

University of Georgia: Department of Romance Languages
FREN 8800 / SPAN 8010 / LING 8010: Comparative Romance Linguistics
Spring Semester 2010, T, Th 5:00-6:15 p.m., Gilbert 360

PROFESSOR:

Dr. Diana L. Ranson / 370L Gilbert / dranson@uga.edu
Office hours: T, Th 2:00-3:30 p.m. and by appointment

GOALS:

1. To acquire a knowledge of both the external and internal history of the Romance languages.
 2. To learn about general processes of language change by comparing the Romance languages.
 3. To learn research methods for historical linguistics.
- And above all to learn to think linguistically!

COURSE PACK:

A required course pack of exercises will soon be available for download on our ELC site.

READINGS on reserve at the main library:

General works on Romance linguistics in English:

- (CD) Canfield, D. Lincoln and J. Cary Davis. 1975. *An Introduction to Romance Linguistics*. Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press. [PC43/.C3]
- (E) Elcock, W. D. 1975. *The Romance Languages*. Revised by John N. Green. London: Faber & Faber. [PC43/E55/1975]
- (H) Hall, Jr., Robert A. 1974. *External History of the Romance Languages*. New York: Elsevier. [PC61/.H3]
- (HV) Harris, Martin and Nigel Vincent. 1988. *The Romance Languages*. New York: Oxford University Press. [PC43/.R6/1988]
- (P1) Posner, Rebecca. 1980. *On Romance Languages: An Inaugural Reading*. Oxford: Clarendon. [PC43/.P570]
- (P2) Posner, Rebecca. 1966. *The Romance Languages: A Linguistic Introduction*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday. [PC43/.P6]

General works on Romance linguistics in Romance languages:

- (Fr-B) Bourciez, Edouard. 1967. *Éléments de linguistique romane*. 5^e éd. Paris: Klincksieck. [PC53/.B6/1967]
- (Fr-C) Camproux, Charles. 1974. *Les langues romanes*. 1^{ere} éd. Paris: Presses Universitaires de France. [PC45/.C25]
- (It) Renzi, Lorenzo. 1985. *Nuova introduzione alla filologia romanza*. Bologna: Il Mulino. [PC41/R4/1985]
- (Sp) Tagliavini, Carlo. 1973. *Orígenes de las lenguas neolatinas*. México: Fondo de cultura económica. [PC43/T3150]
- (W) Wartburg, Walther von. 1952. *Fragmentación lingüística de la Romania*. [PA2696/.W296F/1952]

Specific works on the history of individual Romance languages:

- (G) Grandgent, Charles. 1971. *From Latin to Italian*. New York: Russell & Russell. [PC1101/.G71/1971]
- (L) Lathrop, Tom. 1996. *The Evolution of Spanish*. 3rd ed. Newark, DE: Juan de la Cuesta. [PC4101/.L33/1996]
- (Pe) Penny, Ralph. 2002. *A History of the Spanish Language*. 2nd ed. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press. [PC4101/.P46/2002]
- (Pr) Price, Glanville. 1971. *The French language: present and past*. London: Edward Arnold. [PC2101/.P7/1971]

Optional reference on Latin. May be purchased at the University bookstore for LATN 1001.

- (Latin) Wheelock, Frederic M. 2000. *Latin: An introductory course based on ancient authors*. Revised by Richard A. LaFleur. New York: Barnes and Noble. [PA2087.5/W44/2000]

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

I will post your grades on ELC. I will update the participation grade after each test and after the final day of class.

Preparation and participation	10%	Research Project*	25%
Journal	5%	Oral presentations (3)	15%
Test 1	15%	Examen final	15%
Test 2	15%		

*If you write a second draft of your research project, the first draft will count 10% and the second draft 15%.

PARTICIPATION AND PREPARATION: In order to participate fully in class discussions, you must prepare the readings and exercises carefully before coming to class. This preparation will be demonstrated by your active participation in class. Your performance in every class meeting will be evaluated according to the following scale: 3 points=exceptional participation, 2=good, 1=satisfactory, 0=insufficient (for example, you were unprepared or absent). I expect that you will be present for every class meeting. Please let me know in advance if you will be absent. If you miss 7 class meetings, I will withdraw you from the class for excessive absences.

JOURNAL: In order to reach the goal of learning to think linguistically, you will keep a reflective journal of your thoughts about language and linguistics by posting messages to the ELC discussion for our course. Every two weeks, for a minimum of 6 times over the course of the semester, you will post a message on ELC which will be an observation about the reading or exercises for our course, about language in general or any specific language in particular, or as a response to the posting of a classmate. If you post 6 good messages, each within the required time frame, your journal grade will be a 90. You will lose points for any missing or late messages and you will earn points for additional messages or exceptionally interesting messages.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS: You will make three oral presentations during the semester. The first two will be on topics you will select from a list of choices. The third will be an individual presentation of your research project. In order to facilitate the comparative aspect of the first two reports, you will prepare and present them with a partner who has knowledge of a different Romance language, if possible. I recommend that you send me a draft of your presentations by ELC mail before presenting them in class so that I can offer suggestions.

