



Newsletter of the Department of Modern Languages at The University of the Incarnate Word



www.uiw.edu/modernlanguages

Volume 12, Issue 1 – Summer 2014

UPCOMING LANGUAGE COURSES

Summer Session I (May 19 – June 26)

SPAN 1311-01	Elementary Spanish I	MTWR 12:15–1:45 PM
SPAN 1312-01	Elementary Spanish II	MTWR 2:00–3:30 PM

(May 19 – June 19)

SPAN 4320-01	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 9:00–11:00 AM
SPAN 4320-02	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 9:00–11:00 AM

Summer Session II (June 30 – August 7)

SPAN 1311-02	Elementary Spanish I	MTWR 12:15–1:45 PM
SPAN 1312-02	Elementary Spanish II	MTWR 2:00–3:30 PM

(June 30 – July 31)

SPAN 4320-03	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 9:00–11:00 AM
SPAN 4321-01	Elementary Spanish II for Pharmacists	MTWR 9:00–11:00 AM

Fall 2014

ARAB 1311	Elementary Arabic I	MW 7:30–8:45 AM
ARAB 2311	Intermediate Arabic I	MW 9:00–10:15 AM
FREN 1311	Elementary French I	TR 3:00–4:15 PM and TR 4:30–5:45 PM
FREN 2311	Intermediate French I	MW 3:00–4:15 PM
GERM 1311	Elementary German I	MW 1:30–2:45 PM
IT 1311	Elementary Italian I	MW 3:00–4:15 PM and TR 1:30–2:45 PM
JAPN 1311	Elementary Japanese I	MW 12:00–1:15 PM and MW 3:00–4:15 PM
JAPN 2311	Intermediate Japanese I	MW 1:30–2:45 PM
KORE 1311	Elementary Korean I	TR 3:00–4:15 PM
KORE 2311	Intermediate Korean I	TR 4:30–5:45 PM

SPAN 1311	Elementary Spanish I (24 sections)	
SPAN 1312	Elementary Spanish II (12 sections)	
SPAN 1313	Elementary Spanish for Health Professions – Dr. Sally Said	MW 4:30–5:45 PM
SPAN 2311	Intermediate Spanish I: Oral Communication – Dr. Sally Said	TR 9:00–10:15 AM
SPAN 3312	Culture & Civilization of Latin America – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 1:30–2:45 PM
SPAN 3334	Spanish in the Media – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	F 9:00 – 12:00 PM
SPAN 3337	Applied Linguistics for Teaching – Dr. Michael Tallon	TR 12:00–1:15 PM
SPAN 3341	Spanish-American Literature to Modernism – Dr. Juan Carlos Moreno	TR 3:00–4:15 PM

INTERMEDIATE LANGUAGE COURSES IN FALL 2014

In Fall 2014, the Department of Modern Languages will offer Intermediate I (third semester) courses in several of our other languages: Arabic, French, Japanese, and Korean. The Intermediate II (fourth semester) courses of these languages will be offered in Spring 2015. For more information about these courses, contact Michael Tallon at tallon@uiwtx.edu.

UPDATE ON LANGUAGE AGREEMENT WITH TRINITY UNIVERSITY

UIW has signed an agreement with Trinity University that will allow qualified Incarnate Word students to enroll and earn credit in a variety of classical and modern languages at Trinity University on a space available basis, while qualified students from Trinity can enroll and earn credit in science courses (Anatomy and Physiology 1 & 2) and modern language courses at UIW on a space available basis. UIW students can take any language at Trinity that is not currently offered at UIW. Students taking classes under this agreement will pay the tuition of their respective home institutions. Contact the Registrar's Office for details on how to enroll.

PREVIOUS EVENTS

Faculty Breakfast

On Saturday, September 21, 2013, the Department of Modern Languages held a breakfast and update session at La Madeleine Café from 9:00 AM to noon. This was a nice opportunity to welcome everyone back from the summer break, meet our new faculty, and catch up on recent faculty activities.

Spanish Poetry Reading

On Thursday, October 10, 2013, during Hispanic Heritage Month, a Spanish Poetry Reading (*De Poesía a Canción*) was held in the Mabee Library Auditorium. Dr. Amalia Mondríguez, students, and other UIW faculty members read the poetry, while the audience was able to sing along.

