Modern Languages and Literatures Newsletter

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Department News

Textbook Presentation

Katherine Agnew-Skow from Person will be giving a presentation for instructors of the basic language program at Tuesday, October 14th at 10:30 in 1126 regarding a new textbook being considered for Spanish 101, 102, 201.

Spanish Tutoring Center

The Spanish Tutoring Center will be closing early Wednesday, October 15th at 4:00 for the Interface Design Fundamentals Class by Sourabh Chakraborty.

Arabic Table Article

The Daily Nebraskan posted an article detailing the typical setup and benefits of the Arabic Conversation Table, including some great quotes from a student perspective. Check it out here: http://www.dailynebraskan.com/arts_and_entertainment/arabic-conversation-tables-connect-language-culture/article_dbdbddd4-4e8e-11e4-a465-001a4bcf6878.html

Important Dates

October

20-21st- **Fall Break - Student Holiday**

November

26th- **Thanksgiving Break - Student Holiday**

27-28th- **Thanksgiving Break - Student/Staff Holiday**

Please send your announcements, Bravos and events for the weekly newsletter to Casandra (csiefkes2@unl.edu) by 5 pm on Thursdays.

Language Lab News

Interface Design Fundamentals
Wednesday, October 15,
4:00-5:30 p.m.
301 Burnett Hall
Global Classroom

In this design workshop, participants will complete exercises to develop an interface design from the idea stage to completing initial sketches, prototyping the design, user testing it, and bringing it to life.
The exercises will use examples of websites, mobile apps, and event posters. No prior knowledge in design, graphic design, or coding is necessary. Feel free to bring projects you're working on to get feedback!

Nobel Prize

French novelist Patrick Modiano, author of "Out of the Dark" (translated by Jordan Stump) is winner of 2014 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Interview from The Wall Street Journal blog:
http://blogs.wsj.com/speakeasy/2014/10/09/a-translator-talks-about-the-challenges-of-patrick-modianos-work/

Article in UNL Today
http://news.unl.edu/newsrooms/unltoday/article/unp-backlist-shines-with-third-nobel-winner/

Blended & Online Teaching & Learning Symposium

2014 Blended & Online Teaching & Learning Symposium: Increasing Engagement in Online, Blended and Face-to-Face Classes, November 4th, Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center.

Luncheon Keynote and Campus Conversation: 11:30 am – 1 pm
Terms of Engagement: Understanding Student Engagement in Today's Classroom
Speaker: Elizabeth F. Barkley, author of Collaborative Learning Techniques: A Handbook for College Faculty and Student Engagement Techniques
Dr. Barkley will share a 5-element theoretical model for defining and understanding student engagement that provides a framework for promoting it in today's college and university classroom.

Afternoon Workshop: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Practical and Effective Strategies to Get Your Students Engaged
Workshop Facilitator: Elizabeth F. Barkley
This highly interactive session will help faculty better understand the elements that contribute to student engagement as well as learn solid, practical and effective strategies and techniques for promoting it in in face-to-face, blended, flipped, or fully online classes.

Morning Sessions: 9:30 am to 11 am
- Workshop: Enhancing Presence in the Online Classroom 9:30 am to 11 am
- The Power of Place: Using GPS to Increase Content Engagement 9:30 am to 10:15 am
- Using Blended Learning to Address Instructional Challenges 10:30 am to 11 am

For more information and to register: http://go.unl.edu/symposium2014

If you have questions, please contact me or Sydney Brown at sbrown2@unl.edu or at 2-5204.

Institute of Turkish Studies Funding Opportunities

This Friday, October 17th, UNL will be hosting Dr. Sinan Ciddi <http://turkishstudies.org/about/sinan_ciddi/index.shtml>, Director at the Georgetown Institute of Turkish Studies <http://turkishstudies.org/>. Dr. Ciddi will be on campus to talk with interested faculty about Institute of Turkish Studies funding opportunities available for projects that focus on the fields of Ottoman or Turkish studies. The principal purpose of the grant program is to support and encourage the development of research, scholarship, and learning in the field of Turkish Studies in the U.S. You can read more about the ITS grant program here: http://turkishstudies.org/grants/index.shtml

Please let Dave Wilson know if you or colleagues are interested in joining Dr. Ciddi and himself for a discussion about this funding opportunity. We will meet Friday, October 17th, from 9:15 am – 10:15 am in Canfield 208.

