

A sample of courses in translation (FL), Spanish (FLS), French (FLF), and German (FLG) that are taught on a regular basis in the M.A. in Foreign Languages

FL courses

FL 8693 Advanced Foreign Language Pedagogy

Three hours lecture. Advanced examination of the effective practices for teaching and evaluating college level foreign language students.

Course Description: The course provides a foundation in foreign language (FL) learning theories, teaching methods and approaches, classroom best practices, and assessment. The goal is to contribute to the ongoing professional development of in-service K-12 teachers and pre-/in-service university teachers of introductory- and intermediate-level FL courses. Our exploration of FL teaching and learning will be grounded in praxis: We will consider how theoretical and research-based concepts inform practices, experiences, and beliefs. As such, the course will provide opportunities to bridge theory and practice through an ongoing cycle of discussion, practical application, and learning experiences such as collaborative activities, peer feedback, self-reflection, in-class presentations, and design of instructional materials.

FL 8673 Foreign Language Planning, Instruction, and Assessment

Three hours lecture. Exploration and application of strategies related to foreign/world language planning, instruction, and assessment of K-16 learners.

Course Description: This course is designed to provide learners with strategies related to foreign/world language curriculum design: classroom planning, instruction, and assessment. The goal is to connect to learners' (future K-16 educators') practice by involving them in structured exercises such as readings, discussions, and observations that lead to goal-setting grounded in empirical research. Learners will explore best practices in foreign/world language curriculum design and will use that foundational knowledge to create unit and lesson plans, assessments, and materials.

FL 8333 Cultural Studies

Three hours lecture. A study of the theory and methodologies of cultural studies.

Course Description: This course introduces students to the fundamentals of the theory and methodologies of Cultural Studies. Focus on works associated with the Birmingham School, Frankfurt School, feminism, postmodernism, and others is geared towards becoming conscious of various modes of cultural production, specifically thinking about how cultural production and consumption affect identity and precondition human relationships.

FL 8023 Introduction to Literary Criticism

Three hours lecture. An introduction to key theories and practices of literary analysis designed for foreign language graduate students.

***Note: Although this course will be taught in English, you are highly encouraged to read texts in the original language corresponding to your specific concentration (i.e. French, German, Spanish) when possible.

Course Description: This interactive seminar focuses on many of the basic tenets of postmodern contemporary thought and how to apply them to literary analysis. Given that theory is never produced in a vacuum, or in complete isolation from the real world in which we live and die, this class will also underscore

how the frameworks proposed by various thinkers help us to understand the postmodern-contemporary human condition more fully. Specifically, we will address several of the most crucial issues that concretize the plight of the (post-) modern subject such as media saturation, the advent of the age of information, unheralded economic inequalities, and the impending environmental crisis that threatens the continued existence of all organisms on this biosphere including Homo sapiens at the dawn of the Anthropocene. In the face of these daunting and unprecedented challenges inherited by millennials, we will explore what postmodern-contemporary literary theory and literature in general have to offer a globalized world in dire need of a radical paradigm shift reflecting the basic principles of social and ecological justice.

FL 8113 Capstone Seminar

Three hours lecture. Graduate seminar on selected topics in classical and modern literatures.

Potential Topic: Introduction to Ecolinguistics.

Course Description: This course serves as an introduction to the basic tenets of Ecolinguistics. After outlining all of the rudimentary principles that are emblematic of this exciting new interdisciplinary, we will investigate how researchers in the extremely diverse field of Ecolinguistics engage in dialogue with the interrelated discipline of Biosemiotics in addition to other evolutionary theories related to human and other-than-human languages. At the end of the semester, we will move from theory to practice through literary analysis of short texts from an ecolinguistic-biosemiotic angle. Upon completion of this transdisciplinary seminar, which incessantly weaves connections between the humanities and hard sciences, you will be able to understand ecolinguistic concepts and apply them to daily life in the modern world. As future literary scholars, you will also realize the myriad of connections between literature and ecology that enrich our comprehension of the biosphere and our small place in it.

Spanish Courses

FLS 6213 Modern Spanish Women Writers

(Prerequisite: FLS 3113, 3223 or equivalent or consent of the instructor). Three hours lecture. An introduction to modern Spanish women writers.

