"Spanish and Portuguese Programs in the US: Current Issues and Future Developments"

Dr. Manel Lacorte - University of Maryland

This talk will discuss several issues in curriculum development and language program articulation at the university level which will be of particular interest for future professionals in the field of second-language (L2) teaching and learning. After a brief overview of current dimensions on L2 pedagogy, this talk examines (1) possible options to overcome the traditional curricular divide between language and content courses; (2) several models to outline educational goals and expected outcomes for undergraduate language programs; (3) the development of interdisciplinary initiatives to link languages to the professions and to the community; and (4) some expected programmatic changes related to the growing presence of heritage learners in university language programs. The last part of the talk will connect these areas of curricular and programmatic interest to specific options for graduate teaching assistants (GTAs) preparing for careers as professionals to be fully aware of the institutional, social, cultural, and ideological issues in L2 teaching and learning.

Manel Lacorte is Associate Professor of Spanish Applied Linguistics, Director of the Spanish Language Program, Director of the MA program in Hispanic Applied Linguistics in the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at the University of Maryland, College Park, and OPI Certified Tester. Since 2009, Manel Lacorte also works as Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies at the Spanish School of Middlebury College, Vermont. He is a co-editor (with Judy Liskin-Gasparro) of the Theory and Practice in Second Language Classroom Instruction series (Pearson).

Friday, February 23, 2018 - 2:40 pm to 3:40 pm
Memorial Student Union, Santa Cruz Room
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