As you know, Turkey is a priority country for UNL. We are working to build more opportunities for faculty and students to visit and engage with this country that has long been at the crossroads of west and east.

Calls for Papers / Open Positions

See Bulletin Board in 1107 for more information

- ACLA Annual Meeting; Seattle, Washington; DUE: 15 OCT
- Provost's Global Forum, Iowa City, Iowa; "The Arab Spring in a Global Context"; DUE: 15 OCT (w/ financial support)
- El Cid, Journal of the Tau Iota Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi at the Military College of South Carolina; DUE: 1 Dec
- Don Quixote in the American West: A Fourth-Centenary Celebration(1615-2015); DUE 1 Dec

Language Clubs

& Student Centers

Chinese Table
Mon 4-5 pm
203 OLDH
#UNLchinatable

Spanish Tutoring Center
Mon/Wed 3-5
Fri 4-5
1126 OLDH
#UNLSpantutor

French Table
Wed
3:30-5:30 pm
BURN 302
#UNLtablefrancaise

Komenský Club
TBA
#UNLKomensky

Portuguese Table
TBA
#UNLBatePapo

Stammtisch
Wed
4:30-6 pm
Dempsey's
#UNLStammtisch

Spanish Table
Fri - 5:00 pm
Language Lab
#UNLMesa

Japanese Table
100-Level
Tues 4-5
200/300-level
Thurs 4-5
KRR
#UNLJapanTable

Spanish Club
Wed - 5:00 pm
City Union
#UNLSpanClub

Arabic Table
Sept 3 & 17
3:30-5:30
301 BURN
#UNLArabicNadii

Bravo!

Iker González-Allende

has just published a book entitled Epistolario de Pilar de Zubiaurre (1906-1970). Woodbridge: Tamesis, 2014. 440 pages. ISBN 9781855662766

The book compiles 188 unpublished letters which, from 1906 until 1970, Pilar de Zubiaurre wrote to and mostly received from numerous Hispanic intellectuals and artists, ranging from José Ortega y Gasset to Zenobia Camprubí and María Martos de Baeza. The volume is divided into three main sections, organized chronologically: letters of her youth, letters during the Spanish Civil War, and letters during exile. In the first section, which includes numerous letters from painters (e.g. Aurelio Arteta, José de Togores, Manuel Fontanals) and writers (e.g. Gabriel Miró, Azorín, Concha Méndez), we witness the active Spanish cultural life during the 20s and 30s. The second section shows the propagandistic efforts of the Republican intellectuals during the Civil War, as well as the difficulties of daily life. The third section, the longest in the volume, comprises letters from fellow exiles such as Gonzalo Rodríguez Lafora and Ángel Ossorio, letters sent from Spain by relatives and friends, and letters from American intellectuals such as Susana Huntington. The letters from female friends such as Camprubí and Martos de Baeza are especially relevant because they illustrate how women in exile kept alive the Republican memory and built communicative bridges between Spain and the exile communities in America. Please see attached form to order!

Bravo!

Abla Hasan

for being appointed a member of the scientific committee of the peer reviewed international research journal: "Dirasat wa abhath", the journal of University of Djelfa, Algeria.

http://revue-drassat.org/ladjna%20ilmia.htm

October

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
		01	02	03 Lab Open House 1:00 // Lang Lab	04	05
06	07	08 Miguel Brieva Talk 2:30 // Span 497	09 APR Meeting 11 am // 1126 Miguel Brieva Talk 3:30 // TBA	10 Miguel Brieva Talk 10:30 // Sheldon	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 FALL BREAK Student Holiday	21 FALL BREAK Student Holiday	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
					01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 THANKSGIVING Student Holiday	27 THANKSGIVING Student/Staff Holiday	28 THANKSGIVING Student/Staff Holiday	29	30

