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04. Foreign and Modern Languages

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04.04.01 Contemporary French Film as a Teaching Tool: Caché and Memory

Catherine, Webster

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Contemporary culture and recent history are notably difficult topics to teach and scholarly publications frequently lag behind popular considerations of events from the recent past. In this case, Michael Haneke's 2005 film, Caché, addresses mainstream France's desire to forget its participation in the violence of the Algerian War. This thriller surprises its main characters and the audience by exposing afresh the sealed memories that it would rather forget. As such, it allows viewers -- especially students of contemporary French culture -- to understand both the war and its legacy.

04.04.02 Helping native Spanish speakers master Spanish grammar (a pilot study)

Maria Teresa, Moinette

University of Central Oklahoma

This research investigates how heritage Spanish speakers majoring or minoring in Spanish can improve their written and grammar proficiencies. While the assumption that due their excellent oral proficiency these individuals can make an easy A in any Spanish class, this pilot study shows that in fact, these individuals often score poorly on any written assignment, oftentimes their scores are lower than those students who are native English speakers.