Course description: The course gives an overview of the modern and contemporary women writers in Spanish-America. It will explore different strategies that women have pursued in relation to the binary demands (and sometimes violence) of heterosexual patriarchy. In doing so, the class will look to understand the cultural context of these texts. In our discussions, we will consider women's writing as intersected with class, race, ethnicity, and education. A critical study of major (but many times marginalized within the cannon) women's writers, this course introduces students to a representative collection of literary works from the different regions and social groups of Spanish-America which are presented in a historical manner. The study entails a comprehensive (albeit selective) view of Spanish- American women writers. All in all, through a close reading of selected texts, we will focus on problems of how to define women's writing, and eventually contest essentialist and biologist definitions of women and their writing. Readings include poems, short stories, novels, and hybrids works. Readings and classes will be conducted in Spanish. Some critical texts might be in English, if so, discussions on them will be in Spanish. [Note: Focus on different regions, topics, genres, and authors might vary according the semester and instructor.]

FLS 6283 The Contemporary Spanish-American Novel and Short Story

(Prerequisite: FLS 3523 or consent of instructor). Three hours lecture. A study of major contemporary Spanish-American novels and short stories.

Course Description: The so-called contemporary Latin American literature is world-wide recognized by its singularity. Writers like Asturias, Borges, Bombal, García Márquez and Bolaño are famous. Their aesthetics were different and yet they are all recognized (in some way or another) as Latin-American. This class will study some of the different aesthetics that have developed from the 40s to beginning of 21st century in the context of a populist developmental- state, its antagonisms and exhaustion, and the transition to the neoliberal market. Specifically, it will focus on the question of community and how literature imagined and portrayed the hidden fantasies and contradictions of society. During the 20th century, many Latin-American countries dreamt with economic, political and social modernization and democratization. These developmental and emancipating demands propelled populist, nationalist (and continental) forces that challenged the traditional conservative powers. During this period, Latin American countries experienced the construction of national-populist states and the conservatory reaction, the Cuban revolution and the guerrillas, the Dictatorships and state-violence of the 70 and its aftermath: the new democratization within the neoliberal global markets. Literature through its different aesthetics (modernist, philosophical, experimental, realist marvelous, testimonial, feminist, and of dirty realism) was part of the process of construction and questioning of national and continental identities and communities, and thus, it offers us a way of tracing the dreams and desires of this historical contradictory process. We will study texts that will help us think about community, and the construction and questioning of social, political and gender identity and exclusion. Readings and discussions in class are in Spanish. Note: This is not a grammar class, however through the reading of, and discussion and writing about original literary work on Spanish, the class will help you to advance in your grasp of the language (and of the culture). If you do the readings, talk in class and write in Spanish, the class will help you to consolidate your intermediate level and develop an advanced level.

FLS 6293 Cinema and Spanish Culture

Catalog Description: Three hours lecture. An introduction to Spanish cinema, focusing on key films from the time of the Franco dictatorship and after, with a focus on the political and social contexts of the Spanish film industry.

Course Description: Spanish cinema began roughly in line with that of other Western countries, in the first decade of the 20th century. However, Spanish cinema remained fairly derivative for several decades, focusing largely on musical comedies and melodramas. By the 1950s, in response to widespread problems in the Spanish economy, filmmakers began to challenge the Franco dictatorship and its cultural expectations, often with highly successful films, and helping to lead to the less repressive period referred to as “Segundo Franquismo.” From this point on, the country produced two remarkable film industries, one in Madrid and a short-lived but significant one in Barcelona, evading censorship by using allegory and veiled references to the regime, and following the developments of the French New Wave of the 1960s. With the transition to democracy in the mid- 1970s, Spanish cinema broke out of many of its earlier molds, emerging into a global market with films that were successful due to shockingly frank depictions of sex and violence, or lighthearted films featuring popular actors and directors, many of whom continue to be commercially and critically successful in Spain and the wider world. The course will begin with a brief introduction to Spanish cinema prior to the Spanish Civil War (1936-39), and will then proceed chronologically through the dictatorship of Francisco Franco (1939-1975). Following this, we will look at several examples of experimental cinema from before, during, and after Franquismo. We will then close the course with films made following the transition to democracy. At the close of the course, students should have a clear understanding of the development of Spanish cinema through the 20th century, and acquaintance with many of the key films from Spain’s cinema history. Furthermore, students will have practiced writing on and analyzing films from a formal perspective, and be acquainted with many of the major terms associated with film analysis.

FLS 6363 Latin American Cultural Studies

Three hours lecture. Introduction to Latin American Cultural Studies theory and methodologies. Study of European and North American branches as a genealogy to frame the course's main focus on Latin American Cultural Studies.

