



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



www.uiw.edu/modernlanguages

Volume 13, Issue 1 – Summer 2015

UPCOMING LANGUAGE COURSES

Summer Session I (June 1 – July 2)

SPAN 1311-01	Elementary Spanish I	MTWR 8:00–10:15 AM
SPAN 1312-01	Elementary Spanish II	MTWR 10:30–12:45 PM
SPAN 4320-01	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:00–10:15 AM
SPAN 4320-02	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:00–10:15 AM

Summer Session II (July 6 – August 7)

SPAN 1311-03	Elementary Spanish I	MTWR 8:00–10:15 AM
SPAN 1312-02	Elementary Spanish II	MTWR 10:30–12:45 PM
SPAN 4320-03	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:00–10:15 AM
SPAN 4320-04	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:00–10:15 AM

Fall 2015

ARAB 1311	Elementary Arabic I	TR 4:30–5:45 PM
ARAB 2311	Intermediate Arabic I	TR 3:00–4:15 PM
CHIN 1311	Elementary Chinese I	MW 3:00–4:15 PM and TR 4:30–5:45 PM
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 12:00–1:15 PM and MW 3:00–4:15 PM
JAPN 1311	Elementary Japanese I	MW 12:00–1:15 PM and TR 4:30–5:45 PM
JAPN 2311	Intermediate Japanese I	MW 12:00–1:15 PM
KORE 1311	Elementary Korean I	TR 1:30–2:45 PM
KORE 2311	Intermediate Korean I	TR 3:00–4:15 PM

SPAN 1311	Elementary Spanish I (25 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. Juan Carlos Moreno	TR 3:00–4:15 PM
SPAN 3321	Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics – Dr. Michael Tallon	TR 12:00–1:15 PM
SPAN 3342	Spanish-American Literature since Modernism – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 1:30–2:45 PM

PREVIOUS EVENTS

Writing Workshop

On November 15, 2014, the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators held a one-day intensive writing workshop on "The Web of Character" with writer Franny Billingsley on the UIW campus. Franny introduced participants to a character schema that illuminates pivotal elements of a character's history and leads the writer to dig into both character and plot by teasing the character's unique voice to the surface, identifying the connection between a character's emotional arc and her narrative arc, and zeroing in on a few key pulse-points in the novel in which character and plot connect at the deepest level. Franny Billingsley writes middle grade and young adult fantasies. Her most recent novel, *Chime*, was nominated for the National Book Award and received a PEN/Phyllis Reynolds Naylor Working Writer Fellowship. Her other novels have received the Boston Globe-Horn Book and the Mythopoeic Awards; her first picture book, *Big Bad Bunny*, was included in Oprah's Online Kids' Books Reading List. She taught at Vermont College of Fine Arts before moving to Mexico last year, and now works privately with students, offering either a semester-long course of study, based on the low-residency MFA model, or manuscript critiques.

Día de los Muertos and Altar de Muertos

On October 30, 2014, students in Dr. Sally Said's Spanish 2311 class constructed an altar for Day of the Dead, having studied the symbolic significance of the elements. Community members were invited to add a picture or other small remembrance in honor of someone who had died. On Sunday, November 2, at the 8:00 PM Mass, Father James Adame conducted part of the service in Spanish and came out of the chapel to bless the altar. This was a first! Afterward, Modern Languages professors and students served *pan de muerto* and hot chocolate in collaboration with Campus Ministry.

Navajo Weaver Beverly Allen

Beverly Allen, master Navajo weaver, visited the university March 23-26. Speaking to ten classes, her topics included "Women in Navajo Society," "The Role of Weaving in Cultural Maintenance," and "Wool Processing, Spinning, and Weaving." She addressed classes in English, Psychology, Philosophy, and Fashion Design. Additionally, she demonstrated weaving on the Dubuis lawn during two days. She was hosted by Dr. Sally Said of Modern Languages, and her trip was sponsored by the Modern Languages Department and the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences in honor of Women's History Month.

Interdisciplinary Bilingual Speakers: Creative Engagement in Spanish Literature and the Arts

During the Spring 2015 semester, the Department of Modern Languages hosted a series of interdisciplinary events as part of the CHASS Speakers Series. All events were coordinated by Dr. Amalia Mondríguez.

On February 19, 2015, Carolyn Dee Flores spoke in English about "The Process of Creating an Illustration Book" to students in Spanish, Communication Arts (publishing), and the visual arts. Carolyn started off as a rock musician and a computer analyst before becoming a children's illustrator. She has illustrated three books for children: *Sing, Froggie, Sing / Canta, rana, canta*; René Saldaña Jr.'s *Dale, dale, dale: Una fiesta de números / Hit It, Hit It, Hit it: A Fiesta of Numbers*; and Peggy Caravantes' *Daughters of Two Nations*. Some of Carolyn's original artwork may be found in the Permanent Collection of the Mazza Museum of International Art from Picture Books and the Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children's Literature. Carolyn is currently working under the mentorship of Caldecott-winning illustrator E.B. Lewis. She is the PAL Coordinator for SCBWI-SWTX.

