



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



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Volume 10, Issue 1 – Summer 2012

UPCOMING LANGUAGE COURSES

Summer Session I (May 14 – June 21)

SPAN 1311-01	Elementary Spanish I	MTWR 8:30–10:00 AM
SPAN 1312-01	Elementary Spanish II	MTWR 10:30–12:00 PM

(May 14 – June 14)

SPAN 4320-01	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:30–10:30 AM
SPAN 4320-02	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:30–10:30 AM

Summer Session II (June 25 – August 2)

SPAN 1311-01	Elementary Spanish I	MTWR 8:30–10:00 AM
SPAN 1312-01	Elementary Spanish II	MTWR 10:30–12:00 PM

(June 25 – July 26)

SPAN 4321-01	Elementary Spanish II for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:30–10:30 AM
SPAN 4321-02	Elementary Spanish II for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:30–10:30 AM

Fall 2012

ARAB 1311	Elementary Arabic I	MW 6:00–7:15 PM
ARAB 2311	Intermediate Arabic I	TR 10:30–11:45 AM
CHIN 1311	Elementary Chinese I	MW 1:30–2:45 PM and TR 6:00–7:15 PM
FREN 1311	Elementary French I	TR 3:00–4:15 PM
FREN 2311	Intermediate French I	TR 4:30–5:45 PM
GERM 1311	Elementary German I	MW 4:30–5:45 PM
HIND 1311	Elementary Hindi I	MW 6:00–7:15 PM
IT 1311	Elementary Italian I	MW 9:00–10:15 AM
IT 1312	Elementary Italian II	MW 10:30–11:45 AM
JAPN 1311	Elementary Japanese I	MW 12:00–1:15 PM
PORT 1311	Elementary Portuguese I	TR 6:00–7:15 PM
SPAN 1311	Elementary Spanish I (22 sections)	
SPAN 1312	Elementary Spanish II (13 sections)	
SPAN 2311	Intermediate Spanish I: Oral Communication – Dr. Sally Said	TR 9:00–10:15 AM
SPAN 3301	Advanced Spanish Grammar and Composition – Dr. J’Leen Saeger	TR 10:30–11:45 AM
SPAN 3312	Culture & Civilization of Latin America – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 12:00–1:15 PM
SPAN 3341	Spanish-American Literature to Modernism – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 1:30–2:45 PM
SPAN 3337	Applied Linguistics for Teaching – Dr. Michael Tallon	TR 4:30–5:45 PM

NEW LANGUAGE COURSES IN HINDI

Beginning in Fall 2012, the Department of Modern Languages will offer first-year courses in Hindi! Hindi is the third most widely spoken language in the world – and can be your gateway to India. In Fall 2012, you can take HIND 1311 (Elementary Hindi I), followed by HIND 1312 (Elementary Hindi II) in Spring 2013. These two courses will fulfill the CORE Modern Language requirement and will also satisfy requirements for the Asian Studies concentration. You can then consider going to India with Dr. Lopita Nath's Indian History class in May 2013. For more information about these courses, contact Michael Tallon at tallon@uiwtx.edu.

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 Greek, Latin, and Russian language courses taught at Trinity (one 3- or 4-hour course per semester) on a space available basis, while qualified students from Trinity can enroll and earn credit in science courses (Anatomy and Physiology 1 & 2) at UIW (one 3-hour lecture plus a 1-hour lab course per semester) on a space available basis. Students taking classes under this agreement will pay the tuition of their respective home institutions.

PREVIOUS EVENTS

Fiesta de Reyes

On Friday, January 6, 2012, the Department of Modern Languages sponsored the first annual "Fiesta de Reyes" event for UIW. Under the leadership of Dr. Amalia Mondríguez, the department provided food, music, and learning activities for all who attended. This celebration of The Three Kings is a major event in Spain and students in the Spanish Culture and Civilization class also took part in the event, along with many people from the UIW community, the Puerto Rican Society, and the larger San Antonio Community. A highlight of the evening was the actual visit by "los Reyes Magos," who gave gifts to all the children in attendance and graciously posed for many pictures with children and adults alike.



Faculty Breakfast

On Saturday, August 27, 2011, the Department held a breakfast and update session at La Madeleine 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.