TESTS: There will be 2 in-class tests during the semester whose topics and dates are indicated on the syllabus. To help you prepare for these tests, the course pack contains a copy of the tests along with their answer key from the last time I taught this course. No make-up tests will be given. If you miss a test for a valid reason, the grade on the final exam can count in the place of this missing test grade. Otherwise, your grade on the test will be a 0.

RESEARCH PROJECT: You will write a research paper on a topic of your choosing which allows for the comparison of two or more Romance languages. See the specific instructions for more information.

FINAL EXAM: If your course grade is an **92.5** or higher without the final exam, then you will have the option of exempting the final exam. I offer you this option in order to encourage you to work hard throughout the semester, especially on your research project.

LANGUAGES USED IN THIS COURSE:

Communication involving the entire class will take place in English, so as to be accessible to everyone. Therefore, class participation, journal postings, and oral presentations will be in English. The tests and final exam will be presented to you in English, but you may write your answers in French, Spanish, or English, depending on the course you enrolled in (FREN 8800, SPAN 8010, or LING 8010). You must write your research project in the language for which you are to receive credit.

COMMUNICATION:

I prefer that you communicate with me through ELC mail rather than email, since this allows me to keep all my correspondence for our course in one place. This also means that you will submit the drafts of your oral presentations and your research paper to me as an attachment through ELC mail. Since I will also communicate with you through our ELC site, I suggest that you check this site daily for mail and discussion postings.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty":

http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/culture_honesty.htm

Students are responsible for informing themselves about these standards before performing any academic work.

FREN 8800 / SPAN 8010 / LING 8010: SYLLABUS

- The course syllabus is a general plan for the course. Deviations from this plan may be necessary and will be announced to students in class and/or posted on ELC.
- Carefully prepare all readings and exercises for a given date before coming to class. The readings in English are required for all students. The readings in brackets are optional, but recommended for your language of specialization.

7 Jan (Th)	1) Introduction Information about the course Exercise 1: General comparison of four Romance languages
WEEK 1	ELC 1: to Jan 25: Post your first journal entry on ELC. (Submit entries by midnight on the closing date)
12 Jan (Tu)	QUESTIONNAIRE DUE 2) General Issues in Romance Linguistics Readings: P1, HV 1-28, P2 3-12 [Fr-C 72-95, It 159-179, Sp 471-480, 589-592] Exercise 2: Issues in Romance Linguistics Exercise 3: Visual Representation of the Relationship Among the Romance Languages
14 Jan (Th)	SELECT TOPICS for Oral Presentations 1 and 2 3) Classification of the Romance Languages Reading: P2 12-33 Exercise 4: Classification of the Romance Languages
WEEK 2	
18 Jan (M)	Martin Luther King Day
19 Jan (Tu)	4) Dialectalization of the Romance Languages Readings: P2 53-92, H 57-79 [all languages E 29-51, Fr-B §33-42, It 155-158 (fonti), Sp 291-305, 272-283 (Romania nueva)] Exercise 5: Causes of the dialectalization of the Romance languages
21 Jan (Th)	5) Substratum and Superstratum Languages (1) Readings: H 81-100 [all languages E 183-311, Fr-B §137-149, It --, Sp 145-155, 204-211, 218-221, 363-374, 410-415, 420-429] Exercise 6 (Part 1): Substratum and Superstratum Languages and Influence
WEEK 3	ELC 2: Jan 26-Feb 8: Post your second journal entry on ELC.
26 Jan (Tu)	ORAL PRESENTATION 1A: Introduction and External History 6) Substratum and Superstratum Languages (2) Exercise 6 (Part 2): Substratum and Superstratum Languages and Influence on Vocabulary
28 Jan (Th)	7) Formation of Standard Languages in the Romania Readings: P2 243-287, H 101-132 [Fr-E 346-384, It-E 459-491, Sp-E 410-459] Exercise 7: The Rise of Romance Standard Languages
WEEK 4	
2 Feb (Tu)	8) The Comparative Method Readings: H 9-19 [Fr --, It --, Sp 47-51] Exercise 8: Reconstruction of Proto-Romance Stressed Vowels
4 Feb (Tu)	9) Comparative Vowel Development (1) Readings: P2 95-114, CD 20-42 [Fr-B §153-164, It 217-231, Sp 324-332] Exercise 9: Tonic Vowels in Romance

