

## Measuring Second Language Learner Development in The Corpus of L2 Romance in Nebraska (CORN)

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### Abstract:

Modern research in second language (L2) learning assessment benefits from language corpora, or machine-readable databases of naturally produced language spoken or written by L2 learners. A current limitation of this field is that while corpora of L2 English are widely available, learner corpora in the Romance languages, such as Spanish or French, are much less common. Furthermore, monolingual learner corpora are relatively numerous in comparison to scarce multi-language learner corpora.

The present research project aims to fill these gaps by building a corpus of texts written by learners of L2 Spanish and L2 French enrolled in Spanish and French courses at Creighton University. The corpus, known as the Corpus of L2 Romance in Nebraska (CORN), will contribute a longitudinal corpus of L2 Spanish and French written texts to the L2 learning research community and will collect enough data in order to be able to conduct comparative analyses of the development of grammar in L2 Spanish and French. Ultimately, this corpus resource will aid in the study of L2 development in and across the two languages, providing generalizable insights into the nature of L2 learning among students at a liberal arts college in the Midwest.