Altar de Muertos

On October 27, 2011, students in Dr. Said's Spanish 2311 class constructed the annual Altar de Muertos outside Our Lady's Chapel. It involved candles, sugar skulls, fruits, vegetables, flowers, and photographs from the community of persons to be remembered. At Sunday evening Mass October 30, a special service was held for Day of the Dead, and afterwards Campus Ministry and Modern Languages hosted a reception with *pan de muerto* and hot chocolate.



Guest Speaker

Modern Languages, the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, and the Women's History Month Committee collaborated to bring Navajo weaver Beverly Allen from Tsaile, Arizona to speak to classes about Navajo women's issues and to demonstrate weaving on campus March 20-23, 2012.



Trip to Spain

During Holy Week, Dr. Amalia Mondríguez and five students from the Culture and Civilization of Spain class – Priscilla Gaitán, Eric Ramírez, María Cristina Castaño, Bernice Montalvo and Rafael Parada – went to Spain and visited seven cities. At the end of April, all the students spoke about their trip to other students in the Spanish course and also to the UIW community.



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Moody Professor Award – Dr. Sally Said

On March 30th, at the Faculty Appreciation Luncheon, it was announced that Dr. Sally Said had been named the Moody Professor for the 2012-13 academic year! This is considered the highest honor for a faculty member at UIW. Sponsored by the Moody Foundation, the award enables a professor from UIW and one from Our Lady of the Lake to present two lectures each, one at each university. In addition, Dr. Said will give the commencement address at the December 2012 graduation.



Presidential Teaching Award Nominee – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez

Congratulations to Dr. Amalia Mondríguez for being nominated for the 2012 Presidential Teaching Award! Established by the Faculty Senate in Fall 2004 with the support of President Lou Agnese, this annual award acknowledges and rewards a faculty member who exemplifies excellence in teaching that leads to student engagement.

WGS Award – Dr. Pat Lonchar

On March 28th, at the kickoff reception for the new Women and Gender Studies (WGS) Concentration, Dr. Pat Lonchar, Professor of English and Assistant Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, received the first annual WGS Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Teaching! For over 30 years Dr. Lonchar has focused on the voices of women in her own work as well as in the classroom.



We would also like to acknowledge and thank Dr. Lonchar for all her contributions to the Department of Modern Languages. She regularly attends our departmental meetings and contributes thoughtful and helpful ideas and invaluable input. We are grateful for the time and energy she dedicates to our department!

STUDENT NEWS

Two Spanish majors are teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) in Asia this summer: **Martha Ramos** is in China and **Angélica Hernández** is in South Korea.

At the 2012 CHASS Celebration of Excellence Ceremony, held on April 19th, the following students received awards from the Department of Modern Languages:

- **Mayra Montemayor** - Outstanding Spanish Major in memory of Carolina Ballester
- **Julia Gómez** - Outstanding Student in Intermediate Spanish in memory of Joshua Stokes
- **Angélica Hernández** - Outstanding Use of Spanish in Service to the Community
- **Regina Campos Reyes** - Outstanding Student in the Spanish Minor
- **Jorge Topete** - Distinguished Alumnus 2012, UIW Spanish Program
- **Michelle Wilk** – Outstanding Student in Arabic
- **Alicia Celeste Najera** – Outstanding Student in Chinese
- **Ashley Bordas** – Outstanding Student in French
- **Kristen Kjolhede** – Outstanding Student in German
- **Victoria Villarreal** – Outstanding Student in Italian
- **Chelsea Mojica** – Outstanding Student in Japanese
- **Cherie A. Pineer Huff** – Outstanding Student in Portuguese

2012 Distinguished Alumnus in the UIW Spanish Program – Jorge Topete

Jorge Topete graduated magna cum laude from UIW in May 2002 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish. In 2005 he earned his Master's degree in Communications from UIW. In the last semester of his Bachelor's degree, Jorge took 8 classes while working full-time at USAA, doing an internship at Telemundo, and being a full-time parent, husband and doing community service for various organizations including his church. Because of his dedication to his studies and his determination to graduate from UIW, Jorge was able to successfully pass all of classes with all A's. Jorge believes that with God's help and with one's own determination, everything is possible. After earning his Master's degree, Jorge was hired as a full-time assignments editor and reporter at Telemundo news where he spent several years working on a news segment entitled "Mujer de la Semana." The purpose of that segment was to recognize outstanding women from the San Antonio area and other famous women. In 2006, Jorge was hired at Southside Independent School District as their Public Information Officer and Community Education Coordinator, a job that he loves. His main task at Southside ISD is Public Relations and Community Education where his dedication is to promote community excellence by offering community education classes, working with local news media to share student and staff positive stories, writing newspaper articles, creating news for the district's website and offering district-wide community events. Jorge started a doctorate degree at Our Lady of the Lake University in Leadership that is currently on hold, but he plans to continue in the near future. Jorge has three beautiful women in his life: his wife Maria Topete, Carissa Topete (a 16 year old that will graduate from Judson High School this year ranked in the top 2% of her class), and Kristelle Topete (another smart girl in Gifted and Talented at Converse Elementary).

