



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



Volume 16, Issue 1 – Summer 2018

## UPCOMING LANGUAGE COURSES

### Summer Session I (June 4 – July 6)

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 4320-01	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 9 – August 10)

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 4320-03	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWRF 9:00–11:00 AM
SPAN 4320-04	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWRF 1:00–3:00 PM
SPAN 4321-01	Elementary Spanish II for Pharmacists	MTWRF 9:00–11:00 AM

### Fall 2018

ARAB 1311	Elementary Arabic I	TR 4:30–5:45 PM
CHIN 1311	Elementary Chinese I	MW 3:00–4:15 PM and TR 3:00–4:15 PM
CHIN 2311	Intermediate Chinese I	TR 4:30–5:45 PM
FREN 1311	Elementary French I	MW 3:00 – 4:15 PM and 4:30–5:45 PM
FREN 2311	Intermediate French I	MW 6:30–7:45 PM
GERM 1311	Elementary German I	TR 3:00–4:15 PM
IT 1311	Elementary Italian I	MW 9:00–10:15 AM
JAPN 1311	Elementary Japanese I	MW 3:00–4:15 PM
KORE 1311	Elementary Korean I	MW 4:30–5:45 PM
SPAN 1311	Elementary Spanish I (20 sections)	
SPAN 1312	Elementary Spanish II (10 sections)	
SPAN 2311	Intermediate Spanish I: Oral Communication – Dr. Gabriel Saxton-Ruiz	TR 9:00–10:15 AM
SPAN 3334	Spanish in the Media – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 12:00–1:15 PM
SPAN 3341	Spanish-American Literature to Modernism – Dr. Gabriel Saxton-Ruiz	TR 1:30–2:45 PM

## PREVIOUS EVENTS

### Día de los Muertos and Altar de Muertos

On Thursday, October 26, 2017, students in Dr. Gabriel T. Saxton-Ruiz's Spanish 2311 class constructed an altar for Day of the Dead. On Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, the 8:00 PM Mass was dedicated to the Day of the Dead. Afterward, Modern Languages professors served *pan de muerto* and hot chocolate in collaboration with Campus Ministry.

### Q&A with Jesús Cossio

On Monday, October 27, 2017, Jesús Cossio presented "Graphic Representations: Armed Conflict in Peru through Comics / Representaciones gráficas: el conflicto armado en Perú a través de los comics," a discussion in Spanish and English with Dr. Gabriel T. Saxton-Ruiz.

### A Conversation with Carina Chocano

On Friday, February 9, 2018, the Department of Modern Languages (along with Cultural Studies, Communication Arts, and the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) hosted a reading, Q&A, and book signing with Carina Chocano, the author of *You Play the Girl*, shortlisted for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the PEN Award. In this smart, funny, impassioned call to arms, a pop culture critic merges memoir and commentary to explore how our culture shapes ideas about who women are, what they are meant to be, and where they belong.

### A Discussion with Santiago Vaquera-Vásquez

On Tuesday, April 3, 2018, Santiago Vaquera-Vásquez presented "Tales of an Unrepentant Border Crosser, Ex-DJ, Writer, Painter and Academic," a discussion on Latino cultural expression and U.S./Mexico border writing.

## STUDENT NEWS

At the 2018 Department of Modern Languages' Honors Convocation, held on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, in the UIW Mabee Library Special Collections Room, the following students received awards:

- **Antonio J. Vázquez-Colón** – Outstanding Spanish Major, in memory of Carolina Ballester
- **Michael Peña** – Outstanding Student in Intermediate Spanish, in memory of Joshua Stokes
- **Alejandra Fuentes** – Outstanding Student in the Spanish Minor
- **Antonio J. Vázquez-Colón** – Outstanding Use of Spanish in Service to the Community
- **Juan Piña** – Distinguished Alumnus in the UIW Spanish Program
- **Victoria Heberling** – Outstanding Student in Arabic
- **Kyana Gayden** – Outstanding Student in Chinese
- **Robert Stevens** – Outstanding Student in French
- **Mordecai Davidson Martinez** – Outstanding Student in German
- **Andrea Diaz** – Outstanding Student in Italian
- **Lucas Tase** – Outstanding Student in Japanese
- **Celeste Alvarado** – Outstanding Student in Korean



Student award winners and faculty at the Department of Modern Languages 2018 Honors Convocation



Juan Piña (in Peru) receiving the Distinguished Alumnus in the UIW Spanish Program Award via Skype

## FACULTY ACTIVITIES

**Dr. Amalia Mondríguez** took a group of students to Spain in May 2018 for a study abroad experience. The 18-day tour included visits to Madrid, Seville, Costa del Sol, Granada, Valencia, Barcelona, San Sebastián, Bilbao, and Salamanca.

