

Department of Language and Cultural Studies

FALL 2016 NEWSLETTER

EVENTS

September 28
HISLA Film Series:
Pelo Malo
SGA Chambers

September 29
Viva La Vida! Dance
performances by
Grupo Atlantico and
Viva Brazil

October 4
HISLA Salsa Night
Pilot House

October 31
A Día de los Muertos

November 10
Major/Minor Open
House
527 Clark 10:30 a.m.

November 10
French Film Series:
Rengaine
527 Clark 7:00 p.m.

December 1
French Film Series:
Père Noël
527 Clark 7:00 p.m.

December 6
Alumni Happy Hour
Ferguson Brewery
4:00-6:00 p.m.

LANGUAGE GROUPS

China-America Corner

Chinese Language
Table

Friends without
Borders

Japanese-English
Language Exchange

Kaffeestunden

Hispanic Latino
Association

La Table Française

Notes from the Chair

With so many great initiatives happening this fall, I am finding it very difficult to select just a few to highlight in these notes. I'm thrilled to announce that our new major, the Dual Language Professional Track, is a big hit with students in Language and Cultural Studies! In this, its inaugural semester, we already see majors combining Japanese and German, French and Spanish, German and French, to name just a few. Building on this strong interest in studying multiple languages and cultures, we are in the process of bringing together students of all languages through a new student organization that will host events and offer leadership opportunities. The energetic group of dedicated language students held its first organizational meeting this week to brainstorm ideas for their mission statement. They

are planning another meeting for November and invite all students to join in. Our Major/Minor Open House is just around the corner! Come join us on November 10, from 10:30-12:30, to connect with fellow students and departmental faculty, meet advisors from CAS, Business, Education, and learn about study abroad opportunities. Free food provided! Don't miss our Alumni Open House! We hope that alumni, faculty, and current students will join us at Ferguson Brew House to celebrate our shared passion for Languages and Cultures.

With best wishes for
a rewarding Fall,

Birgit



Language and Cultural Studies Family News

Remembering Prof. Rosalinda Mariles



This past summer, we lost our dear colleague and friend, Rosalinda. During her 12 years at UMSL, she was a strong spokesperson for Hispanic culture on our campus. She taught our introductory Spanish Language sequence and partnered with Professor Donna Cays to teach Intensive Spanish during the summer months. She was also actively involved in extra-curricular activities, serving as faculty advisor to HISLA, the UMSL Spanish Language Student Organization. She is fondly remembered by her students and colleagues. Anne-Sophie Blank speaks for all of us when she writes: "She was more than a colleague; she was my friend. She was a kind, caring person, hardworking, very observant, and so wise."

Welcoming Baby Maya

Prof. Tim Abeln and his family welcomed a new addition. Maya Abeln was born on October 5th. While Baby Maya sleeps a miraculous 22 hours a day, Big Sister Camila has decided to change her schedule to include a sleep routine of only three hours. But look how cute!



Summer Recap

Featured Story: María Cilleruelo at Casa de Salud

María Cilleruelo interned at Casa de Salud for eight weeks last summer. Assisting with medical interpreting for Spanish-speaking clients, María worked with General Practitioners as well as Ophthalmologists and Gynecologists to facilitate effective communication between doctors and their patients. She did so well that she was soon scheduled for at least 20 hours per week. Medical staff and clients, many of whom were Latino or immigrants from Mexico and Central America, were amused by her Castilian Spanish. María kept a journal of medical terminology, prepared a bibliography, and wrote a paper about the ethics of medical interpretation. Dr. Liz Fonseca, Associate Teaching Professor in Spanish, served as María's academic supervisor for this 3-credit hour internship. She was so impressed by María's work and research that she is planning to include it in her newly proposed class on advanced medical translation and interpretation for the Spanish language curriculum.

Featured Courses:

French 2101



For their final project, students in French 2101, taught by Professor Sandy Trapani, created a practical guide for French and francophone students

German 4311/5311: Kinder und Jugendliteratur

For four weeks, Prof. Carol Jenkins led an eager group of local high school teachers through the history of children's literature in Germany. The students traced the development of the modern concept of childhood from its roots in the Middle Ages nearly to the present.

Study Abroad

We have several exciting study abroad programs coming up this academic year, including:

Costa Rica: December 29, 2016–January 14, 2017

Dominican Republic: May 28–June 12, 2017

Barcelona: June 3–June 17, 2017

Strasbourg, France: July 1–21, 2017

Featured Program:

Japan Study Tour Summer 2016

"I was blessed with the opportunity to travel and study in Japan through a faculty-led study abroad program here at UMSL. We spent two weeks traveling through east Japan – Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, et cetera – and learning about the rich culture and history of the small island nation. Our program toured many businesses, like Mitsubishi Fuso and Sato Holdings, to learn about the unique operations of Japanese firms, and we participated in several cultural exchanges with Japanese university students with whom many of us still remain friends. In our short time there, we managed to visit a number of historic temples that were hundreds of years old, serene gardens, natural wonders, and national monuments. It was a truly life-changing experience, and there is not a day that goes by that I don't wish I was still there."

— Victoria King, Student of International Business and Japanese



Fall Course Highlights

French 3205 French in Commerce and Media, taught by Prof. Anne-Sophie Blank.

French 4311/5311 Special Topics in French Culture and Literature: The New Wave and Beyond, taught by Prof. Sue Hendrickson.

German 3211/4311 Medieval German Legends & Modern Adaptations, taught by Prof. Evelyn Wisbey.

Japanese 3211 Topics in Japanese Culture, taught by Prof. Keiko Ueda.

