

**Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies**  
**Resolution 2016-17H**  
**Resolution for the Renaming of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures**  
**to the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures**

Approved by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies:	March 20, 2017
Reviewed/Waived by Faculty Senate:	February 28, 2017
Affirmed by Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies:	March 15, 2017
First Reading by University Council:	April 10, 2017
Second Reading by University Council:	April 17, 2017
Approved by President:	April 17, 2017
Effective:	Fall 2017

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, established as a separate department in academic year 1976-1977, has achieved national and international distinction in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and outreach, and

**WHEREAS**, the Department has grown over the decades to include non-European languages such as Arabic, Chinese, and Japanese, as well as modern Greek, and

**WHEREAS**, the Department now offers majors in Classical Studies, French, German, Russian, and Spanish, and minors in Arabic, Chinese Studies, Classical Languages (including ancient Greek), Classical Studies, French, French for Business, German, Italian, Japanese Studies, Latin, Russian, and Spanish, and

**WHEREAS**, during the past decades "foreign" has been removed from the name of most language departments due to negative connotations that include the unwanted, the unnatural, the alien, the strange, and

**WHEREAS**, the Department's name is thus outside of and behind the national norms, and negatively affects the perception of the university and the department, and

**WHEREAS**, the Classical Studies program (Latin and Greek) has achieved particularly high recognition both regionally and nationally for outstanding teaching and discovery, and

**WHEREAS**, departments nationally that include Classical Studies with modern languages and literatures have a name that reflects this inclusion,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE IT RESOLVED**, that the name of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures be changed to the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, and the change forwarded to the President for approval and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) for notification.