



Department of Spanish and Portuguese

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To Whom It May Concern:

Attached please find the following course requests:

- Portuguese 401: Advanced Portuguese Grammar (Course Change Request)
- Portuguese 402: Portuguese Reading and Listening (New Course Request)
- Portuguese 403: Portuguese Conversation and Composition (Course Change Request)
- Portuguese 450: Introduction to the Study of Literatures and Cultures (New Course Request)

The change in 401 reflects the fact that the course is to be focused exclusively on a review of grammar, with composition now to be one of the subjects taught in 403. The change in 403 elevates an existing course (202) to a higher level that more appropriately reflects the relative difficulty of the course. The new 402 adds an important component to courses at the 400 level, focusing, as it does, on reading strategies and vocabulary acquisition. The final course, 450, builds on the skills acquired in the other courses, and, as an introduction to literary and cultural study, fills in a gap that has long been evident in the program. With the exception of 402, all of these courses correspond roughly to courses offered at the 400 level in Spanish, where they have proved to be very effective.

These requests are a part of the effort we are making in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese to revise and expand our Portuguese curriculum to better meet the needs of present and future majors and minors. The present submissions, we feel, are particularly critical to that effort because, as 400-level courses, they supply the bridge that allows students to pass successfully from the elementary level to the advanced. Because each of the courses impinges on the others, it is appropriate to consider the requests as a package.

The present requests will be followed shortly by several others—all Course Change Requests—that deal with courses at the 500- and 600-levels. The changes that will be asked for in this second group are minimal—some, for example, request only a slight change in the title in order to better reflect the nature of the material taught—and these changes will also be presented as a group.

We appreciate your attention to these requests. Please let me know should you have need of further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald R. Larson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Donald R. Larson
Vice Chair, Department of Spanish and Portuguese