

**Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
Graduate Bulletin
Spring 2018**

**Course offerings in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Haitian Kreyòl, Hebrew,
Italian, Modern Languages and Literatures, Portuguese, and Spanish**

For more information, please contact course instructors or Dr. Tracy Devine Guzmán,
Director of Graduate Studies (tdguzman@miami.edu)

ARABIC

Language/culture courses (zero credits; consult Canelink for schedules)

ARB 641	Elementary Arabic I for Graduate Students
ARB 642	Elementary Arabic II for Graduate Students
ARB 651	Intermediate Arabic I for Graduate Research
ARB 652	Intermediate Arabic II for Graduate Research
ARB 654	Advanced Arabic II for Graduate Research
ARB 658	Advanced Arabic for Graduate Heritage Learners

CHINESE

Language/culture courses (zero credits; consult Canelink for schedules)

CHI 641	Elementary Chinese I for Graduate Students
CHI 642	Elementary Chinese II for Graduate Students
CHI 651	Intermediate Chinese I for Graduate Research
CHI 652	Intermediate Chinese II for Graduate Research
CHI 654	Advanced Chinese for Graduate Research

FRENCH

Language/culture courses (zero credits; consult Canelink for schedules)

FRE 641	Elementary French I for Graduate Students
FRE 642	Elementary French II for Graduate Students
FRE 645	Accelerated Elementary French for Graduate Students
FRE 651	Intermediate French I for Graduate Research
FRE 652	Intermediate French II for Graduate Research
FRE 653	Advanced French I for Graduate Research

GERMAN

Language/culture courses (zero credits; consult Canelink for schedules)

GER 641	Elementary German I for Graduate Students
GER 642	Elementary German II for Graduate Students
GER 651	Intermediate German I for Graduate Research
GER 652	Intermediate German II for Graduate Research

HAITIAN KREYÒL

Language/culture courses (zero credits; consult Canelink for schedules)

HAI 642	Elementary Haitian Kreyòl II for Graduate Students
HAI 652	Intermediate Haitian Kreyòl for Graduate Research

HEBREW

Language/culture courses (zero credits; consult Canelink for schedules)

HEB 642	Elementary Hebrew II for Graduate Students
HEB 652	Intermediate Hebrew for Graduate Research

ITALIAN

Language/culture courses (zero credits; consult Canelink for schedules)

ITA 641	Elementary Italian I for Graduate Students
ITA 642	Elementary Italian II for Graduate Students
ITA 651	Intermediate Italian I for Graduate Research
ITA 652	Intermediate Italian II for Graduate Research

Graduate seminars (three credits)

ITA/MLL 691: Bodies in Early Modern Performance

Dr. Maria Stampino

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-3:15

Room TBA

In this course, taught in English, we will examine how we view bodies in performance in the 21st-century and then compare them to what happened in early modernity, primarily in Italy. How did the business of performance start? Who performed? Why? Who was in the audience? Was there even an audience? What did people report seeing? Who paid for what? Where did performance happen? How do we describe something in non-anachronistic terms? These questions and more will be at the core of our consideration.

****Students seeking ITA credit must complete their assignments in Italian.**

MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Graduate seminars (three credits)

MLL 703: IDEOLOGIES OF LANGUAGE

Dr. Andrew Lynch

Mondays, 5:00-7:30

Merrick 201.01

In this seminar we will examine the ways in which language is imagined, constructed, and represented in contemporary times through the conceptual lens of ‘language ideologies’, i.e. “cultural systems of ideas about social and linguistic relationships, together with their loading of moral and political interests” (Judith Irvine, 1989). After making some philosophical and theoretical considerations of the concepts of ‘language’ and ‘ideology’, we will analyze the central place that language ideologies occupy in some of today’s most contentious societal issues, highlighting questions of identity, community, (post-)nationalism and nation-ness, institutionality, political authority and cultural authenticity, orality/literacy, and globality/locality. Readings include philosophical and theoretical essays, sociolinguistic studies, cultural commentaries, and literary selections. Our focus will be primarily on Spanish-speaking and Francophone societies, but some attention will be given to Anglophone, Arab, and Caribbean Creole settings as well.

The seminar has four main objectives: 1) to expand students’ general knowledge of theory and research relevant to constructs of ‘language’; 2) to develop students’ awareness of the linguistic ideological dimensions of diverse cultural, social and political debates; and 3) to stimulate thinking about the role of ‘language’ *sensu stricto* in literary, cultural, educational, and sociolinguistic studies from critical discourse perspectives.

Assessment will be based on the following: Contribution to course discussions (15%); Critical presentation of assigned readings (15%); Short response papers (30%); Final research paper of 20-25 pages (40%).

**MLL 714 (*required course for first-year doctoral students in MLL)
Introduction to Critical Theory II: Decolonial Thinking and Its Critiques
Dr. George Yúdice
Tuesdays, 5:00-7:30
Merrick 201.01**

This course focuses on decolonial theory, critiques of it, and the analysis, informed by both, of a range of texts and phenomena (performances, insurgencies like the Arab Spring or the 15M in Spain, social media, etc.) proposed by the students. As Nelson Maldonado-Torres writes, “The decolonial turn does not refer to a single theoretical school, but rather points to a family of diverse positions that share a view of coloniality as a fundamental problem in the modern (as well as postmodern and information) age, and of decolonization or decoloniality as a necessary task that remains unfinished” (“Thinking through the Decolonial Turn: Post-continental Interventions in Theory, Philosophy, and Critique—An Introduction”). While decolonial theory emerged as a recognizable academic enterprise at the beginning of the twenty-first century, it has historical precedents in the work of figures such as W.E.B. Dubois, Frantz Fanon, and post-60s figures such as Sylvia Wynter, Enrique Dussel, Aníbal Quijano, Sylvia Rivera Cusicanqui and others, as well as the formulators of the term: Walter Mignolo, Ramón Grosfoguel, Chela Sandoval, Catherine Walsh, Maldonado-Torres himself and others.

