



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



Volume 15, Issue 1 – Summer 2017

UPCOMING LANGUAGE COURSES

Summer Session I (June 5 – July 8)

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

Summer Session II (July 10 – August 12)

SPAN 1311-02	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	MTWRF 9:00–11:00 AM
SPAN 4321-01	Elementary Spanish II for Pharmacists	MTWRF 9:00–11:00 AM

Fall 2017

ARAB 1311	Elementary Arabic I	TR 4:30–5:45 PM
CHIN 1311	Elementary Chinese I	MW 3:00–4:15 PM and TR 4:30–5:45 PM
FREN 1311	Elementary French I	MW 3:00 – 4:15 PM and 4:30–5:45 PM
GERM 1311	Elementary German I	MW 9:00–10:15 AM
IT 1311	Elementary Italian I	MW 10:30–11:45 AM
JAPN 1311	Elementary Japanese I	TR 12:00–1:15 PM
KORE 1311	Elementary Korean I	MW 3:00–4:15 PM
KORE 2311	Intermediate Korean I	MW 6:30–7:45 PM
SPAN 1311	Elementary Spanish I (20 sections)	
SPAN 1312	Elementary Spanish II (10 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. Gabriel Saxton-Ruiz	TR 9:00–10:15 AM
SPAN 3321	Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics – Michael Tallon	TR 3:00–4:15 PM
SPAN 3331	Spanish Literature to 1700 – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 1:30–2:45 PM
SPAN 3342	Spanish-American Literature since Modernism – Dr. Gabriel Saxton-Ruiz	TR 3:00–4:15 PM

PREVIOUS EVENTS

Día de los Muertos and Altar de Muertos

On October 27, 2016, 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, October 30, the 8:00 PM Mass was dedicated to the Day of the Dead. Afterward, Modern Languages professors and students served *pan de muerto* and hot chocolate in collaboration with Campus Ministry.

Student Presentations

At the end of the Fall 2016 semester, students in Dr. Amalia Mondríguez's Spanish in the Media class presented their service projects in the ICC Auditorium. The students wrote articles and made videos, posters, pamphlets, and flyers with the purpose of helping the community. An important idea was that the media is not only for entertainment and making money; it can also be used for saving lives. Presentation topics included: Consume less sugar to prevent and control diabetes; Strategies for adults so they do not forget children in (hot) cars; How to set up a baby car seat correctly; Stop children's abuse; Stop the hatred and start Loving; The importance of donating to the food bank; and Awareness of mental illnesses.

Navajo Weaver Beverly Allen

Beverly Allen, master Navajo weaver, visited the university March 20-23, 2017. 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 Department of Modern Languages and the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences in honor of Women's History Month.

STUDENT NEWS

At the 2017 Department of Modern Languages' Honors Convocation, held on Wednesday, May 3rd, in the UIW Mabee Library Special Collections Room, the following students received awards:

- **María Cano** – Outstanding Spanish Major, in memory of Carolina Ballester
- **Peter Fredsholm** – Outstanding Student in Intermediate Spanish, in memory of Joshua Stokes
- **Antonio J. Vázquez-Colón** - Outstanding Student in the Spanish Minor
- **Antonio J. Vázquez-Colón** – Outstanding Use of Spanish in Service to the Community
- **Suyen Schneegans** – Distinguished Alumna in the UIW Spanish Program
- **Dominic Teran** – Outstanding Student in Chinese
- **Dora Cantu** – Outstanding Student in French
- **Julie Kosub** – Outstanding Student in German
- **Zachary Walsh** – Outstanding Student in Italian
- **Gabriela Ortiz** – Outstanding Student in Japanese
- **Melissa Rodriguez** – Outstanding Student in Korean



Student award winners and faculty at the Department of Modern Languages 2017 Honors Convocation

