Modern Languages & Literature (MLL)

Courses

MLL 006 Globalization and Cultures 4 Credits
This course is a reflection on the processes of globalization and their consequences, both good and bad, on the world’s societies and on our concepts of culture and identity. It provides a multidisciplinary examination of what cultures gain and lose from their interaction with the rest of the world and what it means to be a citizen of a globalized yet diverse world.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 015 (ASIA 015, WGSS 015) Sex, War, Women, Art 4 Credits
Through the study of selected visual and literary works in their historical and social contexts, students will gain knowledge of cultures in Japan. This course examines various cultures from the perspectives of gender and sexuality as constitutive factors of Japanese society. Materials include a film depicting a romantic life of samurai, art works by contemporary artists, and writings on sex workers impacted by the Japanese empire. No prior knowledge of Japanese language is required. An introductory course taught in English.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 027 Russian Classics 4 Credits
Russian classics in translation.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 051 Contemporary Hispanic-American Literature 4 Credits
Reading and discussion of distinguished Latin American writers: Borges, García Márquez, Cortázar, and Vargas Llosa.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 053 This Hispanic World and its Culture 4 Credits
Characteristics and values of the people of Spain and Latin America in literary works and other material. Hispanic cultural contributions to Western civilization.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 068 (ASIA 068) Japanese Language: Past and Present 4 Credits
Historical and contemporary aspects of the Japanese language, including the origins of Japanese in relation to Korean, the influence of Chinese, syntactic features which reflect the hierarchical character of Japanese society, differences in female and male speech, and use of foreign loan words.
Prerequisites: JPN 001
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 071 (ASIA 071, HIST 071) Understanding Hong Kong 4 Credits
This course introduces Hong Kong, from its history as a vibrant British colony to its current status as a bustling territory mediating between China and the world. The learning objectives and outcomes consist not only of a knowledge of Hong Kong’s significance for global commerce and culture but also of the ability to analyze primary and secondary sources as well as to conduct independent research. All course materials are available in English.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 072 (ASIA 072) Ghosts, Monsters, and J-Horror 4 Credits
What’s behind our fascination with the ghost stories? What are some of the social issues that the horror stories examine? What makes us afraid? Examining Japan’s long tradition of horror stories of ghosts and monsters, this course introduces students to various Japanese horror stories, ranging from the classical texts to “J-Horror,” and explores how contemporary forms of popular culture such as anime, manga, and films draw on, or depart from, the traditional images of supernatural beings.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 073 (ASIA 073, WGSS 073) Film, Fiction, and Gender in Modern China 4 Credits
Study of the struggle for an individual “modern” identity out of traditionally defined roles for men and women as depicted by Chinese writers and filmmakers. Class, texts, and films in English. Students interested in setting up a corollary Chinese language component for credit as CHIN 371 or CHIN 251, may discuss this possibility with the professor.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 074 (ASIA 074) Chinese Cultural Program 1-8 Credits
A summer program in China, taught in English.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 075 (ASIA 075, HIST 075) Chinese Civilization 4 Credits
The development of traditional Chinese thought, beliefs, technology, and institutions from a historical perspective.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

MLL 076 (ASIA 076, HIST 076) Understanding Contemporary China 4 Credits
An overview of recent history, politics, economy, religion, problems of modernization, popular culture. Contemporary Chinese society viewed against the backdrop of tradition and the tumultuous history of twentieth-century China.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

MLL 078 (ASIA 078) Asian-American Studies 4 Credits
A survey of issues concerning Asians living in the United States from the perspectives of history, language, literature, and film.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 099 Modern Languages & Literature Special Topics 1-6 Credits
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

MLL 100 (FILM 100) Introduction to International Film 4 Credits
An introduction to international film traditions and theory. We look at the importance of cinema as both art and entertainment and consider the social, political, and economic role of film in national and global contexts.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 110 (ASIA 110, REL 110) Drinking and Immortality 4 Credits
This class explores modes of transcendence and their expression in literature and art, but most especially poetry. The primary focus is the role of drinking alcoholic beverages in traditional Chinese society and religion, but also on other modes and what is meant by the search for immortality - and the use of inner versus outer alchemy - will be examined.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 127 (ASIA 127) ORIENTations: Approaches to Modern Asia 4 Credits
An introduction to East, Southeast, and South Asia at the beginning of the 21st century. How is globalization transforming Asian societies? How are Asians represented (or misrepresented) in the West? How do Asian peoples view Western influences on them? What distinguishes our perspectives on politics, individual liberty, civic responsibility, religious faith and practice, work, etc? How is the trend toward globalization in the coming “Asian Century” likely to be affected by the growing assertiveness of nations like China and India? (H/S).