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Cultural Studies theory and methodologies. Beginning with the study of its European and North American branches we will establish a genealogy to frame the course's main focus on Latin American Cultural Studies. Cultural Studies take culture as a point of departure in the study to better understand the different transactions that occur in a globalized era as well as the communications phenomena, all from an interdisciplinary lens. Through the revision, in-depth analysis and discussion of the theoretical framework and methodologies of Latin American Cultural Studies, the course aims to aid students to further develop their analytic and critical thinking skills to prepare them to better grasp their circumstantial reality.

FLS 6453 Spanish Culture, 1898-1936

Catalogue description: (Prerequisite: FLS 3113 or equivalent). Three hours lecture. A study of the literary and cultural production of early 20th century Spain, including literary works, visual art, architecture, music, and film from the loss of empire until the Civil War.

Course description:

The fall of the Spanish empire in 1898, which resulted in the loss of Spanish territories in Cuba, the Philippines, and Guam, led to a strong questioning of Spanish identity after 400 years of empire, but simultaneously the birth of a cultural tradition that had worldwide implications. With the growth of industrialization in Spain's urban centers in Madrid, Cataluña, and the Basque Country, Spanish culture confronted its newfound urbanization, its connection to the wider currents of artistic and literary production in Europe and Latin America, and its efforts to create a culture that would last beyond the ontological crisis caused by the loss of its identity as an empire. As a result, Spanish Modernism produced remarkable advances with the architecture of Domènech, Puig, and Gaudí; the music of de Falla, Granados, and Albéniz; the literature of Unamuno and García Lorca; the paintings of Picasso, Solana, Zuloaga, Miró, and Dalí; and the films of Buñuel and Val del Omar. This cultural boom ultimately lasted until the beginning of the Spanish Civil War in 1936, when many of these cultural figures were silenced, killed, or emigrated from what would become fascist Spain. This course will explore the cultural production of Spain during this period, focusing most strongly on the intellectual history and fine arts that emerged as Spain attempted to present itself as a modern, developed nation. We will look at this artistic and intellectual production in terms of urbanization, social problems and their attempted remedies, the lack of development in rural areas, the growth of specific technologies (including photography and film), and the introduction of artistic theories, such as cubism and surrealism (both of which were partially born in Spain). Students will emerge from this course with a clearer sense of the interconnection between distinct forms of art, an understanding of how art intersects with social and cultural forces, and a working knowledge of the significance of specific works key to Spain during the first four decades of the twentieth century.

FLS 6613 Latin American Cinema

Catalog Description: Three hours lecture. An overview of the cultural and historic trends in Latin American cinema.

Course Description: While the origins of Latin American popular cinema date back to the 1910s, with the emergence of feature-length films, film industries began to produce large numbers of high quality films in the 1930s, with the melodramas and comedias rancheras of Mexico. From that point, the centers of film production began to spread throughout the continent, and often in conjunction with major political and social events. These trends led to the development of so-called "Third Cinema," a revolutionary cinema movement that sought to awaken the political consciousness of the people, while maintaining a concern for

entertainment. Later trends demonstrated the continued concern for political awareness coupled with the desire for a popular cultural production, as Latin American cinematic industries have continued to produce globally-renowned films until the present day. This survey of Latin American cinema will follow a roughly chronological trajectory, beginning with the birth of the “Época de Oro” in Mexico, continuing with the development of “Tercer Cine” throughout South America and Cuba and the brief and diverse “Cinema Novo” movement in Brazil, and concluding with contemporary cinema (1970s-present). Through this course, students will become acquainted with several of the most significant Latin American films from the continent’s history, understand key movements and trends, and read essays by many of the leading directors and intellectual figures from Latin American cinema history, as well as gaining an understanding of film form and film analysis, and theoretical concepts related to film studies.

FLS 8283 The Contemporary Spanish American Novel and Short Story

Catalog Description: (Pre-requisite: Graduate Standing). Three hours lecture. A study of major contemporary Spanish American novels and short stories.

