

EVENTS

April 11

Exploring Careers in Languages Work Shop with Susanne Evens of AAA Translation
Clark 527
2-3:15 pm

April 14

Friends without Borders trip to Cahokia Mounds
1:30-4:30 pm

April 25

Lingua's "Working in Languages"
Clark 527
5-7 pm

May 3

Languages Graduation Reception
Clark 527
3-4:30 pm &

Alumni Happy Hour
Ferguson Brewing Company
5-7 pm

UMSL | Alumni

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI—ST. LOUIS

Department of Language and Cultural Studies

SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

Note from the Chair

As I step into this new role, I am delighted to share with you some of the highlights of the past few months. You'll see in our features that our students are making meaningful connections here on campus and beyond: students in EAP are reaching across disciplines to connect with UMSL students in Communication and Media, students in translation courses are connecting to career paths through hands-on workshops from seasoned professionals, and our study abroad students are experiencing new cultures across the globe. Be sure to check out our student and alumni section to see all the places their language skills are taking them. I hope that you will join us for our very special end-of-semester events on Thursday, May 3 when we celebrate our graduates and Alpha Mu Gamma inductees at our reception here in Clark Hall. Following the reception, join us for our Alumni Happy Hour at Ferguson Brewing Company.

With best wishes,

Sandy



Manon Allard-Kropp is our new *Assistant Teaching Professor of Modern Languages*. She teaches French language and culture classes, as well as Foreign Language courses in English such as "Languages and Worldviews" and "Languages and Identity". She enjoys working with students from a variety of backgrounds. Her teaching interests include theories of language, second language acquisition, pedagogy, translation, and creating inclusive classrooms. You are welcome to stop by her office in Clark 549 to say "bonjour", or e-mail her at allardm@umsl.edu to connect!

Grand Opening

The grand opening for our new quiet study lounge took place on February 28. Students toured the lounge, met the departmental tutors, and enjoyed pizza and brownies. Our new space provides a much needed quiet area for individual study or small group tutoring. If you weren't able to make it, come check out the lounge right next to the Chair's office in room 556 Clark.



LANGUAGE GROUPS

Alpha Mu Gamma

China-America Corner

Friends Without Borders

HISLA

Japanese-English Language Table

Kaffeestunden

La Table Française

LINGUA

Featured Story: A Unique Intercultural Experience



Students from English for Academic Purposes (4301, 4303, 5400), English (3110), and Communication and Media (3223) began a semester-long collaboration to further student intercultural communication experiences. A total of 54 students participated in the combined class taught by EAP professors, Rosa Brefeld, Denise Mussman, Nancy Mayer, and Communication professor, Shannon Ahrndt. Students were given interview questions to get to know each other. They recorded their interviews and later wrote about their intercultural exchanges.

To sustain the newly forged relationships, students from these classes continued their collaborations in additional encounters. They started off with a Game Day activity.

Students also met for other planned activities during the rest of the semester including the choice of either a field trip to the Science Center or a field trip to Cahokia Mounds. To finish the project, students will write a reflection on the overall exchanges and articulate the advantages or disadvantages of their experiential learning of intercultural communication across various events.



UMSL Students have an adventure in Costa Rica

"I had a fantastic time on the Costa Rica Spanish trip! My host family was incredible, and everyone at the language academy was super helpful. I learned so much! The activities were a lot of fun as well. San José is a vibrant city with an awesome community. I'll definitely be visiting again in the future!" -Jacob Beers



"The Costa Rica trip benefitted me in more ways than just my ability to speak Spanish. The UMSL study abroad program is fantastic at introducing students to unique, intricate aspects of the country's culture,

which leads to more appreciation of the nation and their way of life. I learned a lot about myself and life by fully immersing myself into the Costa Rican culture, stepping outside my comfort zone, and experiencing a life so unlike what I know back home. Each student able to travel should do so!" -Justin Montgomery

Check out our upcoming Faculty-led Study Abroad Programs

Japan: May 14-29, 2018

A record number of students will join us this May for the Japan Study Tour. They will visit Tokyo, Nagano, Kyoto, and Nara. The program offers a wide range of incredible learning experiences from language study to company visits in addition to the many cultural events.