MLL 210 (GS 128) World Stories: Fictional Expressions of Globalization 4 Credits
An introduction to fiction as it reflects and discusses major issues related to globalization. The readings will include a selection of fiction from a diversity of world regions and will introduce the students to a theoretical reflection on the role of literary writing in a globalizing world. Students will be able to gain appreciation for the written fictional text as it takes on a diversity of issues related to globalization in a variety of world regions and cultural perspectives.
MLL 129 (GS 129) The Global Workplace: Preparing to Work around the World 4 Credits
This course uses modern literature and film to explore current theories of global and intercultural competence as well as practical approaches to the acquisition and development of skills needed to function effectively across cultural boundaries. We'll investigate changing definitions of work over time and across cultures and actively engage with contemporary global issues and the complexities of diverse cultural traditions.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 130 (ASIA 130, REL 130) Monkey Business 4 Credits
Read and discuss in English the premodern Chinese enlightenment odyssey, the Journey To The West, featuring the famous mischievous and magical martial arts master, the Monkey King. Familiarize yourself with a cultural icon that has entertained and inspired since the 16th century and continues to inspire spin-off dramas, comics, acrobatic and TV shows, movies, and video games.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 133 (AAS 133, FREN 133, HIST 133, LAS 133, POLS 133) Lehigh in Martinique: Globalization and Local Identity 3-4 Credits
History, culture, and politics of the French Caribbean island of Martinique, from its position as a key site of the 18th century Atlantic world economy to becoming an official French department and outpost of the European Union. Interdisciplinary perspectives on the complex nature of social identity, historical memory, and impact of globalization. No French is required. Offered during winter inter-term through Lehig Study Abroad.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 140 (ANTH 140, COGS 140) Introduction to Linguistics 4 Credits
Relationship between language and mind; formal properties of language; language and society; how languages change over time. May not be taken pass/fail.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

MLL 165 (ASIA 165) Love and Revolution in Shanghai 4 Credits
Project-based course examines human relationships and political-economic changes in Shanghai through the lens of literature, film, and a selection of other readings. Discussion of conflicts between and influences of pre-communist, communist, and capitalist systems as played out in the Shanghai urban arena.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 177 (ASIA 177) China Enters the Modern Age 4 Credits
The collapse of the imperial order and China’s agonizing transformation into a modern nation-state over the past 150 years. The impact of imperialism, war, radical social change, and protracted revolution on Chinese traditions, values, and institutions.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

MLL 199 Modern Languages & Literature Special Topics 1-4 Credits

MLL 202 (ENGL 202, GS 202, LAS 202) Latin America In Fact, In Fiction 4 Credits
This class couples a survey of Latin American literature in translation with an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Latin America. Departing initially from readings of literary and cinematographic works, our analyses will engage methodologies from multiple disciplines including history, sociology, and cultural studies. Accordingly, this course will examine critical developments in Latin American aesthetics along with the cultural climates in which they matured. This course assumes no prior study of Spanish, Portuguese, or Latin American culture.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 211 German Drama 4 Credits
Drama as a literary genre; plays from various periods of German literature.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 218 (GERM 218) Goethe’s “Faust” 4 Credits
Study of Goethe’s play with an introduction to the Faust tradition and Faustian themes in modern literature.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 231 (FILM 231, GERM 231) New German Cinema 4 Credits
Viewing, discussion, and written analysis of selected German films.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 299 Modern Languages & Literature Special Topics 1-6 Credits

MLL 300 Apprentice Teaching 1-4 Credits

MLL 302 (ENGL 302, GS 302, LAS 302) Travel and Adventure in Latin American Fiction 4 Credits
Centering on a corpus of works presenting tales of travel and adventure, this class offers an overview of Latin American narrative genres (including “fantastic” narrative, magical realism, and postmodern fiction) from the mid 20th century to present day. Through close readings of works by Adolfo Bioy Casares and Roberto Bolaño, among others, and the analysis of filmic representations of travel in Latin America, we will examine differing modes of perceiving the region defined as Latin America.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 303 (ENGL 303, GERM 303, WGSS 303) Grimm’s Fairy Tales: Folklore, Feminism, Film 4 Credits
This intercultural history of the Grimms’ fairy tales investigates how folktale types and gender stereotypes developed and became models for children and adults. The course covers the literary fairy tale in Germany, Europe and America. “Little Red Riding Hood”, “Cinderella”, or “Sleeping Beauty” exist not only in the Grimms’ collection but in many forms of world literature/film. Modern authors have rewritten fairy tales in feminist ways, promoting social change. Taught in English. German language students may receive a German component.

MLL 321 (GS 321) Intercultural Communication 4 Credits
Language is ambiguous by nature and discourse is interpreted in cultural and linguistic contexts. This course covers different cultural and linguistic strategies individuals use to communicate with each other, essential concepts for interacting with individuals from other cultural and linguistic backgrounds, and different strategies of communication as defined by specific cultures. Covering the theory and practice of intercultural interaction, this course examines assumptions about language and culture, and includes practical advice to help students develop the cultural sensitivity essential for.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 326 Modernity in the Maghreb 4 Credits
The emergence of the modern self through a comparative study of textual as well as visual representations of post colonial subjects by male and female writers and film makers. How the sociopolitical context of countries such as Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia informs the constitution of subjectivity within a multicultural and multilingual community. Issues of patriarchy, nationalism, colonialism, post colonialism, identity, gender and religion in North African literature and film from Franco-Arab Traditions. Taught in French.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

MLL 389 (IR 389) IR/MLL Capstone Project 4 Credits
A research project on international politics that will include original research in at least one foreign language under the joint supervision of an adviser in IR and one in the relevant language in MLL. Consent of department required.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

MLL 399 Modern Languages & Literature Special Topics 1-6 Credits

MLL 403 (WGSS 403) Grimm’s Fairy Tales: Folklore, Feminism, Film 3 Credits
This intercultural history of the Grimms’ fairy tales investigates how folktale types and gender stereotypes developed and became models for children and adults. The course covers the literary fairy tale in Germany as well as Europe and America. Versions of “Little Red Riding Hood”, “Cinderella”, or “Sleeping Beauty” exist not only in the Grimms’ collection but in films and many forms of world literature. Modern authors have rewritten fairy tales in feminist ways, promoting social change. Taught in English. German language students may receive a German component.