

# FREN 4150/GERM 4150/SPAN 4150/JAPN 4980

## Foreign Language Instruction and Assessment

### Instructor Information

Lawrence Williams

Office: LANG 405F

Contact address: Canvas Inbox

My e-mail address is lawrence.williams@unt.edu, but students enrolled in a course that I teach must contact me using the Canvas Inbox.

Office hours:

- Mondays from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. (on campus—appointment required)
- Tuesdays from 3:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. (on line—appointment required)
- If you are not available during one of these time slots, please contact me through Canvas.

Please note that due to the ongoing pandemic, it is preferable to avoid unsafe situations. Therefore, if you want to meet on campus, you must contact me 48 hours in advance so that I can schedule a safe meeting place. In order for me to do this, I will need to schedule something with the office staff in our department, and this will take some time, which is why I need advance notice of 48 hours. If you have any questions about the ongoing pandemic, please consult the official website of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the website of the University of North Texas.

### Course Description, Structure, and Objectives

Study of foreign language curriculum, instruction and assessment for future and current teachers of French. (University of North Texas Undergraduate Catalog)

This class meets in RTFP 135 (Tuesday, 5:00 pm – 7:50 pm).

This is a combined class: FREN/GERM/SPAN 4150; JAPN 4980. This class includes majors from French, German, Japanese, and Spanish, so this class is taught in English, and assignments must be submitted in English.

The main learning objectives in this course have been formulated as 3 overarching questions:

- 1) What can/should be included in the foreign language curriculum?
- 2) What types of abilities can/should a teacher of a foreign language help students to develop?
- 3) How can/should a teacher of a foreign language develop lesson plans?

As you read and reflect on these questions, you will realize that students in this course will learn how to design and evaluate a foreign language curriculum. Moreover, students in this course will learn the specific types of abilities (as part of communicative competence and symbolic competence) that learners should be helped to develop. Finally, students in this course will learn how to design lesson plans for a foreign language classroom.

## Required and Recommended Materials

There is no required textbook for this course. The required and recommended materials are available for free on line, in Canvas, or at Willis Library.

### REQUIRED READINGS

- 1) American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. (2015). [\*World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages\*](#) – Executive Summary.
- 2) American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. (2011). [\*A decade of foreign language standards: Impact, influence, and future directions\*](#).
- 3) American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. (2012). [\*ACTFL performance descriptors for language learners\*](#).
- 4) American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. (2012). [\*ACTFL proficiency guidelines\*](#).
- 5) American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. (2018). [\*Guiding principles for language learning\*](#).
- 6) National Council of State Supervisors for Languages / American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. (2017). [\*NCSSFL-ACTFL Can-Do Statements\*](#).
- 7) Celce-Murcia, M. (2007). Rethinking the role of communicative competence in language teaching. In E. A. Soler & M. P. S. Jordà (Eds.), *Intercultural language use and language learning* (pp. 41-57). Springer.
- 8) New London Group. (1996). A pedagogy of multiliteracies: Designing social futures. *Harvard Educational Review*, 66, 60-92.
- 9) Poehner, M. E. (2018). [\*A casebook of Dynamic Assessment in foreign language education\*](#). Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research. The Pennsylvania State University.

### RECOMMENDED READINGS

- Hall, J. K. (2012). *Teaching and researching language and culture*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Routledge.
- Kramsch, C. (2009). *The multilingual subject*. Oxford University Press.
- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Resources that Address Issues of [\*Race, Diversity, and Social Justice\*](#) (for Language Learning & Teaching).

## ADA Accommodation Statement

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](http://www.unt.edu/oda) website (<http://www.unt.edu/oda>). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

## Supporting Your Success and Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment

Please consult the following [Diversity Statement \(PDF\)](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/sites/default/files/counseling-and-testing-services/documents/diversity-statement.pdf) that has been provided by the University of North Texas. (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/sites/default/files/counseling-and-testing-services/documents/diversity-statement.pdf>)

I value the many perspectives students bring to our campus. Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. All discussions should be respectful and civil.

## Evaluating Your Work

The following numeric grading scale is used for this course:

A = 900-1000

B = 800-899

C = 700-799

D = 600-699

F = 0-599

Late work is worth 0 points. Since you will have an automatic extension of 48 hours for all assignments (except the mid-term exam), only extenuating circumstances will be a valid reason for an additional extension. If you do not contact me before the due date, your request for an extension will not be accepted, regardless of the circumstances (with the exception of a last-minute hospitalization).

### DUE DATES IN CANVAS

There will be 2 due dates in Canvas for each assignment that you submit in Canvas. The first due date will be DUE DATE. The second due date will be AVAILABLE UNTIL. Canvas will consider your assignment LATE if you do not submit it by DUE DATE. However, I will not deduct points for late work if you submit an assignment by AVAILABLE UNTIL. The due date AVAILABLE UNTIL will be set for 48 hours after DUE DATE in Canvas.

For example . . .

DUE DATE: January 22, 2022

AVAILABLE UNTIL: January 24, 2022

As long as you submit the assignment by 11:59 p.m. local time on January 24, 2022, this will not be considered late.

