

FRES 1020: Language, identity and gender (11-367)
Margaret L. Quesada, Romance Languages
Wednesdays, 12:20-1:10 p.m., Room 122, Gilbert Hall
Office Hours: Wed. 1:15-2:15 or by appointment
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Objectives: In this course we will look at how language shapes our ethnic, social and gender identities. We will examine how and why we use language to preserve and reinforce our identity and whether women and men use language in different ways. Finally, we will explore how language is biased against women and minority groups.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required to all sessions. Absences will only be excused for a valid medical or other emergency reason and with a written explanation.

Grading:

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|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Attendance and participation: | 20% |
| Journal: | 20% |
| Individual research project | 25% |
| Joint research project & presentation | 35% |

Required reading: There is no textbook but required readings will be posted on the eLearning Commons course page.

Information on journal keeping, assignments and the research projects will be posted on eLearning Commons.

Academic Honesty: The University of Georgia seeks to promote and ensure academic honesty and personal integrity among students and other members of the University Community. A policy on academic honesty has been developed to serve these goals. All members of the academic community are responsible for knowing the policy and procedures on academic honesty. The entire policy can be viewed at:

http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm

Topics and readings:

Language and Identity

August 18 Introduction

August 25 Read "Identity in Language: An Exploration into the Social Implications of Linguistic Variation" by Sterling

September 1 Discussion
September 8 Read “Language and Identity” by Thornborrow
September 15 Discussion

Language and Ethnicity

September 22 Read “Language and ethnicity” by Singh
September 29 Discussion

Language and Age

October 6 Read “Language and Age” by Peccei
October 13 Discussion
October 20 Individual Research projects due and discussion

Language and Gender

October 27 Read “Language and Gender” by Wareing
November 3 Film screening
November 10 Discussion

Group Research Project Presentations

November 17 Presentations
December 1 Presentations

This syllabus is a general plan for the course; during the course of the semester, it may be necessary to make changes to the syllabus and these will be announced to the class and on eLC.