Dominican Republic: June 3-17, 2018

Spanish students will travel to the Dominican Republic in May and June for a unique language immersion program including a service learning component. In the past, students have installed water filters and planted gardens for local families.

Watch for our Fall 2018 Newsletter to see students' responses to these great experiences!



Maria Laura Angel, Certified Legal Interpreter and Translator, gave a guest lecture and an interpretation workshop in Martha Caeiro's class **Spanish 3220: "Introduction to Translation and Interpreting."** As an experienced interpreter, Ms. Angel

shared with the class the rules and steps for consecutive interpretation, basic skills, note-taking strategies as well as common practices and code of ethics to be followed when interpreting in court settings. During the workshop, Ms. Angel coached students as they performed note-taking and interpretation exercises in groups. Students found this workshop to be informative and enjoyable.

Einhoch6 Concert at the Touhill

Larry Marsh from the German Culture Center at UMSL worked with the Deutsche Welle and German teachers from area high schools to bring more than 1000 students to campus. Einhoch6, the hip-hop-meets-classic band, put on a tremendous show for all!



Eric Eggers, Amy Seidel, and Erikah Taylor-Allen represented the **UMSL Japanese** section at the Lindbergh High School World Culture Day. The event allowed the high school students to visit a variety of information tables featuring countries around the world including South Korea, Vietnam, and Japan. The Japanese table displayed a culture kit from UMSL's International Library and our students introduced artifacts like the Sumo Rikishi Top, *Daruma* (dolls) and *Yukata* (traditional summer wear). It was definitely fun and interesting as well as culturally expanding for both the students and volunteers!



Making It & Breaking It in Japan



On Thursday, February 15, JAS and UMSL's office of International Studies & Programs, the **Department of Language and Cultural Studies**, and the Japan-America Student Association hosted Mr. Steven Gan for a FREE talk and book signing chronicling his amazing experience. Mr. Gan ran a highly successful debt collection business in Japan for 12 years - the first foreign-owned business of its kind in Japan. He told the riveting story of starting his business organically and growing it to employ 30 people. His business was so successful, he drew the attention of the media, but also the ire of his competition, which used an obscure and ambiguous clause in the law to shutter his company.



Selfies for Extra Credit

Students in **German 3290/4390, "Sport and Leisure in German Culture,"** had the opportunity to earn extra credit for submitting selfies – but there was a small catch: the pictures had to be taken at and include local sites with a

connection to the German *Turner* movement, a very political group of immigrant fitness buffs who helped keep St. Louis in the Union during the Civil War. Intrepid students fanned out to discover monuments in Forest Park and downtown, as well as some of the remaining buildings which had housed the clubs associated with the movement. Nathan Theus even found an active group, the Concordia Turner, whose roots go back to 1875. He called the assignment "a fun way to spend a Sunday afternoon."



Friends without Borders, a group comprised of international and local students went apple picking at Eckerts Family Farms and were greeted by the owner, who took the time to answer any questions about his farm and its operations. Authentic listening and speaking opportunities were highlighted back in EAP classrooms when students recounted their individual experiences on the trip.

National Foreign Language Week

The department celebrated the annual National Foreign Language Week with many events inviting students to explore the world—right here on campus.



Our events throughout the week showcased many new flavors including Japanese okonomiyaki and onigiri, French brioche, German brötchen, Latin American mate, mole, in addition to arepas and many little sweet treats from around the world.

Our hands-on events featured a calligraphy session to learn writing styles from Japan and China and a Latin rhythms dance demonstration workshop.

Students had the opportunity to hear authentic language at the poetry reading and during the German and French films, "Fack Ju Göthe" and "Juste la fin du monde."

Thanks to all who joined us and made this year's events a success!

We hope to see you and many more for next year's **National Foreign Language Week**.