Spanish 3210 Hispanic Culture and Civilization: Spain, taught by Profs. Liz Fonseca and Susan Yoder-Kreger.

Spanish 4172/5172 Introduction to Creative Writing in Spanish, taught by Prof. Maria Balogh.

Spanish 4311/5311 Special Topics in Hispanic Culture: Spanish Civil War: Literature, Art, & Film, taught by Prof. Deborah Baldini.

Spring Course Highlights

French 3210/4310: (Advanced) Introduction to French and Francophone Studies, taught by Violaine White, focuses on the acquisition and improvement of academic communication skills through the study of French and Francophone texts.

Spanish 3220 Introduction to Spanish Translation and Interpreting is a hands-on course that introduces students to the practice of translation and interpreting in professional settings, including business, health, and law. This course includes guest lectures by professional translators or interpreters. Taught by Prof. Martha Caeiro.

Spanish 3282 This new course surveys major contexts, movements, and styles of Peninsular and Spanish American literatures. Writings from the early Hispano-Arabic period through the modern Peninsular period and pre-Conquest through contemporary

Faculty Presentations & Publications

Dr. Jeanne Zarucchi (French) attended the annual conference of the National Society of Arts and Letters (NSAL) in Phoenix, Arizona, May 17-21. She has just concluded a two-year term as the NSAL National Bylaws Committee Chair. The organization is dedicated to supporting talented young artists, actors, and writers, through competitions and scholarships. Dr. Zarucchi is also active in the NSAL St. Louis Chapter, and maintains the chapter's website, www.nsal-stl.org.



Dr. Violaine White (French) co-presented at the conference "L'Or du temps: André Breton, 50 ans après" held at the Centre Culturel International de Cerisy in Normandy in August 2016. The topic Professor Stamos Metzidakis and I presented is entitled: "Coup de grâce surréaliste à la collaboration littéraire!" The proceedings will be published in the journal *Mélusine*. She also participated in the Rocky Mountain MLA convention which was held in October in Salt

Featured Fall Course: FL1111

Reacting to the Past: Language, Immigration, & Social Change

Now in its fourth year, this Freshman seminar offers students a unique opportunity for hands-on learning. Through a series of simulations, students grasp key concepts from a specific time period or intellectual movement, learn to speak and write in character, and experience the complex linguistic tensions in the lives of immigrants. This semester, one of the Actors from the London Stage, in town for a Production of "Richard III," worked with the students to help them "get into their characters" and speak in their voices. A memorable experience!

Students in the course at Zia's at the Italian Hill.



Lake City, Utah. She chaired the panel called "French Literature After 1800" in which she presented a paper entitled "La Grâce de l'écriture chez Charles Baudelaire et André Breton." She also participated in the "Teaching Women in French Roundtable."



An article **Dr. Rosa Brefeld** co-authored with Sarah Coppersmith for the journal *The Geography Teacher* titled "Exploring the Overland Trail: Missouri to California 1858 adapted for English learners" is to be published this Fall.



Prof. Marité Balogh has two poems in the anthology of St Louis Poets for social change called *Conquering the Divide*. She was part of the launch ceremony's opening act, with four other poets, doing a dynamic poetry reading/performance celebrating a wide variety of poets who inspire them. Balogh's honored poet was Maya Angelou for St Louis and Pablo Neruda for inspiration.

Dual Language Professional Track: a popular choice in its inaugural semester!

The new program is a hit with students who are finding creative ways to combine languages. The program requirements are:

Course Requirements (36-39 credits)

Language options (choose two):

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| FRENCH | French 2170 French 2180 Three courses at the 3000-level or higher, at least one which must be business/professions-focused |
| GERMAN | German 2170 German 2180 Three courses at the 3000-level or higher |
| JAPANESE | Japanese 2102 Two of the following courses: Japanese 2170, 3201, 3202, 3210, 3211, 3280 |
| SPANISH | Two Spanish courses at the 2000-level above 2101 Three courses at the 3000-level, at least one of which must be business/professions-oriented |

Additional requirements:

Foreign Language 2100
One 4000-level Capstone (may be met by 4000-level language course)
At least one course (minimum 3 credit hours) must include an internship, service learning, or study abroad component.

Student News

Japanese & Anthropology double major, **Tori Dieckman**, the UMSL student selected to study abroad at Waseda University in 2016-2017, was awarded the MEXT Scholarship.

Spanish and Nursing major **Dominique Hamilton** has a passion for community service. She volunteers with La Casa de Salud, drums with a queer/trans black resistance group called Justice Beats, supports protests in Ferguson and the St. Louis area as a street medic, and plays a supportive role in the STL lunch program.

Spanish major **Evan Miguel** and his brother, Jaydn, were involved in the rebranding and marketing efforts which helped pack the Midwest Digital Marketing Conference this past April.

French major **Amanda Rawls** received a scholarship from Alliance Française of

\$2,500 to study in Angers, France, at CIDEF this past Summer.

Japanese major **Robby Suozzi** was awarded the Freeman-Asia Scholarship as well as a \$5000 Gilman Scholarship for Study Abroad at Tokyo University.

Myrta Vida (Spanish major, graduate) was involved in a summer camp as the student liaison for UMSL's Writers in the Schools outreach program. Read more here: <http://blogs.umsl.edu/news/2016/05/24/writing-camp/>

Brian Parkinson (German major, graduate) is pursuing an MA in linguistics in Münster, Germany, and loving it.

Brad Chapman (German minor, graduate) is studying law at SLU.

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 Spring 2016 newsletter.

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