Theater in the Language Classroom: An Interdisciplinary Workshop on Using Theater Techniques in World Language Classes



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11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Modern Languages Building, room 201
RSVP to sshortt@emory.edu required by noon on Friday, February 28.

To Romeo: What are you saying? To Julieta: What are you doing? To Romeo: What's at stake?

To Julieta: Have you thought this through?

Teaching language involves the best theatrical questions. Teaching theater involves the pressing need to communicate. How do these two disciplines support each other? *Taller de teatro en español*, or Theater Workshop in Spanish: Reading and Performing, is a yearly course offered to advanced Spanish students and that uses foundational theater skills to enhance the full embodiment of language. Through close readings of Spanish plays, poems, and folktales, and through memorization, development of character, writing assignments, and on-your-feet improvisation, students develop a deeper understanding of Spanish language and Hispanic cultures, all as they collaborate, think and play in-the-moment, and practice that basic of empathic theater skills: standing in another's shoes. In this talk, Professors Elva Gonzalez and Mary Lynn Owen will share their methodologies of co-teaching Spanish and Theater, and will also demonstrate some of the exercises they have used in this course.