Día de los Muertos and Altar de Muertos

Following the 8:00 PM Mass on Sunday, November 3, 2013, Dr. Gilberto Hinojosa spoke briefly about the significance of the Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead). Afterwards, Department of Modern Languages served pan de muertos, the traditional "bread of the dead," and Campus Ministry provided hot chocolate. An altar, or ofrenda, was constructed in the chapel foyer by the students in Dr. Sally Said's intermediate Spanish class. Community members were invited to add a picture or other small remembrance in honor of someone who had died.

Navajo Weaver Beverly Allen

Navajo weaver Beverly Allen, who has taught and shown her work around the world, visited Incarnate Word during the week of November 11-14, 2013, as part of UIW's Native American Heritage Month activities. Monday through Thursday she demonstrated weaving techniques and offered instruction under a tent on Dubuis Lawn. She also spoke to two classes, on Monday and Wednesday in the afternoon.

Epiphany Party

On Saturday, January 4, 2014, the Department of Modern Languages held an "Epiphany Party" in the Brackenridge Villa. Faculty and current and former students enjoyed food and fellowship. The event was coordinated by Dr. Amalia Mondríguez.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Heritage Day Celebration

Congratulations to Dr. Amalia Mondríguez (25 years), Dr. Sally Said (25 years), and Dr. Pat Lonchar (30 years), who were recognized for their many years of service at UIW during the annual Heritage Day Celebration!



STUDENT NEWS

At the 2014 CHASS Celebration of Excellence Ceremony, held on April 3rd, the following students received awards from the Department of Modern Languages:

- **Regina Reyes Campos** - Outstanding Spanish Major in memory of Carolina Ballester
- **Stephanie Dimas** - Outstanding Student in Intermediate Spanish in memory of Joshua Stokes
- **Angélica Hernández** - Outstanding Use of Spanish in Service to the Community
- **Rubén Cantú** - Outstanding Student in the Spanish Minor
- **Cecilia Iñiguez** - Distinguished Alumna 2014, UIW Spanish Program
- **Ryan C. Bibby** – Outstanding Student in Arabic
- **Pauline Nguy** – Outstanding Student in Chinese
- **Antonio Contreras** – Outstanding Student in French
- **Emilee T. Wills** – Outstanding Student in German
- **Leslie M. Holland** – Outstanding Student in Italian
- **Jahnavi Mijagiri** – Outstanding Student in Japanese
- **Jasmen Hale** – Outstanding Student in Korean

Congratulations to the following Spanish majors who graduated this year:

- **Regina Campos Reyes**
- **Angélica Hernández**
- **Erin Ann Oakes**
- **Martha Ramos**
- **Elizabeth Ríos**
- **Jorge Sánchez**

Two students from UIW won first and second place in the 25th Annual Japanese Language Contest held at San Antonio College on Saturday, February 8, 2014. This annual event, sponsored by the Japan American Society of San Antonio (JASSA), offers participants an opportunity to demonstrate their oral communication skills in Japanese while competing in a statewide competition. It brings attention to the Japanese language and promotes the knowledge and understanding of Japan by Americans. Congratulations to Victoria Herrera for winning 1st Place and Jahnavi Mijagiri for winning 2nd Place! Victoria also competed in the State Contest held at Rice University on March 8, 2014. In addition, in the Free Speech Open at the State Contest, two sisters from UIW (Miwako and Emi Yokoo – who are Japanese tutors for UIW and St. Anthony Catholic High School) won 1st Place and 2nd Place! Congratulations to everyone, including Japanese Professor Chihiro Legris!!

Statement from Victoria Herrera:

My name is Victoria Herrera. I am currently in the 4th year of my 5-year MSA program, concentrating in Accounting. I'm on the board of the National Society of Leadership and Success, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and Delta Mu Delta. I am also a proud member of the UIW Asian Culture Club, the Accounting Society, and Business Club. Outside of school, I am a part of the San Antonio CPA Society, ADELANTE!, the Japan-America Society of San Antonio, and recently became a member of the Chinese Society of San Antonio. As a student at UIW, I was able to participate in the study abroad program and go to Kumamoto, Japan for a full year. I had gone once before through St. Anthony Catholic High School, and that was a different experience from the one going as a college student. I truly believe that studying in another country makes you more understanding not only of the culture that you are experiencing but also of your own. It humbles you as you become the one asking for guidance, especially if you go to a country where you are not fluent in the language. You become a part of a new community with new friends, new places, and new stories. When you come back home, you realize that you have made lasting relationships that cross numerous and diverse borders. I learned so much about myself that I know I would not have accomplished without going outside my comfort zone. The Japanese speech contest was another way that I pushed my boundaries. I have had the privilege to be a part of dance performances and activities that interest me, but I have never had to be the only one in front of an audience reciting by memory a 3-minute speech that I wrote myself. I felt that if I did well or not, it would be a direct reflection of me. Of course that was just the pressure getting to me, but I truly enjoyed delivering it and having that sign of relief. We practice before the contest, and then we willingly put ourselves and our work to other's judgment. I honestly didn't believe I would get 1st place as I noticed it was a tight race, but I plan to proudly represent UIW at the state competition in March.

Statement from Jahnvi Mijagiri:

As a girl who loves culture and diversity, Japan and Japanese was something that instantly sparked my interest. As a native speaker of three Indian languages and English, and also a learner of Spanish, I wanted to learn a new language that would be completely different from anything else. As well as experience a culture whose ways were different than what I was already used to. Learning Japanese opened the door to this new world. And at the Japan America Society of San Antonio Speech Contest I was able to enter this world for myself and try my hand at speaking for a whole 180 seconds like a true native. I worked for weeks practicing my speech everyday with my teacher, my peers, Japanese people, and even my clueless family. At every chance I got I was trying to make every sound the way a real native speaker would say it. It was an effort that took up a whole portion of my life for those few weeks, but it was well worth it. For at that speech contest I knew I had something amazing to present and was proud to do so! The judges there were all so impressed that I was only in my first semester of college and already so far. It was inspiring beyond words, how much my hard work was paying off. On top of all that, to win second place was an honor I was so very grateful for. They bowed and congratulated me in Japanese while handing me the trophy. It was a wonderfully authentic experience. Everyone there was so genuinely happy to see the enthusiasm that I had for their language and culture. At the contest, I understood just how possible it is for me to speak fluently in Japanese, and now I am surer than ever that I am going to pursue that dream. In the spring of 2015 I will visit Japan for the first time and study abroad for a semester at a UIW sister school in Kumamoto. I have recently decided to minor in modern language too, in addition to my current pursuit of a Doctorate of Pharmacy degree. Language and speech as always been a love of mine, and it is a pleasure to add that into my professional plans as well. In the future I hope to move international with my career, and Japan is on the top of my list to hit. It is going to be a delightful year preparing for my big trip, and sharpening my skills in Japanese. I have been planning this adventure for about a year and a half now, and in less than a year, it will become a reality. What will make it even more special now though is that not only I, but everyone from my sensei and friends to the judges of the speech contest going to witness the results of this trip. The speech contest acquainted me with people who I can know are my well-wishers on this journey to fluency, and even more that, are motivations to make this journey. I feel so fortunate to have had this wonderful opportunity.

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

In May-June 2013, **Dr. Sally Said** attended a class in moccasin making at Diné College in Arizona taught by renowned Navajo anthropologist and artist Harry Walter. She also completed research for a paper to be presented at the Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City on October 25, 2013: "Navajo Weaving as Spider Woman's Voice: Recovering the Role of Women in Navajo Survivance." On Thursday, October 31, students in Dr. Said's Spanish 2311 class constructed the annual Altar de Muertos outside Our Lady's Chapel. Designed by students, the altar included traditional candles, sugar skulls, fruits, vegetables, flowers, and photographs from the community of persons to be remembered. The class and Campus Ministry co-hosted a reception on Sunday, November 3, after evening Mass, serving *pan de muerto* and hot chocolate. As a member of the Native American Heritage Month committee, Dr. Said facilitated the visit to campus of Navajo weaver Beverly Allen November 10-16. Beverly spoke to three different classes and conducted demonstrations of carding, spinning, and weaving during this time. Dr. Said also helped to plan other Native American activities during November. In April, Students in her Spanish 2312 published their anthology of fifty-seven essays, *Estación de lluvias*. Dr. Said also served on the Women's History Month Committee, the Earth Month Committee, and the Sisters of Charity's Bilingual Committee. In the first summer session of 2014, Dr. Said assisted the head of the Navajo Language Department at Diné College in preparing a workshop for elementary school teachers of Navajo as a second language. She also wrote curriculum for a course in teaching Navajo as a second language for prospective teachers and outlined content for a prospective Navajo language course, Introduction to Leadership and Communication. Additionally, she conducted research for a conference paper on the rhetoric of Navajo water rights negotiations.

