



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



[www.uiw.edu/modernlanguages](http://www.uiw.edu/modernlanguages)

Volume 11, Issue 1 – Summer 2013

## UPCOMING LANGUAGE COURSES

### Summer Session I (May 20 – June 27)

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 20 – June 20)

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 (July 1 – August 8)

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

(July 1 – August 1)

SPAN 4321-01	Elementary Spanish II for Pharmacists	MTWR 9:00–11:00 AM
SPAN 4321-02	Elementary Spanish II for Pharmacists	MTWR 9:00–11:00 AM

### Fall 2013

ARAB 1311	Elementary Arabic I	MW 7:30–8:45 AM
ARAB 2311	Intermediate Arabic I	MW 9:00–10:15 AM
CHIN 1311	Elementary Chinese I	MW 1:30–2:45 PM and TR 9:00–10:15 AM
FREN 1311	Elementary French I	TR 3:00–4:15 PM and TR 4:30–5:45 PM
GERM 1311	Elementary German I	MW 4:30–5:45 PM
IT 1311	Elementary Italian I	MW 3:00–4:15 PM
IT 1312	Elementary Italian II	MW 1:30–2:45 PM
JAPN 1311	Elementary Japanese I	MW 12:00–1:15 PM and MW 3:00–4:15 PM
KORE 1311	Elementary Korean I	TR 6:30–7:45 PM

SPAN 1311	Elementary Spanish I (22 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 3301	Advanced Spanish Grammar/Composition – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 12:00–1:15 PM
SPAN 3321	Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics – Dr. Michael Tallon	TR 3:00–4:15 PM
SPAN 3342	Spanish-American Literature since Modernism – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 1:30–2:45 PM

## **NEW LANGUAGE COURSES IN KOREAN**

Beginning in Fall 2013, the Department of Modern Languages will offer first-year courses in Korean! Korean is the official language of South Korea and North Korea and is spoken by approximately 78 million people worldwide. In Fall 2013, you can take KORE 1311 (Elementary Korean I), followed by KORE 1312 (Elementary Korean II) in Spring 2014. These two courses will fulfill the core Modern Languages requirement and will also satisfy requirements for the Asian Studies concentration. For more information about these courses, contact Michael Tallon at [tallon@uiwtx.edu](mailto: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) at UIW on a space available basis. UIW students can take the following languages at Trinity: Classical Greek, Latin, Russian, intermediate and advanced French, and intermediate and advanced German. 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**

### SCBWI Regional Conference

On Saturday, September 15, 2012, the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators held their annual regional conference at UIW. Several writers, illustrators, and editors spoke throughout the day about their craft. Presenters included Dan Santat (Illustrator and Keynote Speaker), Mary Kate Castellani (Walker Books for Young Readers), Molly Jafa (Folio Literary Management), Mary Kole (Movable Type Management), and Lauren Sullivan (HarperCollins Early Childhood Group).

### Faculty Breakfast

On Saturday, October 6, 2012, the Department of Modern Languages held a breakfast and update session at Earl Abel's Restaurant 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.

### Culture Presentations

On Thursday, October 11, 2012, Regina Campos, Mayra Montemayor, and Gloria Rodríguez, students in the Culture and Civilization of Latin America (SPAN 3312) class, made presentations on the contributions of the Spanish, Amerindian, and African cultures in Latin America.

### Altar de Muertos

On Thursday, October 25, 2012, students in Dr. Said's Spanish 2311 class constructed the annual Altar de Muertos outside Our Lady's Chapel. The altar involved candles, sugar skulls, fruits, vegetables, flowers, and photographs from the community of persons to be remembered. At Sunday evening Mass on October 30<sup>th</sup>, a special service was held for Day of the Dead, and afterwards Campus Ministry and Modern Languages hosted a reception with *pan de muerto*, the traditional "bread of the dead," and hot chocolate prepared in the Mexican style.

### Día de los Niños / Día de los Libros

In celebration of “Children’s Day / Book Day,” the Department of Modern Languages hosted two speakers in April 2013. The events were organized by Dr. Amalia Mondríguez. On Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mrs. Lupe Ruiz-Flores, 2005 recipient of the SCBWI Martha Weston Award and 2011 recipient of the SCBWI Amazon.com Work-in-Progress Grant, spoke about “The Illustrated Children’s Book: From the Idea to its Publication.” On Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Carmen Tafolla, the first Poet Laureate of the City of San Antonio, spoke about “Children’s Literature.” Both presentations were organized by Dr. Amalia Mondríguez and sponsored by the Department of Modern Languages.



### Christmas Party

On Friday, December 7, 2012, the Department of Modern Languages held a Christmas Party dedicated to the Virgin of Guadalupe. The evening featured presentations on the Virgin of Guadalupe and dancing by “Los matachines.” The event was coordinated by Dr. Amalia Mondríguez.