Featured Summer 2018 Courses

"Animation: An Introduction to Japanese Popular Culture through Anime and Manga" (Japan 1011) explore genres, themes, tropes, and art of Japanese animation (anime) and comics (manga) and other topics including literature, fashion, fan culture, religion, and social movements. This course is conducted in English and is fully online.

Intensive French (French 2115A, B, & C) satisfies the language requirement in only 9 weeks. This highly condensed course will immerse students in the language and culture through communicative activities, readings, and film.

Featured Fall 2018 Courses

History of the Spanish Language (Spanish 4329/5329) studies the transformation of the Spanish language as it spread across the globe throughout history. This course explores many of the questions that often baffle native and non-native speakers.

Introduction to French and Francophone Studies (French 3210/4310) explores issues of gender and sexuality in the French and Francophone contexts with a focus on developing academic written and oral communication.

East Asian Calligraphy (Japan 1005) examines the origin, development, styles, and cultural significance of both Japanese and Chinese writing and calligraphy. This course will be taught in English.

Special Topics in French Culture and Literature (French 4311/5311) analyzes various representations of immigration in French and Francophone literature and cinema.

Topics in Japanese Culture (Japanese 3211) discusses significant topics in Japanese culture including manga, ukiyo-e, anime, uta, odori & genioo. This course is conducted in Japanese.

"Germany's Social Democracy" (German 3290/4390) offers students an exploration of this form of government as well as its impact on all aspects of daily life, ranging from the economic to the personal.

Student & Alumni News

The places languages skill will take you



Recent Dual Language Professional graduate, **Kim Castizo**, now works as a perinatal support specialist at Kingdom House, in partnership with the MI-CA project and SouthSide Early Childhood Center. She connects young mothers and pregnant women to allocate appropriate resources for daycare, Medicaid, food stamps, and other needs.

Michael Acid, a U.S. Navy veteran who graduated from UMSL in 2016 with a double major in International Business and Marketing, and a minor in French, was accepted for a master's degree at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, CA. Michael will be studying International Environmental Policy with an emphasis in Ocean and Coastal Resource Management.



Amanda Rawls, recent graduate in French, now works at Monsanto as a software developer. She is currently taking part in a six month developer program. Once the project is over, she will move to a different development team.



Young professionals programme

Alumna German graduate, **Nicole Bausch** has spent the last two years in Austria, first working as a teaching assistant in a high school and then studying translation at the University of Vienna. She is presently applying to the Young Professionals Program at the UN in hopes of pursuing a career in translation with the institution.



Congratulations to **Katrina Lynn**, recent UMSL graduate with a minor in Japanese, who has received the Tohoku University President Fellowship to support pursuit of a Master's degree in the Department of Development Biology and Neuroscience. Katrina [cites her Japanese classes and participation in the 2016 Japan Study Tour](#) as inspiration for her decision to seek advanced study opportunities in Japan. 日本で頑張ってね!

Renee Kocsis, our student assistant, is graduating this May with her Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages, Dual Language Professional emphasis in French and German. She has been accepted to The Ohio State University where she will begin the doctoral program in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures. Renee hopes to become a legal translator after completing her PhD at The Ohio State University. We wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors. Viel Glück! Bonne chance!

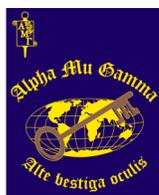


María Yajaira Cilleruelo Spanish major and tutor was awarded the Golden Key recognition for being among the top fifteen percent of students at UMSL. ¡Felicitaciones!

Congratulations to **Sam Williams**, recipient of the Freeman-Asia Scholarship for Study Abroad in Japan in the Spring 2018 semester!



Congratulations to our Alpha Mu Gamma Inductees



French

Jesse Carron Louis
Sydney Grace Fontaine
Tamrak

German

Zachary Schulte

Japanese

Eric Eggers
Samantha L Jarnagin

Spanish

Jacob Beers



We would love to hear from Alumni!

Please send us your career updates, recent accomplishments, and any other news you want to share. We are working on the "Alumni News" section for our Fall 2018 newsletter.

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