Course Description: This lecture/seminar will explore the relation between poetry, fiction and the real through a series of works in Latin American Literature and its different aesthetics (intimate and social poetry, indigenist, realist, magic realist, fantastic, allegorical, experimental, testimonial and postmodernist) from the 40’s to today. We will read significant texts while focusing on the key debates in the field on that period. We will discuss, among others, Mistral, Neruda, Borges, Cortázar, Rulfo, Vargas Llosa, Poniatowska, and Castellanos Moya. These texts are historically framed, first, by the cycle of triumph and defeat of the revolutionary ideals; secondly, by the crisis of the populist national project that led to the transition to neoliberalism and globalization. In this context, literature supported, questioned, and resisted these historical processes through different aesthetic proposals to narrate the real of these transformations. In this seminar, we will ask ourselves about the function of literature in front of the historical processes taking as axis the problem of the relation between art and truth. This seminar is directed to graduate students, so it requires continuous participation of the students in the discussions in class in Spanish. [Note emphasis on certain aesthetics trends or authors, or problems to articulate the selection of texts might vary. Yet the class always presents a broad range of literary movements, authors, and debates] Note: If a critical source or text is in English, class discussion will still be in Spanish.

French Courses

FLF 6073 French Drama of the 20th Century

(Prerequisite: FLF 3523 or consent of instructor). Three hours lecture. Reading of works of outstanding writers and discussions of literary currents of the century.

Course Description: This interactive seminar takes advantage of the semiotic approach to analyzing French drama of the twentieth century. Deriving inspiration from Antonin Artaud’s *The Theater and its Double*, students will be asked to reflect upon the importance of “signs” (e.g. lighting, costumes, objects, soundtrack, etc.) that lie at the heart of this genre. Specifically, we will investigate how French playwrights from this time period started to contest theatrical conventions (*les bienséances*) in an effort to be more innovative and original. In this regard, Alfred Jarry, Eugène Ionesco, Samuel Beckett, and Jean Genet have inspired a generation of new playwrights who continue to push the boundaries of artistic expression. Moreover, this course will demonstrate that the “philosophical theater” of Sartre and Camus played a major role in the promotion of new theatrical techniques as well.

FLF 6103 French Novel and Short Story of the 20th Century

(Prerequisite: FLF 3523 or consent of instructor). 3 hours lecture. Reading and critical evaluation of modern French novels and short stories of various literary schools.

Course Description: This interactive seminar explores the major currents undergirding French prose during the twentieth century. Specifically, this course is designed to provide students with a plethora of theoretical tools enabling them to examine the evolution of French prose from the beginning to the end of the century. In addition to applying principles from traditional literary theory to textual analysis, we will employ a transdisciplinary approach that enriches our understanding of how literature functions in general. At the end of the semester, we will speculate about the future directions that French prose will assume in the coming years based upon the current trajectory.

FLF 6193 18th Century French Literature

(Prerequisite: FLF 2143 or equivalent). 3 hours lecture. An introduction to French literature and to essential literary movements from the eighteenth century.

Course Description and Goals: This interactive seminar is designed to provide an overview of the major currents that are emblematic of eighteenth-century French literature. After examining the values that are at the core of the French Enlightenment movement such as reason, scientific erudition, and logic, we will direct our attention to writers that have pre-romantic sensibilities like Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Bernadin de St. Pierre. In stark contrast to Voltaire, Montesquieu, and Diderot who often criticize what they consider to be blind faith, superstition, and obscurantism, Rousseau and St. Pierre underscore the importance of religion and feelings.

FLF 6273 The Human Condition

Prerequisite: FLF 2143 or equivalent. Three hours lecture. A course emphasizing the concept of the “human condition” as conceptualized by seminal French writers and thinkers.

Course Description: In this interactive seminar, we will broach many different conceptions of the human condition from a transdisciplinary perspective. Our point of departure for this (re-) investigation of what it means to be human will be French existentialism. Given that seminal authors from this time period such as Jean-Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, André Malraux, and Simone de Beauvoir paint a rending picture of the human condition, their contributions to this timeless philosophical question are a logical starting point in the French tradition. During the second half of the semester, we will be investigating the maverick French thinker Michel Serre’s bold philosophical claims related to a new human condition that he posits has never existed before. Not only does the inception of the Anthropocene force us to confront new existential dilemmas in comparison to our not-so-distant ancestors, but Serres also affirms that the birth of modern medicine has created a sharp ontological gap between contemporary *Homo sapiens* and our human predecessors. Moreover, both Michel Serres and Jean Baudrillard contend that the age of information has profoundly altered the very essence of humanity itself.

FLF 6163 Francophone Literature

(Prerequisite: FLF 2143 or equivalent.) Three hours lecture. A survey of important authors and literary movements from around the French-speaking world outside of mainland France.