CHINESE NEWS

From Professor Margaret Gao, adjunct instructor of Chinese: Alicia Celeste Najera is the first student from UIW to receive the U.S. Department of State Scholarship for a Critical Language study in China. This is a highly competitive scholarship, with 90 scholarships awarded from a pool of over 5,200 applicants. Alicia has a burning desire to study Chinese. Her purposes for studying Chinese are not only to gain a good grade, but also for using Mandarin as a tool to communicate with native Chinese speakers in her future international business career. Thus she studied and practiced Chinese very hard, and she has done outstanding work in Chinese listening, speaking, understanding the meaning of Chinese, as well as writing Chinese characters. From 2010 Fall to 2011 Fall, Alicia studied Chinese 1 to 5 at UIW in the U.S. and also in a university in Beijing China. She also visited different cities in China. Now Alicia is able to communicate with Chinese Native Speakers in different topics fluently. This summer, she will go to China to finish her Chinese 6 study through the U.S. Department of State Scholarship and will obtain a Chinese Minor at UIW.

FRENCH NEWS

From Professor Elaine Bryant, adjunct instructor of French and Spanish: This year during Spring Break, Elaine Bryant visited Paris and Mont Saint Michel in Normandy. Aside from enjoying the French pastimes of people watching from the terrace of a café and relaxing with a good book in Tuileries Park, she focused her trip on exhibitions with an uncommon perspective. The Orangerie Museum was the first in a series of exhibitions of "Music and the Arts," in this case represented by Debussy and Monet. Not only was there an abundance of information about the composer and artist, but there was also the extraordinary experience of listening to Debussy's "La Mer" while taking in the two galleries of Monet's "Water Lilies." Second, at the Pompidou Center was "Matisse: Pairs and Series," where pairs and series of paintings were exhibited side by side, enriching the understanding of each work and of the development of the artist. Finally, and most importantly, she was fortunate enough to visit "Resisting the Present: Mexico, 2000/2012" at the Modern Art Museum of the City of Paris. On exhibit were a variety of media: short films, installations, paintings, and sculptures, all done by young Mexican artists born since 1975 during the period from 2000 to 2012. Central to the exhibition was the juxtaposition of the values of traditional Mexico, the Mexico Professor Bryant knew when she lived there, with present materialism, and resulting exploitation by the powerful. Many of the works are unforgettable!

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

Dr. Amalia Mondríguez was the Spanish editor/consultant for the Intercultural Development Research Association's publications for early childhood and primary grades. The published books are *Semillitas de aprendizaje* (stories) for primary grades, and 15 books for early childhood. The books are bilingual. Dr. Mondríguez was included in the book *Great Lives in History: Latinos*, Education section, published in February 2012 by Salem Press. As a member of the Board of Trustees of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI), she helped coordinate and host the regional conference at UIW in September 2011. Dr. Mondríguez also conducted the 2012 Spanish certification testing for the Feik School of Pharmacy. As a community service, Dr. Mondríguez taught Spanish to the UIW Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word during Fall 2011 and Spring 2012.