Executive Committee Meeting
September 30, 2014

Attending: Radha Balasubramanian
Oscar Pereira
Bob Shirer
Mila Saskova-Pierce
Jordan Stump
Evelyn Jacobson

AGENDA:

1. Suggestions for MLL Colloquium Speakers/Topics – French and Spanish
   Oscar Pereira said that he had a number of names he would forward by email to Evelyn Jacobson. Jordan Stump said the French section has been working hard to identify names. The suggestion is to invite in the spring semester Prof. Alexandra Wettlaufter, UT-Austin, specializing in 19 century French and comparative literature and gender studies. Stump susggested the topic would be dependent on the expert's field of research.

2. Upcoming College and University Faculty Award Nominations
   One faculty member is eligible for the Edgerton Award, and DMLL/relevant section will nominate. Other awards available are teaching awards. Since last year the focus was on French, Evelyn hopes to receive nominations from other sections for these awards. Stump mentioned there are many on the DMLL faculty who would be great nominations, but opt out due to the work involved.

3. Oscar Pereira: Report on Minutes from CIC Meeting of Romance Language Departments in 2013 (major trends); Report on TAFTA and Study Abroad Program Trends.
   Oscar Pereira discussed TAFTA and his proposed study abroad program in Soria, Spain. The program focusses on professional careers such as physical therapy, translation, etc. He hopes to develop relationships with institutions in Spain that will offer internships to students who participate. He is hopeful there will be other opportunities for students in French and German as well. TAFTA is an agreement similar to NAFTA; a trade agreement/relationship between the US and the EU. More information is available online. Pereira also shared a handout with links to websites.

   Study Abroad Proposals for Summer 2015:
   - Angers, France: Intensive Summer French Program, Jordan Stump & GTA
   - Berlin, Germany: Deutsch in Deutschland, Christina Brantner
   - Perm, Russia: Summer Study Abroad at Perm National Research Polytechnic University, Radha Balasubramanian
   - Bilbao, Spain: Deusto/Summer in Bilbao, Iker González-Allende & GTA
   - Japan: Japanese Religions and Popular Culture, Ikuho Amano, in cooperation with Classics
   - Soria, Spain: Spanish Education Abroad Program in Soria, Oscar Pereira

4. Upcoming Vacant MLL Professorship
   The Spencer Professorship currently held by Tom Carr, expires at the end of the academic year. Jacobson discussed the process for selection. It was agreed by the Committee that the Salary Merit Advisory Committee should review and recommend applications. A memo to faculty

outlining criteria, eligibility, and a deadline for receipt of applications has been sent. Radha Balasubramanian provided information on how the selection was conducted in the last round. She shared that associate and full professors were both eligible. Shannon Parry will provide data analysis on student evaluations much in the same manner that is prepared for tenure and promotion files.

5. Update on Curriculum Proposals resulting from Nora/Radha Interdisciplinary Grant Award
Jacobson met with Peterson and updated the committee on the grant's progress. There are three courses being proposed:

- Storytelling – Bob Shirer and Nora Peterson
- Cultures in Transition – Ikuho Amano and Radha Balasubramanian
- International Women Writers – Iker González-Allende and Nora Peterson

After courses are approved, MDLL will pursue crosslisting. Balasubramanian pointed out that crosslisting must be requested before courses are approved through the college. WGS/global studies/ English are some departments at issue. After the courses are approved, they will be added to the department schedule. Jacobson discussed the possibility of a new, 12 credit hour minor, that Peterson and the interdisciplinary working group will prepare for submission. Abla Hasan was able to secure a minor in Arabic in only one year, so a proposal could be submitted in spring semester. Various names for the minor are possible - Jacobson considered "cultural studies" or "comparative cultures." Shirer felt that cultural studies may not be appropriate since it has a fixed meaning in the profession already that may not coincide with what MLL is proposing; utilizing the word "comparative" would be better. Stump agreed.
Regarding the minor itself, there was discussion that one course could be in another department such as Women's and Gender Studies, English, etc.
Speaking to faculty credit for the courses, Jacobson said the most efficient thing is to grant full credit to one person identified as the lead teacher for the course in any given semester, alternating between instructors. This would replace any "banking" of hours.
Regarding the "Windows to the World," the one credit hour course for first year students, this must be conducted on a volunteer basis. Jacobson indicated that this would be considered more as an important service assignment, that also could be taught by non DMLL faculty.