Course Description: This course serves as a basic introduction to Francophone cultures through texts representing various cultural and geographical areas. It provides an opportunity for students to hone their growing sense of intercultural competence. It enables learners to explore how literature is inextricably linked to major historical, political, social and cultural forces. A few of the many topics investigated include the distinctions between literary movements, colonialism/post-colonialism, the importance of myths and legends, the tension between traditional values and modernity, gender theory, and questions related to identity.

FLF 6173 Introduction to Francophone Cinema

(Prerequisite: FLF 3124 or consent of instructor.) Three hours lecture. A study of landmark Francophone films, their regions, and cultures.

Course Description: France is recognized today as a country where the so-called “seventh art” (i.e. cinema) has experienced a spectacular development since the first film screening in Paris in 1895 by the “Frères Lumières.” This course offers students the opportunity not only to discover the history of cinema, but also to explore the relationships that link these films to major historical events such as war, occupation and colonialism. It also provides an important overview of French cultural and identity concepts related to the themes developed in the movies that are studied in this course.

FLF 6183 Francophone Theater

Prerequisite 2143 or graduate standing). Three hours lecture. An in-depth exploration of Francophone theater from many different playwrights from many different regions of the Francophone world.

Course Description: This course serves as an introduction to Francophone Théâtre. In this course, students will learn to recognize the importance of and connections that theater can have with other disciplines such as politics, sociology, religion and culture. This course should help students understand the evolution of theatrical techniques from a historical and cultural standpoint.

FLF 6223 French Novel Before 1945

(Prerequisite: 2143 or equivalent). Three hours lecture. A course dedicated to the major French novelists for the first half of the 20th century and the literary movements that they represent.

Course Description: This course provides students with opportunities to interpret the aesthetic and literary works of a number of famous authors who have marked French literature before 1945. This course aims to go beyond standard textual interpretation by implementing interdisciplinary synergy through the relationship between literature and other disciplines such as philosophy, sociology, history, and linguistics that also are essential in the process of textual analysis. The reading materials will enable students to explore how literature contributes to the understanding of major historical, political, social and cultural issues. Class activities and assignments are designed to foster critical reading skills and linguistic competence in addition to increasing confidence in the target language. This interactive seminar is entirely conducted in French.

German Courses

FLG 4123/6123 German Fairy Tales

(Prerequisite: FLG 2143 or equivalent). Three hours lecture. A study of classic Grimm’s Fairy Tales.

Course Description: German fairy tales, centuries old, but which continue to be widely read, illustrated, and filmed, transcend cultural and temporal boundaries. Their endurance serves as proof of the often dismissed Romantic idea in our material culture of the transcendence of art. While students are familiar with stories such as “Sleeping Beauty” and “Little Red Riding Hood”, they will be surprised by the twists and turns of the actual Grimm tales, which can be much more violent, bawdy, and sexual. As they unpack material which is both familiar and foreign, students will discover that what may have seemed like a simple children’s story can be approached from many different perspectives and reveal the development of Enlightenment as well as Romantic ideas in Europe. Fairy tales document a development of a modern concept of childhood and of the human being, while also providing fertile material for modern psychological interpretation. The effort to document traditional folk tales of the German-speaking lands during the Napoleonic era was also political, an act in defiance toward the French ruling culture. The

celebration of a uniquely German cultural tradition helped to shape a German identity during a time before Germany existed as a nation. In our discussions of these texts, we will be examining these and various other issues. Through class discussions and brief presentations, students will improve their German speaking and listening skills. Students will also improve their German reading and writing skills. Students are expected to come to class prepared and to participate actively in class discussions. This course is conducted in German.

FLG 6203 German Lyric Poetry

(Prerequisite: FLG 2143 or equivalent.) Three hours lecture. Reading lyric poetry by authors writing in German. The course may cover various periods, authors, or themes.

Course Description: This course will provide students with an in-depth engagement with major poems by authors writing in German as well as an overview of literary movements from a variety of periods in German literary history. This particular offering of this course will focus on the period from approximately 1600 to 1848 and will examine authors from the Baroque period, the Enlightenment, Sensibility, Storm and Stress, Classicism, Romanticism, and *Vormärz*. In our discussions of our readings, we will also be making connections between the texts and the cultural-historical environment in which they arose in addition to connecting our discussions to cultural concerns that are still prevalent in modern Germany, Austria, and Switzerland as well. Students will not only familiarize themselves with a major aspect of German culture, but they will also improve their spoken German and listening comprehension in the form of short lectures, class discussions, and oral presentations as well as improving their reading comprehension and writing skills. The class will be conducted in German. Students are expected to come to class prepared and to participate actively.