**Dr. Sally Said** presented "The Shifting Rhetoric of Curanderismo: A Continuing Practice of Attunement" at the Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference on Rhetoric and Sensorium at the University of Utah on October 28, 2017.

**Dr. Gabriel T. Saxton-Ruiz** published *La narrativa de Jorge Eduardo Benavides. Textos críticos*, the first book-length volume that exclusively examines the narrative world of Peruvian writer Jorge Eduardo Benavides. Benavides's rich and varied prose has explored issues such as Peru's recent turbulent political history combating terrorism, the vicissitudes of exile and identity, and the expressive possibilities of the hard-boiled detective novel. Through a wide variety of critical approaches, the essays included in this book constitute a valuable contribution to scholarship on contemporary Latin American literature by providing insight on Benavides's innovative novels and short story collections published in the last two decades. For more information, visit: <http://www.librosperuanos.com/autores/autor/6040/Saxton-Ruiz-Gabriel>  
[https://www.elvirrey.com/libro/la-narrativa-de-jorge-eduardo-benavides\\_70115090](https://www.elvirrey.com/libro/la-narrativa-de-jorge-eduardo-benavides_70115090)

Dr. Saxton-Ruiz also published an interview (and translated it into English) with novelist Pedro Novoa for *Latin American Literature Today*: "Symphonies of Literary Violence: A Conversation with Pedro Novoa" as well as a literary translation of the story "Cosas de niños" ("Child's Play") by Benavides in the Fall 2017 issue of the peer-reviewed *Hiedra Magazine* (Indiana University). He presented papers at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA) "The Literary Selfie: Autofictional Writing from Peru," Southwest Council of Latin American Studies (SCOLAS), "Ficciones del yo en la narrativa peruana contemporánea" and South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA), "Autofictions of Violence." Dr. Saxton-Ruiz also organized and hosted visits to UIW by Peruvian graphic novelist Jesús Cossio, National Book Critics Circle Award-winning essayist Carina Chocano and New Mexico-based short story writer Santiago Vaquera-Vásquez .

**Michael Tallon** attended the Vista Higher Learning Fall 2017 Forum in Boston on November 14, 2017. From February 16–17, 2018, he attended the Third International Conference on Heritage/Community Languages at UCLA in Los Angeles, where he presented "Language Learning Beliefs in Spanish Heritage Students: A Preliminary Investigation." On February 21<sup>st</sup> he presented "Language Learning Beliefs in Spanish Heritage Students: A Preliminary Investigation" at the UIW Research Week Poster Presentations. From June 25–28, 2018, he attended the 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) in Salamanca, Spain, where he presented "Developing Cultural Sensitivity using a Social Justice Project in a Second-Semester Spanish Class." He spent an additional month in Spain, visiting Madrid, Toledo, Seville, Granada, and Barcelona. He continues to serve on the UIW Core Advisory Council (CAC) and FIRST Faculty and also serves as an Alpha Faculty Member for first-generation college students at UIW. In Summer 2017 he once again served on the Meet the Mission Planning Committee.

### Welcome

We are pleased to welcome **Hyewon (Andie) Kim** to our department to teach Korean, starting in Fall 2018. We thank **Dr. Deukhee Gong** for her many years of service to our department and to our students.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

From The ACTFL SmartBrief (April 5, 2018):

Learning a language may seem like a long process, but it depends on how one defines "learning a language," writes Ingrid Piller, a professor of applied linguistics at Macquarie University in Australia. In her article, Piller explains that proficiency levels depend on the needs of the language learner: "The time it takes to learn a language depends on what you mean by 'learning a language'. If your definition is being able to order a 'café au lait' or ask for directions to 'les toilettes, s'il vous plait' on your next trip to Paris, three weeks is perfectly realistic. But if you need to study using another language, perform your job with it and negotiate all your relationships through that language – the answer changes dramatically. You'll be looking at six years and more, where *more* may well mean *never*." She concludes: "Learning a language requires a considerable investment of time, effort and commitment. But it's well worth it because another language opens a door to another life."

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

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

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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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*"Learning another language is like becoming another person."*

-- Haruki Murakami

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