## Course Requirements/Schedule

Assignment	Maximum Points	Percentage
Article Critiques (7 total)	100 each	10% each
Mid-Term Exam	100	10%
Sample Lesson Plan	200	20%

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week 1 – Tuesday, January 18, 2022

**Format: Classroom Meeting**

Topic(s): Overview of Language Learning and Language Teaching

Content: Various articles and information collected and organized by the instructor

Week 2 – Tuesday, January 25, 2022

**Format: Classroom Meeting**

Topic(s): Proficiency Guidelines and Learning Outcomes

Content: Documents available for free on the ACTFL website and the TEA website

**Assignment due in Canvas: Article Critique 1**

Week 3 – Tuesday, February 1, 2022

**Format: Classroom Meeting**

Topic(s): Communicative Competence

Content: Article written by Marianne Celce-Murcia

**Assignment due in Canvas: Article Critique 2**

Week 4 – Tuesday, February 8, 2022

**Format: Classroom Meeting**

Topic(s): Symbolic Competence

Content: Articles written by Claire Kramsch (details provided in Canvas)

**Assignment due in Canvas: Article Critique 3**

Week 5 – Tuesday, February 15, 2022

**Format: Classroom Meeting**

Topic(s): Pedagogical framework of the New London Group (1996)

Content: Article published in *Harvard Educational Review* (available through UNT Libraries)

Week 6 – Tuesday, February 22, 2022

**Format: Classroom Meeting**

Topic(s): Review of previous topics

Week 7 – Tuesday, March 1, 2022

**Format: Independent Work; No Classroom Meeting**

**Assignment due in Canvas: Article Critique 4—details available in Canvas**

Week 8 – Tuesday, March 8, 2022

**Format: Classroom Meeting**

**Assignment due during class: Mid-Term Exam**

Due to Spring Break, we will not have class on Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

Week 9 – Tuesday, March 22, 2022

**Format: Independent Work; No Classroom Meeting**

**Assignment due in Canvas: Article Critique 5—details available in Canvas**

Week 10 – Tuesday, March 29, 2022

**Format: Independent Work; No Classroom Meeting**

**Assignment due in Canvas: Article Critique 6—details available in Canvas**

Week 11 – Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Topic: Foreign Language Assessment

**Format: Classroom Meeting**

Week 12 – Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Topic: Lesson Planning

**Format: Classroom Meeting**

Week 13 – Tuesday, April 19, 2022

**Format: Independent Work; No Classroom Meeting**

**Assignment due in Canvas: Article Critique 7—details available in Canvas**

For this project, five different articles will be available. The article about teaching French will be required for French majors; the article about teaching German will be required for German majors; the articles about teaching English as a Second Language and teaching Japanese will be available for Japanese majors, who can choose one of those articles.

Week 14 – Tuesday, April 26, 2022

**Format: Independent Work; No Classroom Meeting**

Content: Sample Lesson Plan Project; Individual consultation with instructor

Week 15 – Tuesday, May 3, 2022

**Format: Independent Work; No Classroom Meeting**

Content: Sample Lesson Plan Project; Individual consultation with instructor

**Note:** **The Sample Lesson Plan Project is due in Canvas on Friday, May 6, 2022.** All students will be given an automatic extension to submit this assignment (with no deduction for submitting it late) until 11:59 pm local time on Tuesday, May 10, 2022. The Sample Lesson Plan Project replaces the final exam. This means that there is **no final exam in this course**.

Students will be notified by Eagle Alert if there is a campus closing that will impact a class. The calendar is subject to change, according to the [Emergency Notifications and Procedures Policy \(PDF\)](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf) ([https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049\\_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements\\_supplement.pdf](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf)). Please read UNT's [Academic Integrity Policy \(PDF\)](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf) very carefully. ([https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049\\_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements\\_supplement.pdf](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf)). Grades are based on mastery of the content. As a rule, I do not grade on a “curve” because that is a comparison of your outcomes to others. I do, however, encourage you to find opportunities to learn with and through others. Explore [Navigate’s Study Buddy](https://navigate.unt.edu) (<https://navigate.unt.edu>) tool to join study groups. Students who use other people’s work without citations will be violating UNT’s Academic Integrity Policy. Please read and follow this important set of [guidelines for your academic success](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>).

## Attendance and Participation

You should attend every class unless you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy day, or an official university function as stated in the [Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy \(PDF\)](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.039_StudAttnandAuthAbsence.Pub2_.19.pdf) ([https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.039\\_StudAttnandAuthAbsence.Pub2\\_.19.pdf](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.039_StudAttnandAuthAbsence.Pub2_.19.pdf)).

If you cannot attend a class due to an emergency, please let me know. Your safety and well-being are important to me.

### **Attendance during COVID**

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor prior to being absent, so you and the professor can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

If you are experiencing any [symptoms of COVID](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html) (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or [askSHWC@unt.edu](mailto:askSHWC@unt.edu)) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at [COVID@unt.edu](mailto:COVID@unt.edu) for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.