FLG 6493: Mysteries in German Literature and Film

(Prerequisite: FLG 2143 or equivalent). Three hours lecture. A study of the genre of mysteries in German-language literature and film.

Course Description and Learning Outcomes: Everyone loves a good mystery, and certainly, the Kriminalgeschichte, or the Krimi [i.e., mystery], has been an extremely popular genre in the German-speaking lands. In this course, we will examine several short stories, a play, a novel, and several episodes from television series that are typical yet provocative examples of the genre. Students will read and view Krimis from various German-speaking regions and will develop an awareness for the concerns addressed in these literary and filmic texts. Krimis are not only spannend [i.e., suspenseful and intriguing], but they also enable authors and filmmakers to explore larger social issues such as the nature of crime, the role of society in regulating the behavior of its members, the nature of punishment, the psychological makeup of the criminal, the nature of guilt or innocence, and questions of German, Swiss, or Austrian identity. In our discussions of these texts, we will be examining these and various other issues. Through class discussions and brief presentations, students will improve their speaking and listening skills. Students will also improve their reading and writing skills through various assignments. Students are expected to come to class prepared and to participate actively in class discussions.

FLG 6143: Verwandlungen

(Prerequisites FLG 2143 or permission of the instructor). Three hours lecture. A study of the theme of “metamorphosis” in various literary genres of the German speaking countries.

Course Description: This course is meant to familiarize students with some famous German writers, (including Herder, Goethe, Schiller, Novalis, Nietzsche, Rilke, Hesse, and Kafka) and provide a general introduction to literary theory and the analysis of various literary forms, such as the short story, lyric poetry, the novella, and the Bildungsroman. The readings are structured around the theme of metamorphosis. As we shall see, Verwandlung is important not only in Kafka’s famous story, Die Verwandlung (The

Metamorphosis), but already in the Classical Period in German Literature through the notion of Bildung (moral, cultural, and intellectual growth, development, and education). This human need for Bildung can be traced through Nietzsche, Rilke and Hesse and right up to current themes in literature and film today. In addition to acquainting students with the literature of German-speaking lands, this course is meant to further refine language proficiency. Preparing the assigned texts will enable students to improve reading skills, while active classroom discussion of the texts will strengthen their ability to communicate verbally. The writing assignments are designed to reinforce written German as well as improve critical understanding of the readings.

FLG 6353 German Novella

(Prerequisite: FLG 2143 or equivalent). Three hours lecture. Study of novellas written in German.

Course Description: This course will provide students with an overview of major German-language literary works, authors, and movements from the late eighteenth up until the early twentieth century, with special concentration on the genre of the novella. Students will improve their spoken German and listening comprehension in the form of short lectures, class discussions, and oral presentations as well as improving their reading comprehension and writing skills.

FLG 6523 German Literature from 1750 to the Present

(Prerequisite: FLG 2143 or equivalent). Three hours lecture. A survey of German literature from the Enlightenment to the present.

Course Description: This course is meant to provide a framework of major literary and intellectual movements in Germany from the Enlightenment period to the twentieth century. Texts will cross genres and traditional disciplines to include fables and fairy tales, literary theory, philosophy, poetry, and prose. Writers will include many who are responsible for setting the course of European intellectual history. While undergraduates will learn directly from these largely conical texts, graduate students will delve further into secondary literature and literary theory. All will engage in an analysis of various literary forms. In addition to providing a framework within which students will come to understand German culture and literary history, this course will aid in the refinement of language proficiency, greatly adding to the advanced language-learner's vocabulary. Students will improve in speaking, writing and reading skills. Preparing the assigned texts will improve students' reading skills, while active classroom discussion of the texts will strengthen their ability to communicate verbally. The writing assignments are designed to reinforce written German as well as improve a critical understanding of the readings. Graduate students will also hone their library and research skills.

FLG 6533 Art, Politics and Propaganda

Three hours lecture. A study of the inter-connections of German aesthetics, artistic movements, and political theory from the age of Enlightenment through the 20th Century.