On April 9, 2015, Paulina Aguilar Gutiérrez, an alumna of UIW (2006), spoke about her novel *El quinto dragón* (The Fifth Dragon) in Spanish for the Spanish course *Children's Literature in Spanish* taught by Dr. Amalia Mondríguez and in English for the Communication Arts course *Issues/Trends in Bicultural Communication* taught by Dr. Zazil García. Paulina's novel won the Premio Nacional de Literatura para Jóvenes sponsored by Editorial Norma (publisher in Mexico) and La Feria Nacional del Libro in 2009. The novel was a bestseller in Latin America. She wrote a second novel, *La ciudad dormida y el dragón blanco* (The Sleeping City and the White Dragon), also published by Norma Mexico.

On April 11, 2015, the Department of Modern Languages held a panel discussion on *Communicative Language Activities to Encourage Student Engagement*. Presenters included Dr. Amalia Mondríguez, Dr. Deukhee Gong, Professor Stefania Malacrida, and Ms. Roxanna Montes-Bazaldúa.

On April 16, 2015, Lupe-Ruiz Flores spoke in Spanish about her latest book, *Lupita's First Dance / El primer baile de Lupita*, to the students in the *Children's Literature in Spanish* course. She also spoke in English about Mexican Cultural Dresses to the students in the *Cultural Studies in Fashion* course taught by Professor Melinda Adams. Lupe-Ruiz Flores is the author of six award-winning bilingual picture books. Two of her recent picture books – *Let's Salsa* and *Lupita's First Dance* – made the list on the Mamiverse blog. The author was also selected as one of 2014's National Picture Book Month Champions for the month of November. All of her picture books are Accelerated Readers (AR), and several have been on the Texas Star Book Award Reading List. She has also been a participant in Reading Rock Stars. Many of her bilingual books (Spanish-English) have been published by Piñata Books Press. She studied fashion pattern design in Japan.

On April 23, 2015, Akiko White presented in English "Cakelustrations" to the students in the *Children's Literature in Spanish* course as well as students in Communication Arts, visual arts, and cooking. Akiko is a Texas artist painting, writing and illustrating for the children's book industry. She is also an avid baker who recently included this aspect in her final illustrations. Akiko has been enjoying art and baking since she took a painting class with her mother and started baking with her grandmother at the young age of 4 years old. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the McNay Art Institute in 1993 and worked as a professional illustrator and graphic designer. Akiko has also taught digital and traditional illustration as an adjunct professor. In 2011 Akiko became the Illustrator Coordinator for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Southwest Texas Region. She paints in oils with a palette knife technique. She also paints with watercolor and makes cakelustrations (illustrations using cake as the medium) for her children's book illustrations. Akiko recently won the 2014 Tomie de Paula Award from the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Retirement

Congratulations to Dr. Pat Lonchar, who retired in May 2015 after over 30 years of service to UIW. Dr. Lonchar was a frequent contributor to our department and we wish her the best with her future plans!

Award of the Order of Civil Merit

Dr. Juan Carlos Moreno, part-time instructor of Spanish, was honored with the Award of the Order of Civil Merit, in a proclamation signed by King Felipe VI of Spain. The ceremony of induction was held in San Antonio on May 15, 2015, with a presentation by the Honorable Consul General of Spain, Enric Panés. The award dates to 1926, when it was created by King Alfonso XIII by royal decree. Dr. Moreno was honored for his educational and civic work on behalf of Spain, including his leadership in the Casa de España, a non-profit organization that promotes awareness, understanding, theatre, and art exhibits. Dr. Moreno is originally from Madrid, Spain, and has taught in the U.S. since 2004, the last 8 years at UIW.



STUDENT NEWS

At the 2015 Department of Modern Languages' Awards Ceremony, held on Saturday, May 2nd, in the UIW Mabee Library Special Collections Room, the following students received awards:

- **Karly Brightwell** - Outstanding Spanish Major, in memory of Carolina Ballester
- **Marco Cadena** - Outstanding Student in Intermediate Spanish, in memory of Joshua Stokes
- **Elizabeth Vela** - Outstanding Student in the Spanish Minor
- **Jerud J. Shockley** – Outstanding Student in Arabic
- **Darian Thomas** – Outstanding Student in French
- **Leandra Collinsworth** – Outstanding Student in German
- **Yejin Ahn** – Outstanding Student in Italian
- **John A. Esparza** – Outstanding Student in Japanese
- **Jasmine K. Morales** – Outstanding Student in Korean