Out of this work, I would like to focus on two scholarly tendencies: the epistemic, understanding how the twin figures of coloniality and modernity subjugated a range of knowledges, and how those knowledges can be manifest in the present; the corporeal, on the one hand, examining how the body figures among those who have been excluded from the production of knowledge in modernity, and on the other, the continuing coloniality of the body and ensuing forms of subjectivity in so-called Western subjects.

With regard to the first focus, particularly with regard to the present, I would like to look critically at decolonial thinking by considering an affirmative rather than repressive conception of biopower, especially in an era of flows that diffuse borders. With regard to the second, I would like to accompany decolonial thinking with affect theory’s focus on subjectivity emerging out of the encounter of bodies (not just human ones), as an effect of a matrix of moving lines of force, travelling through us and leaving power in their wake. In addition to these theoretical readings, I would like to begin the analysis of texts and other phenomena with a reading of Edouard Glissant’s *A Poetics of Relation* and what could be considered a tragic vision insofar as what we ignore or don’t know about the world in our moral and political knowledge and decision-making continues to affect us. That is, there is no complete liberation from coloniality and various ways of working through it may have to be innovated. Students will propose other texts and phenomena to be examined under the light of decoloniality theory and its critiques.

Methodologically, each session will be divided into discussions of decoloniality theory and its critiques and examination of the texts and phenomena proposed by the students.

MLL 721: Media Studies: Objects, Methods, Environments
Dr. Allison Schifani
Tuesdays, 12:30-3:00
Merrick 210.01

This course is intended to provide graduate students with a survey of media studies as an academic discipline and discursive field. Students will approach a broad range of texts and outline both media studies' historical development and present state, with a particular focus on emerging theories and practices within the field in the contemporary moment, as well as the intersection of media and literary studies. Students will be exposed to media objects as well as theoretical works, approaching such key topics as infrastructure, environment, critical methods, production, and historical development.

PORTUGUESE

Language/culture courses (zero credits; consult Canelink for schedules)

POR 642	Elementary Portuguese II for Graduate Students
POR 645	Accelerated Elementary Portuguese for Graduate Students
POR 651	Intermediate Portuguese I for Graduate Research
POR 652	Intermediate Portuguese II for Graduate Research

Graduate seminars (three credits)

POR 691: “Estórias Abensonhadas”: Novas linguagens de imaginários luso-afro-brasileiros
Dr. Steven Butterman
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Portuguese 691, open to graduate students in MLL and other departments, surveys selected materials from a mix of genres of Luso-Afro-Brazilian literatures and cultural studies, with an emphasis on contemporary textual production from Angola, Brazil, Mozambique, and Portugal that renovates, innovates, and reinvents language(s) of the Portuguese-speaking world to express and critique a wide variety of socioeconomic, political, and philosophical perspectives. One central aim of the course is to further develop critical writing and reading skills for native, non-native, and heritage speakers of Portuguese.

Prerequisite: POR 652 / 202 or POR 691, or equivalent, or permission of instructor. Please note that this class will be conducted in Portuguese

SPANISH

Language/culture courses (zero credits; consult Canelink for schedules)

SPA 641	Elementary Spanish I for Graduate Students
SPA 642	Elementary Spanish II for Graduate Students
SPA 645	Accelerated Elementary Spanish for Graduate Students
SPA 647	Basic Spanish for Graduate Heritage Learners
SPA 651	Intermediate Spanish I for Graduate Research
SPA 652	Intermediate Spanish II for Graduate Research
SPA 653	Advanced Spanish I for Graduate Research
SPA 657	Intermediate Spanish for Graduate Heritage Learners
SPA 658	Advances Spanish for Graduate Heritage Learners

Graduate Seminar (three credits)

SPA 721: IDEOLOGIES OF LANGUAGE

Dr. Andrew Lynch

Mondays, 5:00- 7:30

Merrick 201.01

In this seminar we will examine the ways in which language is imagined, constructed, and represented in contemporary times through the conceptual lens of ‘language ideologies’, i.e. “cultural systems of ideas about social and linguistic relationships, together with their loading of moral and political interests” (Judith Irvine, 1989). After making some philosophical and theoretical considerations of the concepts of ‘language’ and ‘ideology’, we will analyze the central place that language ideologies occupy in some of today’s most contentious societal issues, highlighting questions of identity, community, (post-)nationalism and nation-ness, institutionality, political authority and cultural authenticity, orality/literacy, and globality/locality. Readings include philosophical and theoretical essays, sociolinguistic studies, cultural commentaries, and literary selections. Our focus will be primarily on Spanish-speaking and Francophone societies, but some attention will be given to Anglophone, Arab, and Caribbean Creole settings as well.

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****Students seeking SPA credit must complete their assignments in Spanish.**