Teaching Language and Culture with the UC's Library of Foreign Language Film Clips

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For the past two years, with funding from the UCCLLT, the Berkeley Language Center has been developing an online library of foreign language film clips. This service has been in place at UCB this semester, with more than 600 clips ordered over a three-month period. At this time we are ready to extend the service to all UC campuses.

We will briefly cover the process of clip creation, but the main focus will be on how clips can be ordered by instructors for use in their classes. Clips are cut from a variety of genres of foreign language films, tagged for relevant linguistic, cultural and discourse features, and stored in an online database. Instructors are able to search the database, find clips of interest, annotate them, and then order the clip in the form of a URL that can be posted to an LMS to display in class or to assign as homework.

In addition to the presentation on how to use the LFLFC, we will address a variety of ways that clips can be used in the classroom and provide a rationale for why film is such a valuable resource for language instructors seeking to implement a translingual/transcultural curriculum. We will show how the Library provides a social network for sharing ideas of pedagogical applications of the Library. We will also discuss how we can collaborate going forward to increase the number of films and clips in the collection.