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

In June-July 2017, **Dr. Sally Said** spent four weeks on the Navajo Nation at Diné College in Arizona, assisting the head of the Navajo Language Program with curriculum development for new courses to be part of a four-year degree program in Navajo language. In addition, she attended sessions of the Navajo Language Academy held at the college. From October 20-23, 2016, Dr. Said attended the Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference: Rhetoric and Literacy on the Border at U. California at San Diego. There she presented a paper on "Transgender Identities and the Land Between: The San Antonio Non-Discrimination Ordinance of 2013." On Thursday, October 27, 2016, students in Dr. Said's Spanish 2311 class constructed the annual Altar de Muertos (see above in Previous Events). As a member of the Women's History Month committee, Dr. Said facilitated the visit to campus of Navajo weaver Beverly Allen March 20-23, 2017 (see above in Previous Events). Dr. Said serves on the Board of the Headwaters at Incarnate Word. Dr. Said also served on the Native American Heritage Month Committee and the Earth Month Committee.

In Fall 2016, **Dr. Gabriel T. Saxton-Ruiz** presented "Óscar Colchado's *Hombres de mar*: An Ecocritical Reading" at the 31st Annual Interdisciplinary Conference in the Humanities -- Nature/Culture/Commerce at the University of West Georgia (September 2016) and "Stranger than Fiction: Navel-Gazing in Contemporary Peruvian Narrative" at the 66th Annual Mountain Interstate Foreign Language at James Madison University (October 2016). In November 2016 he published the English translation of Alexis Iparraguirre's short story "El hombre en el espejo" for the UK-based online magazine, Palabras Errantes. The translation was part of their Latin American writers pay tribute to Stephen King project. In Spring 2017, Dr. Saxton-Ruiz presented "El cosmopolitismo político en la obra de Rubén Darío" at the UIW and Casa de

España-sponsored symposium. In Summer 2017 he presented "*Híbrida cíclica: La poesía bicultural de Álex Lima*" and "*Entre dos tierras: Berlín y En un mundo de abdicaciones*" de Victoria Guerrero" at the XII Jornadas Internacionales de Poesía Latinoamericana in Puebla, Mexico. He also presented "Autoficción y *Bildungsroman* en la nueva narrativa peruana" at the II Congreso Internacional de Literatura Latinoamericana at the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos in Lima, Peru.

Michael Tallon attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Conference in Boston in November 2016, where he presented "Using Cooperative Learning in First-Year Foreign Language Classes." In February 2017 he presented "Heritage vs. Non-Heritage Students' Beliefs about Learning a Foreign Language: A Preliminary Investigation" at the Texas Language Education Research (TexLER) Conference, held at UTSA. Also in February he presented "Using Cooperative Learning in First-Year Modern Language Classes" at the UIW Tenth Annual Research Week. In July 2017 he attended the 99th Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) in Chicago, where he presented "Spanish Heritage Students' Beliefs about Learning a Foreign Language: A Preliminary Investigation." He serves on the UIW Core Advisory Council (CAC) and FIRST Faculty and continues to serve as an Alpha Faculty Member for first-generation college students at UIW. In Summer 2016 he served on the Meet the Mission Planning Committee.

Goodbye

We say goodbye to Professors Cortney Dávila, Concepción Domínguez Frías, Yao-An Lee, Luis Perea, and Dr. Rose Phillips, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome the following new part-time faculty members to our department in Fall 2017:

Eyman Alsobhi – Arabic

Jesús De León – Spanish

Alan McCown – Spanish

Elvia Quijano – Spanish

Yuping Tai – Chinese

DID YOU KNOW?

From The ACTFL BriefSmart (October 3, 2017):

According to a study published in *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, bilingual people may be better equipped to learn new languages than monolingual speakers. The research points to a distinct language-learning benefit for people who grow up bilingual or learn another language at an early age. According to study co-author Sara Grey, a professor of applied linguistics at Georgetown University: "There has been a lot of debate about the value of early bilingual language education. Now, with this small study, we have novel brain-based data that points towards a distinct language-learning benefit for people who grow up bilingual."

UIW MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT WEB SITE

Be sure to check out our web site (www.uiw.edu/hass/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.

*“With languages, you can move from one social situation to another.
With languages, you are at home anywhere.”*

-- Edmund De Waal
