

Language Dept. Has Something For All

If a student is planning a career as a diplomat, should he study Latin, French or Spanish?

Those are the three languages offered at Chowan College and according to the chairman of the language department, M. Eugene Williams, each is suited for different students.

Williams reports the answer to the question is "Latin." The language department would also recommend that students who are planning to study law, medicine or pharmacy take Latin.

The recommended language for a student who plans to teach, do graduate study or enter the diplomatic service is French. Spanish is suggested to those who wish to enter the world of commerce — oil, imports.

Williams hastened to explain that students select their own foreign language. But for those who are hesitant as to the language they should select, the

recommendations are made.

Williams said that placement tests are not given at the first of the year. "We have found a brief conference with the professor involved to be more helpful than a placement test," Williams stated. "We like for each student enrolling in a language class to discuss his background with the professor of the proposed class."

Personal guidance of the student continues when he begins and throughout his course, Williams continued. He said all students in French and Spanish 101-102, 201-202 attend the language laboratory weekly. The lab is open Monday through Friday for the convenience of the student.

"Work in the lab helps the student greatly with his comprehension, speaking and pronunciation of the language," Williams explained. "We are proud of our relatively new and modern lab of 30 booths," he

added. Williams said the lab permits each student to advance at his own level and to use the latest equipment available in the teaching of a foreign language. "And, of course, the professor is always ready to assist the student so that he receives a personal touch as part of his lab experience," he noted.

Language classes are also small enough to facilitate communication between the professor and individual student, Williams proclaimed.

Williams offered a breakdown on the language courses. In French, classes are offered for beginners and those who did not do well in high school and wish to repeat it to build up their background. The 101 classes — first semester's work — are equivalent to the first year's work in high school. The 102 classes are equivalent to the second year's work in high school. Even though the student

completed some French in high school, but elects to take 101-102, he is given six hours credit when he completes these courses.

"If the student did well with his two years of high school French, he should be ready for our 201-202 course, which is largely translation, dictation, composition and the oral language," Williams noted.

"For students who have completed 201-202 or its equivalent, we offer 251-252. This is a survey of literature from the Chanson de Roland to the 20th century, with especial emphasis upon the 17th century," continued

Williams.

Latin 101-102, largely grammar, is offered for those students who have no previous knowledge of the subject or those who elect to repeat it to build up their background. Six hours credit is offered for these two semesters' work.

"Two years of high school latin should enable the student to hold his own in Latin 201-202, largely translations from Cicero, Ovid and Caesar," he offered.

Four courses are offered in Spanish elementary — 101-102; intermediate, 201-202; conversation, 203-204; and literature, 251-252."

Spanish Division Offers Annually Unique Program

The Spanish Division of the Department of Languages at Chowan College offers a unique program and each year presents a program of Spanish holiday dances and music entitled "Mexican Fiesta." This year this program will be presented to high schools in North Carolina and Virginia reaching approximately 6,000 high school seniors with the idea of presenting Chowan College and its program before prospective students.

"Mexican Fiesta" is presented to guidance counselors and

members of Spanish Departments in the high schools of Virginia and North Carolina in addition to the Chowan College student body.

Taking part in "Mexican Fiesta" is approximately 40 students from the Spanish Division of the Department of Languages. Dr. Morris Carson, professor of Spanish, is director and supervises this program.

The "Mexican Fiesta" presentation features the songs and dances most likely to be a part of various holiday or fiesta

times south of the border. Among the songs are "South of the Border," "Vaya con Dios," Mexican Hat Dance and "La Cucaracha Cha-Cha-Cha."

The Spanish Club, one of the largest and most active on campus, strives to keep the students' interest in the language alive. Besides the Mexican Taco Stand for Spring Festival, the Spanish Club made several television appearances on local TV stations in Virginia and North Carolina.

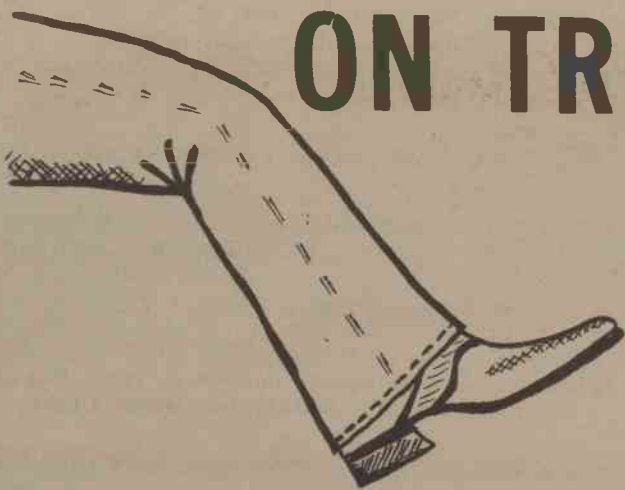


PERFORMING the Mexican Hat Dance are Martha Lynch and Wayne Ferguson. An estimated 6,000 high school seniors in North Carolina and Virginia will view "Mexican Fiesta" this school year.

Chowan College Students & Faculty

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