Michael Tallon attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Conference in Orlando, Florida, where he presented "Becoming a Better Language Learner in 'Mixed' Spanish Classes." As Chair of the Spanish for Heritage Learners (SHL) Special Interest Group (SIG), he ran the SIG's business meeting and also helped with the SIG's other two sessions. In February 2014 he attended the Texas Foreign Language Education Conference in Austin, Texas, where he presented "Foreign Language Anxiety in Non-Heritage Spanish Students: A Qualitative Study." In March 2014, he attended the Second International Conference on Heritage/Community Languages (sponsored by the National Heritage Language Resource Center) at UCLA in Los Angeles, California, where he presented "Helping Heritage Students Be Better Language Learners in Mixed Classrooms." And in July 2014 he attended the 96th Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) in Panama City, Panama, where he presented "Foreign Language Anxiety in Non-Heritage Spanish Students: A Qualitative Study." His paper "The Effects of Foreign Language Anxiety on Heritage Students of Spanish: A Preliminary Investigation" was published in the Summer 2014 issue of *Texas Papers in Foreign Language Education* (v16, #1). For the 2013-2014 academic year, he served on the UIW Rank & Tenure Committee and he once again served as the CHASS Mentor Liaison for the UIW New Faculty Mentoring Program as well as an Alpha Faculty Mentor for first generation college students.

This year **Elaine Bryant**, Lecturer of Spanish and French, traveled to both Puerto Rico and France, where she thoroughly enjoyed the language, the culture, and the cuisine. She and her Spanish and French students profited from a new idea to enrich language learning, an optional film Sunday for each of her courses. A Sunday afternoon during the semester, they enjoyed refreshments and watched movies in the target language, all recent and focused on current social justice issues. For example, French classes watched "The Other Son," based on the conflict in Palestine and Israel. The Spanish classes watched "Even the Rain," based on the cruel treatment of the indigenous people of Bolivia both historically and currently during the Water Wars. For those unable to attend, but who still wanted to see the movie, the films were put on reserve in the library. The events were well attended by students of both languages.

DID YOU KNOW?

How Language Learning Supports Mental Agility (From ACTFL SmartBrief – 9/17/13)

Learning a new language can help develop areas of the mind that assist with focus and information processing, writes Dan Roitman, founder and CEO of education e-commerce platform company Stroll. In this blog post, he explains how speaking more than one language literally reshapes the brain. "Learning a second language is like a workout for your mind," he writes. To read the article, visit:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dan-roitman/your-mind-on-language-how_b_3902184.html?utm_hp_ref=tw

Goodbye

We say goodbye to Professors Paul Kasper, Rocío Ocón-Garrido, Arlene Ríos, and Wen-jiao (Josiane) Duan, and wish them all the best as they move on to other endeavors.

Welcome

We welcome the following new part-time faculty members to our department in Fall 2014:

Mr. Jesús Castro Gorfti – Spanish

Ms. Jeanne Johnson – Spanish

Mr. Alberto Méndez – Spanish

Mr. Luis Perea – Spanish

Ms. Rose Phillips – Spanish

UIW MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT WEB SITE

Be sure to check out our web site (www.uiw.edu/modernlanguages) for information about our language programs and our faculty, previous newsletters, and other information! Also, find us on Facebook by searching for "University of the Incarnate Word Department of Modern Languages." Be sure to "Like" our page so that you can keep up with our departmental happenings and stay in touch with faculty and both current and former students!

If you have any comments about this newsletter or would like to include information in the next newsletter, please contact Michael Tallon at tallon@uiwtx.edu or 210-805-5891.

"The conquest of learning is achieved through the knowledge of languages."

*-- Roger Bacon, *The Opus Majus of Roger Bacon* – Volume 1*