## CONGRATULATIONS!!!

### Commencement Address – Dr. Sally Said

Dr. Sally Said, the 2012-2013 UIW Moody Professor, delivered the commencement address at the December 2012 graduation ceremony. Her address, entitled “Framing Your Diploma,” can be read here: <http://www.uiw.edu/features/moodysaid.html>



### Connelly Leadership Award – Dr. Pat Lonchar

At the 2012 Faculty Award Reception, Dr. Pat Lonchar, Professor of English and Assistant Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, received the 2012-2013 Robert J. Connelly Faculty Leadership Award! This award is presented to a full-time faculty member with 15 or more years of service at UIW who has exhibited excellent leadership qualities. Congratulations, Dr. Lonchar!



## STUDENT NEWS

At the 2013 CHASS Celebration of Excellence Ceremony, held on April 16<sup>th</sup>, the following students received awards from the Department of Modern Languages:

- **Regina Reyes Campos** - Outstanding Spanish Major in memory of Carolina Ballester
- **John Luciano** - Outstanding Student in Intermediate Spanish in memory of Joshua Stokes
- **Angélica Hernández** - Outstanding Use of Spanish in Service to the Community
- **Paola Cárdenas** - Outstanding Student in the Spanish Minor
- **Leticia Torres** - Distinguished Alumna 2013, UIW Spanish Program
- **Tania Hajali** – Outstanding Student in Arabic
- **Douglas Weber** – Outstanding Student in Chinese

- **William D. Timmerman** – Outstanding Student in French
- **Avonna Campbell** – Outstanding Student in German
- **Kailey McKenzie** – Outstanding Student in Italian
- **Carolyn Beausoleil** – Outstanding Student in Japanese

Congratulations to the following Spanish majors who graduated this year:

- **Abraham Campos**
- **Eloisa Infante**
- **Mayra Montemayor**
- **Eric Ramírez**

**Eloisa Infante**, a May 2013 graduate of the Spanish program, was recently hired by the Falls City Independent School District to teach Spanish 1, 2, and 3 classes. Eloisa is excited to get started and see what the school year brings. Congratulations, Eloisa!

## FRENCH NEWS

**Professor Elaine Bryant**, instructor of French and Spanish, reports that two of her students spent the Spring semester at the American University of Paris. Both students conveyed a very positive academic experience.

## FACULTY ACTIVITIES

**Dr. Amalia Mondríguez** taught a Spanish course for the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in the Fall and two courses in the Spring. The Fall course (*Misiones y Misioneros*) used her own text on the missions and missionaries of the Incarnate Word. She also taught Spanish I for Optometrists using her own textbook, and for the first time taught Spanish II for Optometrists using a text prepared in collaboration with Dr. Lourdes Fortepiani, Assistant Professor in the Rosenberg School of Optometry. Six students of the Feik School of Pharmacy were certified in Spanish for Pharmacists via certification tests conducted by Dr. Mondríguez. In February she presented “Vida y obra de Carlos Fuentes” at the Instituto de Cultura Mexicana. She acted as one of the coordinators of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) Conference, held in October at UIW. She also translated documents for the Feik School of Pharmacy and the new Western Museum. Dr. Mondríguez volunteered as an interpreter with Mrs. María de Jesús Robledo at the April Health Fair sponsored by UIW and Univisión. She also took her Latin American Culture students to the San Antonio Museum of Art and coordinated a Christmas Party dedicated to la Virgen de Guadalupe.

In July-August 2012, **Dr. Sally Said** spent a summer session at Diné College in Tsaile, AZ, in the Navajo Nation. There she assisted the Navajo instructor by rewriting the syllabus for Navajo 101 and 102, a sequence for non-native speakers. She also conducted research on proposed legislation concerning use of the Little Colorado River, leading to a conference paper “Sharing the Rivers: The Navajo Struggle for Water Rights,” presented at the first annual Symposium on Water and Culture at UIW, October 26. At the Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Dr. Said presented “Oil and Water: Competing Roles of Arabic and English for Transnational Literacy in South Sudan,” October 19. During Native American Heritage Month, she gave a slide lecture on “Mt. Taylor: Saving a Sacred Mountain,” at UIW November 27. As the Moody Professor, an honor given to one faculty member each year at both UIW and Our Lady of the Lake University, Dr. Said served as commencement speaker December 16, giving her talk “Framing Your Diploma,” which presented the linguistic idea of framing as a way of shaping meaning