(left to right: Jerud J. Shockley, Darian Thomas, Leandra Collinsworth, Yejin Ahn, Marco Cadena, Elizabeth Vela, Karly Brightwell)

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

In May-June 2014, **Dr. Sally Said** spent six weeks on the Navajo Nation at Diné College in Arizona, assisting the head of the Navajo Language Program with curriculum development for a new language course to be part of a certificate program in leadership. In addition, she helped design a daylong workshop for K-12 Navajo teachers. She also completed research for a paper, "A Question of Exigence: Navajo Negotiation of Critical Water Rights," that she presented at the Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference: Literacies and Rhetorics of Crisis, at the University of Reno, Nevada, November 7-8. In the fall, her chapter "Finding Mae Naak: Discovering Hybridity in the Rhetoric of Thai Tsunami Recovery" was accepted for publication in *Serendipity in Rhetoric, Writing, and Literacy Research* (forthcoming), edited by Maureen Daly Goggin and Peter Goggin. On Thursday, October 30, 2014, students in Dr. Said's Spanish 2311 class constructed the annual Altar de Muertos (see above in Previous Events). In November, she attended the national conference of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) in San Antonio. At the December 2014 graduation, Allison Baez, whose dissertation chair was Dr. Said, received her doctorate degree. Her topic concerned the importance of the Navajo puberty ceremony Kinaaldá for Navajo women in developing their identity and in encouraging them to assume leadership roles. As a member of the Women's History Month committee, Dr. Said facilitated the visit to campus of Navajo weaver Beverly Allen March 23-26 (see above in Previous Events). Dr. Said also served on the planning committee for the Las Hermanas Symposium at UIW March 19-21. The symposium featured speakers who had been involved in the movement formed forty years ago to challenge and change the church and its role in society, as well as presenters on contemporary issues of church and society. In April, students in her Spanish 2312 published their anthology of fifty-three essays, *El volcán*. Dr. Said also served on the Native American Heritage Month Committee, the Earth Month Committee, and the Sisters of Charity's Bilingual Committee. Additionally, she represented the university's Office of Mission and Ministry at several meetings of the Interfaith Welcoming Committee, largely organized by Catholic Charities and the Presbyterian Church, to plan for services to the detained immigrant women and children from Central America. She currently serves as faculty advisor for the student organization StandOut Alliance.

Michael Tallon attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Conference in San Antonio in November 2014, where he presented "A Qualitative Study of Anxiety in Non-Heritage Students of Spanish." As Chair of the Spanish for Heritage Learners (SHL) Special Interest Group (SIG), he ran the SIG's business meeting as well as the SIG's other two sessions. This was his last term as Chair and he thus completed his six-year commitment as an officer for the SHL SIG. In February 2015 he presented "Cooperative Learning and Foreign Language Anxiety in Spanish Heritage Students" at the II Symposium on Spanish as a Heritage Language, held at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. He also presented "Can Cooperative Learning Help Reduce Foreign Language Anxiety in Spanish Students?" at the Texas Foreign Language Education Conference, held at UTSA in February 2015. In April 2015 he attended the Cooperative Learning Reunion Workshop at UIW, where he presented "Cooperative Learning in a First-semester Spanish Class." And in July 2015 he attended the 97th Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) in Denver, Colorado, where he presented "Foreign Language Anxiety and Cooperative Learning." In Spring 2015 he was nominated for the UIW 2015 Presidential Teaching Award. In Summer 2015 he was part of a small writing team at UIW that wrote a proposal for a First in the World grant from the U.S. Department of State. He continues to serve as an Alpha Faculty Mentor for first-generation college students.

DID YOU KNOW?

Five Reasons Everyone Should Know at least Two Languages

(From: www.middleburyinteractive.com/research-resources/classroom-posters/5-reasons-everyone-should-know-at-least-two-languages)

- Students who study a world language for just one year score an average of 38 points higher on the SATs.
- People who speak more than one language are much better at multitasking.
- According to an MIT study, people who know two or more languages earn an average of \$128,000 more in their lifetimes.
- In 2012 researchers at the University of Cambridge discovered that people who know two languages are nicer. According to the research, bilingual folks are better able to tolerate differences and find solutions to conflict.
- In 1947, 835 11-year-olds were tested on their cognitive ability in Scotland. Between 2008 and 2010, those same people were retested when they were in their seventies. Of the 835 case studies, 260 knew at least two languages. Those 260 people tested significantly higher in cognitive function than their solely English-speaking peers.

Welcome

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

Mr. Jimmy Gonzales – Spanish

Ms. Cortney Dávila – Spanish

Ms. Kazuyo Jacques – 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.

"You can never understand one language until you understand at least two."

-- Geoffrey Willans