Course Description: From Plato's critique of the poets in the Republic to Hitler's degenerate art exhibitions, art has been seen as a powerful threat to the polity. Contemporary efforts online to advocate, inspire, enlighten, as well as to misdirect and to create false conceptions of reality demonstrate that art continues to be politically controversial and may be used as political propaganda. At the same time, as with the Nazis in Germany, politics can be aesthetical. Focusing on aesthetics and politics across time, this course will bring to light discussions surrounding art and politics in German intellectual history and in the context of actual artistic and political movements. In so doing, it will cross genres to include philosophy, political treatises, and essays on aesthetics alongside of discussions of art movements, paintings, and film. The semester plan of this proposal, while very specific, is not meant to be exclusionary. The theme of this course could be taught with varied text, film, and art selections, while including ideas of art developed during the 18th century and following developments in the 19th and 20th centuries. Students will gain a broad

understanding of the relationship between art theory, art movements and political movements in Germany. They will also learn to read and think critically, and should be able to use knowledge gained in this course to recognize aesthetics found in politics when they see it in other contexts.

FLG 8443: Eighteenth-Century German Drama

(Prerequisite: Graduate standing). Three hours lecture. A study of dramas from the Enlightenment, Sensibility, and Storm-and-Stress periods.

Course Description: Drama was, it can be contended, the preeminent literary form of the Enlightenment, Sensibility, and Storm-and-Stress periods. This course will familiarize students with major dramatic works from these periods. In our investigation of these texts, we will examine various issues, including but not limited to: the theater as an instrument of moral education; dramatic representations of gender and class; varying models of the Enlightenment and its repercussions.

FLG 8483: Twentieth-Century German Short Story

(Prerequisite: Graduate standing). Three hours lecture. A study of twentieth century short prose fiction in German.

Course Description and Learning Objectives: Many of the most influential German-language authors of the twentieth century used the genre of the short story to engage with a variety of social, political, psychological, and cultural issues. In this course, students will read a wide variety of short works of fiction from the twentieth century. Students will be exposed to the works of a number of influential authors from the various German-speaking regions, works that participated in a variety of literary movements. Students will also sharpen their critical, analytical, and writing skills by working through a variety of secondary literature on these works and will develop their interpretative and research skills in a series of papers.

FLG 8493 Nineteenth-Century German Drama

(Prerequisite: Graduate standing). Three hours lecture. A study of significant German-language dramas from the nineteenth century.

Course Description: This course will examine various examples of nineteenth-century German drama and will familiarize the student with a variety of nineteenth-century literary movements such as Klassik, Romantik, Biedermeier, Junges Deutschland, Realismus, and Naturalismus. The course will concentrate on works by Goethe, Kleist, Weisenthurn, Büchner, Hebbel, Wagner, and Hauptmann, but will draw connections to other authors working in the same period as well. A variety of secondary literature on nineteenth-century German drama will also be made available for discussion via MyCourses or via electronic or physical reserve at the MSU library. The instructor and the graduate students will typically decide together on recent secondary articles that deal with each of the plays and which the class would like to discuss together.

FLG 8543 Race Theory in Classical German Thought

(Prerequisite: Graduate Standing). Three Hours Lecture. A cross-disciplinary study of “Scientific” Race Theory, which was born during the German Enlightenment, focused on works by Immanuel Kant and contemporary critiques of it.

Course Description: Contemporary critical race theory is beginning to explore the roots of the modern concept of “race” in German Enlightenment and post-Enlightenment thought, just as German cultural history is beginning to realize the centrality of this concept within some of its most formative ideas. In order to see dynamic connections between race theory and many other Enlightenment-age ideas, this seminar will begin with a reading of works by Immanuel Kant, who gave the term its first “scientific” definition. Following discussions of Kant’s race theory, and its connections to, and disconnect with, some of his other works, it will then highlight the objections to it made by naturalist Georg Forster, who penned a popular

travel narrative of his adventures aboard the *Resolution* with Captain Cook's second circumnavigation (1772-1775). Both source material for Kant's work in anthropology and evidence against his race theory, this course will examine excerpts from Forster's narrative and well as his essay which sparked a debate over the meaning of a human race with Kant. Among many other contemporary critics of Kant's race theory, Gottfried von Herder's work is also especially notable, and will be studied here. A former student of Kant, Herder proposed a paradigm of cultural anthropology distinct from the more biological orientation of Kant. The course will end with a reading of "Engagement in Santo Domingo" by Heinrich von Kleist, and discuss a literary critique of race categories. All of the texts will be read in the original German.