In the summer of 2011, **Dr. Sally Said** attended a class in Navajo Culture at Diné College in Tsaile, AZ, in the Navajo Nation. She also assisted with the annual Sheep is Life Celebration, and conducted research on the efforts of five tribes to have Mt. Taylor declared a Traditional Cultural Property by the State of New Mexico and on the history of the eastern band of the Navajo at Tóhajiilee, New Mexico. That research led to a conference presentation for the Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference in Tempe, AZ, October 22, "Embracing Difference: Identity Transformation and the Tóhajiilee Band of the Navajo." She also had accepted for publication a chapter "Mt. Taylor, New Mexico: Efforts to Provide Resilience to a Sacred Mountain Social-Ecological System" in *Environmental Rhetoric: Ecologies of Place*, edited by Peter Goggin, forthcoming. September 17, Dr. Said attended the workshop on writing for children sponsored by the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators—Southwest Texas, held at Incarnate Word, thanks to conference co-chair Dr. Amalia Mondríguez. On October 27, Dr. Said's Intermediate Spanish I students constructed the annual Altar de Muertos and the department co-hosted a reception after Mass October 30. At Baccalaureate Mass in December, as the CCVI Spirit Award holder, Dr. Said administered the graduates' promise. In March she was instrumental in bringing Navajo weaver Beverly Allen to speak and demonstrate weaving on campus for Women's History Month. Her students in Intermediate Spanish II produced their anthology of essays, "El curso del río." She also attended the Gloria Anzaldúa Conference at UTSA downtown May 18-19, 2012. During the year, Dr. Said also served on the Earth Month Committee, the Veterans Day Planning Committee, the Native American Heritage Month Committee, the Women's History Month Committee, the National Endowment for the Humanities working Group on Water and Culture, the First Year Faculty Committee, and the CCVI Bilingual Committee.

Dr. Michael Tallon attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) 2011 Conference in Denver, Colorado, and the Texas Foreign Language Education 2012 Conference in Austin, Texas, where he presented "A Social Justice Project in a Foreign Language Class." His paper "Heritage Speakers of Spanish and Foreign Language Anxiety: A Pilot Study" was published in the Summer 2011 issue of *Texas Papers in Foreign Language Education* (v15, #1). He also reviewed two papers for *Foreign Language Annals*, the official journal of ACTFL, and several first-year Spanish textbooks. For the 2011-2012 academic year, he served as the CHASS Mentor Liaison for the UIW New Faculty Mentoring Program. He also continued as an At-Large Senator for the UIW Faculty Senate, and served on the 2010-2011 Faculty Senate Executive Committee (SEC). He continues to serve as the Vice-Chair of the Spanish for Native Speakers (SNS) Special Interest Group (SIG) of ACTFL.

Dr. Juan Carlos Moreno, adjunct instructor of Spanish and leader in La Casa de España, coordinated another very successful year of cultural and literary activities for the city of San Antonio. All the activities were well attended. Dr. Moreno and other professors from different universities contributed to the presentations. In the Homenaje a Federico García Lorca held at UIW in September 2011, Dr. Amalia Mondríguez talked about *Women in García Lorca's Plays*. Dr. Mondríguez presented *San Manuel Bueno Mártir* in the Spring Homenaje a Miguel de Unamuno at UIW.

Dr. J'Leen Saeger, adjunct instructor of Spanish, was recently informed that her paper "Memory and Postmemory in Lidia Falcón's Play *Las mujeres caminaron con el fuego del siglo*" has been accepted for publication in *Hispania*, the official journal of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP).

DID YOU KNOW?

Clarissa Adams Fletcher, a high school Spanish teacher in Georgia and the 2011 ACTFL National Language Teacher of the Year, has identified several benefits to learning new languages, including giving students marketable job skills such as communication, creativity and critical thinking. Fletcher states: "Ask any employer what they are looking for in an employee and you will notice similarities. Many want what has been named 21st century skills – communication, critical thinking, problem solving skills, creativity and innovation. Learning a second language in an extended sequence (more than three years, ideally starting in elementary school) develops and enhances these essential job skills. While communication in the new language is developing, the learner's own communicative language is enhanced as well. Moreover, the ability to view others in terms of their cultural perspectives and adapt to cultural differences are additional benefits developed through language study. As one former student now living in South America writes, 'Language is not just a mechanism for communication, it is the soul of a place and its people.'" (From ACTFL SmartBrief – 6/12/12)

Goodbye

We say goodbye to Professor Ana Arzoumanian, adjunct instructor of Italian and Spanish, who began teaching at UIW in Fall 2009 and has now moved to Washington. We wish Ana and her family the best!

Welcome

We welcome the following new adjunct faculty members to our department in Fall 2012:

Ms. Wen-Jiao Duan – Visiting Chinese Instructor	Mr. Paul Kasper – Spanish
Ms. Shuchi Nagpal – Hindi	Ms. Rocío Ocón-Garrido – Spanish
Mr. Reynaldo Arrieta – Spanish	Ms. Arlene Ríos – Spanish
Mr. Frank Buschgans – 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.

"Language is the blood of the soul into which thoughts run and out of which they grow."

Oliver Wendell Holmes
