Putting it all together: Integrating Content and Language Learning in the L2 Classroom

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This seminar will introduce students to the innovative curricular approach of Content-Based Instruction (CBI) in second language context.

In this course we will:
(a) Learn about CBI’s principles and objectives of achieving/establishing a balance between language and content (culture) learning
(b) Engage with recent discussions and concerns about skills L2 students require for advanced “translingual and transcultural competences,” in other words, “the ability to comprehend and analyze the cultural narratives that appear in every kind of expressive form.” (2007 MLA Report).
(c) Discuss reports on genre and literacy-based curricular initiatives and explore some recent studies on instructional strategies and projects that have focused on developing advanced L2 skills for language and culture competences
(d) Focus on use of technology and ideas for integrating innovative digital and internet-based technology in upper-level language-content classes
(e) Explore and discuss various approaches to assessment in CBI

In addition to regular class discussions of readings and students’ projects, we will have invited guest speakers from campus and other institutions (via Skype).

Student Project:
1. Students will design and develop a content-based instructional unit focusing on teaching and learning of cultural literacy
2. Students will develop a syllabus for an upper-division undergraduate content/topic course

This course may count towards GIS in Second Language Studies.
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