (1998). Sociocultural engagement requirement (2019). Alternate years.

**SPAN 311. Contemporary Spain. 4.**

This course will study the dramatic changes that have occurred in Spain since the death of Francisco Franco in 1975: the development of a democratic government, the social and economic challenges faced in Spain's attempt to become one of the important players in the European Union and the positive and negative effects resulting from such a position.

Prerequisite: SPAN 301 or instructor permission. Alternate years.

**SPAN 320. Culture and Society: Mexico, Central America and Caribbean. 4.**

Examination of the literature and culture against a historical background from the colonial period, with an emphasis on the 20th century.  
Prerequisite: SPAN 221 or SPAN 301. Fulfills humanities and intercultural requirements (1998). Arts/humanities and sociocultural engagement requirements (2019).

**SPAN 321. Culture and Society: Golden Age of Spain. 4.**

Examination of the culture, literature and historical contexts of the 16th and 17th centuries in Spain.  
Prerequisite: SPAN 221 or SPAN 301. Fulfills intercultural requirement (1998). Sociocultural engagement requirement (2019).

**SPAN 322. Culture and Society: South America. 4.**

Examination of the literature and culture against a historical background from the colonial period, with an emphasis on the 20th century.  
Prerequisite: SPAN 301 or instructor permission. Alternate years. Fulfills humanities and intercultural requirements (1998). Arts/humanities and sociocultural engagement requirements (2019).

**SPAN 323. Culture and Society: Beginnings of a Nation (The Integration of Three Cultures). 4.**

Examination of the culture, literature and historical contexts of Medieval Spain with an emphasis on the contributions of Jews, Christians and Moslems.  
Prerequisite: SPAN 221 or SPAN 301. Fulfills humanities requirement (1998). Sociocultural engagement requirement (2019).

**SPAN 324. Indigeneity and Representation. 4.**

From its inception, Latin American cultural production has taken as a core concern the representation of Indigenous groups from the region. While these representations have not always provided reliable information about Indigenous beliefs or cultural practices, they reveal much about the societies from which they emerge. In this course, we will engage with representations of Latin American Indigenous cultures in fiction, film, testimonies, and poetry from the nineteenth to the twenty-first century, created by both Indigenous and non-Indigenous authors and filmmakers. We will analyze the meanings and values that these texts have identified with Indigenous cultures over 150 years of Latin American history.

**SPAN 340. Film, Life and Literature of Latin America. 4.**

A view of Latin American culture, society and contemporary issues through film and literature. At times taught in English for IDS 400 credit. For Spanish credit, class meets one extra time and all work is done in Spanish.  
Prerequisite: SPAN 301 and another SPAN 300-level course.

**SPAN 342. Latinx Cultures in the United States. 4.**

A study of a range of Latinx cultures in the United States through analysis of novels, poetry, memoirs, essays, films, and podcasts. The course begins by wrestling with the profusion of terms that attempt to pin down Latinx identity (Hispanic, Latino, Latin@, Latino/a, Latinx, and, most recently, Latine). Other units of study include the U.S./Mexico border, exile, and generational differences. Taught in English for IDS 400 credit. For Spanish credit, class meets one extra time and all work is done in Spanish. Fulfills humanities requirement (1998). Sociocultural engagement and Arts/Humanities requirements (2019).

**SPAN 350. Special Topics. 1-9.****SPAN 360. Independent Study. 8.****SPAN 390. Internship. 1-8.****SPAN 402. Senior Seminar: Latin America. 4.**

Students will explore more advanced approaches to culture and literature and conduct research on a final paper. Possible topics: Indigeneity and Representation, The Latin American Novel. Fulfills humanities and intercultural requirements (1998). Arts/humanities and sociocultural engagement requirements (2019). Fulfills the Senior Seminar requirement for the Integrative Experience.  
Prerequisite: SPAN 301 and another SPAN 300-level course and Historical Perspectives

**SPAN 403. Senior Seminar: Spain. 4.**

Students will explore more advanced approaches to culture and literature and conduct research on a final paper. Possible topics: Social and Cultural Impact of the Spanish Civil War, Women in Spanish Literature and Film. Fulfills humanities requirement (1998). Sociocultural engagement requirement (2019). Fulfills the Senior Seminar requirement for the Integrative Experience.  
Prerequisite: SPAN 301 and a second 300-level course and Historical Perspectives.

**SPAN 450. Special Topics. 1-8.****SPAN 460. Independent Study. 1-8.****SPAN 470. Senior Thesis. 1-8. 4.****SPAN 490. Departmental Honors. 1-8.**