

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

FORL 130V Language and Culture

Credit Hours: 1-4 (variable)

Prerequisites: None

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information:

A. Catalog Description

Study of a specific world language and culture to increase cultural appreciation and basic language skills. Focus on the specific language and culture may vary each semester. May be repeated once for credit when topic differs.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Understand the contemporary culture of another country.
2. Read, write, listen, understand and converse in another language with enough ease to deal with routine tasks and social situations such as encountered in international travel or in basic social situations.
3. Handle uncomplicated language and social tasks requiring an exchange of basic information related to work, school, recreation, particular interests and areas of competence.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULOs)

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will analyze a variety of texts for their rhetorical and/or literary features, as well as analyze the rhetorical situation to which the texts they produce respond.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will practice communication skills through discussions, presentations, and a variety of required written assignments.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will practice critical response to the writing of others, responsible use of research materials and intellectual property, and the ethical use of persuasion.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. Students will analyze the rhetorical situation, produce texts for a variety of audiences, and avoid the use of biased language.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Basic vocabulary of the target language.
- B. Basic sounds and grammar of the target language.
- C. Basics language use in social situations.
- D. Basic history of the target country.
- E. Basic contemporary culture mores of the target and their history and origins.
- F. Basic contemporary politics and political history of the target country.
- G. Basics of target country economics.
- H. Basics literary history of the target country.
- I. Popular culture of the target country.
- J. Current events in the target country.
- K. Livelihood and lifestyle.
- L. Nationality and ethnicity.
- M. Basic geography of the target country.