through context. She gave her first Moody Lecture, a 45-minute slide presentation, “In Search of Spider Woman: Navajo Ethnogenesis and Navajo Weaving” at UIW on March 19. On April 15, Dr. Said presented “Elevating Spider Woman: Reweaving Narratives of Navajo Resilience” at Our Lady of the Lake University. On October 25, Dr. Said’s Intermediate Spanish class constructed the altar for Day of the Dead and served *pan de muertos*, the traditional bread of the dead, after Mass on Sunday, October 28, in observance of El Día de los Muertos, officially November 2. Her students in Intermediate Spanish II produced their anthology “Nuestros Caminos” in spring 2013. Dr. Said’s chapter “Mt. Taylor, New Mexico: Efforts to Provide Resilience to a Sacred Mountain Social-Ecological System” appears in *Environmental Rhetoric: Ecologies of Place*, edited by Peter Goggins, and published by Routledge in 2013. Dr. Said also served on committees for Veterans Day Planning, Native American Heritage Month, Women’s History, Earth Month, and on the Sisters of Charity’s Bilingual Committee.

**Dr. Michael Tallon** attended the UTSA Academic Advising Conference held in San Antonio in October 2012. In November 2012 he attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he presented “A Social Justice Project in a First Year Spanish Class” and “Reducing Foreign Language Anxiety in Heritage Language Students.” At the Spanish for Heritage Learners (SHL) Special Interest Group (SIG) business meeting, he was elected the Chair of this group. With over 500 members, the SHL SIG is one of the largest in ACTFL and is concerned with the teaching and learning of Spanish for individuals who have a home background in the language. In February 2013 he attended the Texas Foreign Language Education Conference in Austin, Texas, where he presented “Becoming a Better Language Learner in ‘Mixed’ Spanish Classes.” In July 2013 he attended the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) in San Antonio, where he presented “A Learner Training Project for First-Semester Spanish Classes with True Beginners and Heritage Students.” His paper “The Effects of Foreign Language Anxiety on Heritage Students of Spanish: A Preliminary Investigation” was accepted for publication in the Winter/Spring 2013 issue of *Texas Papers in Foreign Language Education* (v16, #1). For the 2012-2013 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.

**Professor Elaine Bryant**, instructor of French and Spanish, traveled to Paris and Aix-en-Provence, France, in June. In Aix she was able to take advantage of some of the activities scheduled for Provence: The 2013 Center of European Culture. She loves art and visited some special exhibits on Cezanne, Boudin, and Chagall during her trip.

**Dr. Rocío Ocón-Garrido**, instructor of Spanish, presented “El concepto de maternidad en Etxebarria – un concepto en evolución” at the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP), held in San Antonio, July 8–11, 2013. She is currently taking a translation and interpretation course (Preparación Online) that could also be applied to her teaching, as part of the course is about the pedagogy of translation. It takes into account how to teach those skills to students and at the end of the course she will be provided with a workbook with materials for potential students of translation.

**Professor Wen-Jiao (Josiane) Duan**, who taught Chinese at UIW last year as a visiting instructor, will return for the 2013-2014 academic year. Professor Duan is from Taipei, Taiwan, and has a B.A. in Chinese Literature from Soochow University and an M.A. in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language from the National Taiwan Normal University, where she has taught Mandarin Chinese since 2005. She will teach introductory Chinese classes, work on her research, and work in UIW’s Institute of World Cultures.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Language study should be part of your college decision (From ACTFL SmartBrief – 10/2/12)

Global education advocate Stacie Nevadomski Berdan advocates that, because business leaders and government officials look at language proficiency as a critical need for their employees, parents and students should consider how well an institution teaches languages while making a college choice. Berdan suggests checking each college's language offerings, the language faculty's qualifications and backgrounds, and study abroad opportunities. To read the article, visit:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/stacie-nevadomski-berdan/college-studying-language\\_b\\_1903533.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/stacie-nevadomski-berdan/college-studying-language_b_1903533.html)

Learning a language makes the brain bigger (From ACTFL SmartBrief – 10/16/12)

According to a recent report published in the journal NeuroImage, learning a new language increases brain growth in certain areas. Researchers compared MRIs of Swedish army personnel going through intense language training with students at an elite science school. The brain scans displayed more distinct growth in the cerebral cortex for the language students. To read this article, visit:

<http://www.businessinsider.com/language-learning-makes-for-bigger-brains-2012-10>

## **Goodbye**

We say goodbye to Professor Priscila Fiala, who has taught Portuguese for us for several years. We wish Priscila well as she moves on to other endeavors.

## **Welcome**

We welcome the following new part-time faculty members to our department in Fall 2013:

Dr. Deukhee Gong – Korean

Ms. Concepción Domínguez Frías – Spanish

Ms. Wanda Cruz-Torres – Spanish

## **UIW MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT WEB SITE**

Be sure to check out our web site ([www.uiw.edu/modernlanguages](http://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!

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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](mailto:tallon@uiwtx.edu) or 210-805-5891.

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*"You live a new life for every new language you speak.  
If you know only one language, you live only once."*

-- Czech proverb

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