- WEEK 5
9 Feb (Tu) ELC 3: Feb 9-22: Post your third journal entry on ELC.
ORAL PRESENTATION 1B: Comparative Vowel Development
10) Comparative Vowel Development (2)
Readings: CD 42-55
Exercise 10: Unstressed (atonic) vowels in Romance
- 11 Feb (Th)** **11) Comparative Vowel Development (3)**
Exercise 10A: Review of Vowel Development
- WEEK 6
16 Feb (Tu) DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH PROJECT DUE by ELC before class
12) Comparative Consonant Development (1)
Readings: P2 114-125, CD 17-20, 56-107 [Fr-B §165-181, Sp 332-340]
Exercise 11: Development of Romance Consonants: Points of Divergence (first day)
- 18 Feb (Th)** **ORAL PRESENTATION 1C: Comparative Consonant Development**
13) Comparative Consonant Development (2)
Exercise 11: Development of Romance Consonants: Points of Divergence (second day)
- WEEK 7
23 Feb (Tu) ELC 4: Feb 23-Mar 15: Post your fourth journal entry on ELC.
14) Catch-up day and review for TEST 1
Begin reviewing Exercises 1-11 and consult Old Tests 1 and part of 2 in preparation for TEST 1
- 25 Feb (Th)** **15) TEST 1: External History and Vowel and Consonant Development**
Continue studying for TEST 1
- WEEK 8
2 Mar (Tu) **16) Comparative nominal development (1: nouns)**
Readings: P2 126-140, CD 110-116 [Fr-B §213-231, It 183-199, #1-3, 10, 12, 17; Sp 340-353]
Exercise 12: Reconstruction of Proto-Romance Nouns
- 4 Mar (Th)** **ORAL PRESENTATION 2A: Comparative Nominal Development**
17) Comparative nominal development (2: other nominals)
Readings: P2 140-145, CD 126-129
Exercise 13: Comparison of Romance Determiners
- 8-12 March Spring Break!
- WEEK 9
16 Mar (Tu) ELC 5: Mar 16-29: Post your fifth journal entry on ELC.
True midpoint of semester
18) Comparative Verb Development (1)
Readings: P2 146-164, 187-203, CD 129-146 [Fr-B §203-212; It 183-199, #4-9, 11, 13-16; Sp 353-356]
Exercise 14: Reconstruction of Proto-Romance Verbs (first day)
- 18 Mar (Th)** **ORAL PRESENTATION 2B: Comparative Verb Development**
19) Comparative Verb Development (2)
Exercise 14: Reconstruction of Proto-Romance Verbs (second day)
- WEEK 10
23 Mar (Tu) **20) Comparative Syntax (1)**
Readings: P2 165-187, CD 146-149 [Fr-B §232-249, 257, Sp 320-323]
Exercise 15: Comparative Romance Syntax (first day)
- 25 Mar (Th)** **21) Comparative Syntax (2)**
Exercise 15: Comparative Romance Syntax (second day)

- WEEK 11
30 Mar (Tu) ELC 6: Mar 30-Apr 27: Post your sixth journal entry on ELC.
 Midpoint withdrawal deadline: Last day to withdraw with a grade of W.
 E-MAIL RESEARCH PAPER TO YOUR PARTNER
22) Semantic change
 Readings: Pe 262-269, CD 116-122 [Fr-B §182-202, It 201-226, Sp 305-320]
 Exercise 16: Types of semantic change
- 1 Apr (Th)** E-MAIL COMMENTS ON RESEARCH PAPER TO YOUR PARTNER
 PRINT OUT PARTNER'S RESEARCH PAPER WITH YOUR COMMENTS and bring to class
23) Comparative vocabulary (1)
 Readings: P2 204-239
 Exercise 17: Comparative Romance Vocabulary (first day)
- 3 Apr (Sat) FIRST DRAFT OF RESEARCH PROJECT DUE TO PROFESSOR by ELC mail by midnight
- WEEK 12
6 Apr (Tu) **ORAL PRESENTATION 2C: Comparative Vocabulary**
24) Comparative vocabulary (2)
 Exercise 17: Comparative Romance Vocabulary (second day)
- 8 Apr (Th)** **25) Catch up day and review for TEST 2**
 Begin reviewing Exercises 12-17 and consult part of Old Test 2.
 Discussion of research papers
- 10 Apr (Sat) PROFESSOR RETURNS FIRST DRAFT OF RESEARCH PROJECT TO YOU by ELC mail
- WEEK 13
13 Apr (Tu) **26) TEST 2**
 Continue studying for TEST 2.
- 15 Apr (Th)** No class. Day off to compensate for posting journal entries on ELC.
- WEEK 14
20 Apr (Tu) **27) ORAL PRESENTATION 3** (first day)
 Oral presentation of research papers
- 22 Apr (Th)** **28) ORAL PRESENTATION 3** (second day)
 Oral presentation of research papers
- WEEK 15
27 Apr (Tu) Last day of class. Last day to post messages on ELC.
29) Review for final exam
 Exercise 18: Review for final exam
- 1 May (Sat) FINAL DRAFT (optional) OF RESEARCH PROJECT DUE TO PROFESSOR by ELC mail by midnight

Final Exam: Thursday, May 6, 7-10 p.m., Gilbert 360