6. Website update – Shannon Parry
Nothing to unveil at this time, but Parry will schedule a meeting with the executive committee to solicit input once the introductory page is ready to be viewed. After that, the sections will have to identify a point person who can assist with the development and updating of the section based pages. The meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 23** at **11 am** in the Language Lab Global Classroom.

7. Announcements

- Lance Perez will be in the department on October 9 at 11 am to follow up on the APR review. Academic Affairs is communicating with departments to identify how to improve the APR process.
- Language Lab Open House is on Friday, October 3 from 1pm to 3 pm.

Global Café

Turkey

Invited Speaker: Prof. Sinan Ciddi

Friday, October 17th, 2014

Please join Global Studies and UNL Model United Nations for a conversation with Sinan Ciddi, Executive Director of the Institute of Turkish Studies at Georgetown University. This is your chance to expand your worldview as it relates to Turkey, drink local coffee, and meet students and faculty from around the world!

Georgian Suite A (Union)

10:30-11:30am

UNL-MUN

Next Global Café: Wednesday November 17th 3:30-4:30pm

Meadowlark

TAMESIS

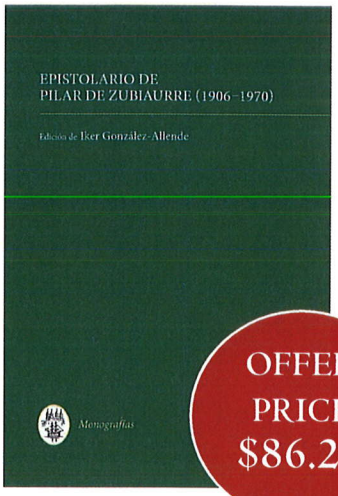
SPECIAL OFFER: SAVE 25%

EPISTOLARIO DE PILAR DE ZUBIAURRE (1906–1970)

Edited by IKER GONZÁLEZ-ALLENDE

Este libro consiste en la edición de 188 cartas inéditas que, desde 1906 hasta 1970, Pilar de Zubiaurre escribió y mayormente recibió de numerosos intelectuales y artistas del ámbito hispánico, desde José Ortega y Gasset hasta Zenobia Camprubí y María Martos de Baeza. El volumen se divide en tres apartados organizados cronológicamente: cartas de juventud, cartas durante la Guerra Civil y cartas durante el exilio. En la primera de estas secciones se aprecia la activa vida cultural española durante los años veinte y treinta, incluyendo numerosas misivas de pintores y escritores. La segunda sección revela los esfuerzos propagandísticos de los intelectuales republicanos durante la guerra, así como las dificultades de la vida cotidiana. Finalmente, la tercera sección, la más amplia del libro, recoge cartas de otros exiliados como Gonzalo Rodríguez Lafora, cartas que Zubiaurre recibe desde España de familiares y amigos, y cartas de intelectuales americanos como Susana Huntington. Sobresalen las cartas de amigas como Camprubí y Martos de Baeza porque muestran cómo durante el exilio las mujeres mantuvieron viva la memoria republicana y trazaron puentes de comunicación entre España y las comunidades de exiliados en América.

IKER GONZÁLEZ-ALLENDE es profesor titular de literatura española y de estudios de mujeres y género en la Universidad de Nebraska-Lincoln.



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KOLYA

Winner of the 1997 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, this charming Czech drama uses the backdrop of the Russian military occupation in Prague for its funny, sad, and ultimately delightful story of a 55-year-old man's friendship with a 5-year-old boy.

(with English subtitles)

Thursday, October 23, 2014, 07:00 – 08:30 PM
In Oldfather 1107
The screening will be followed by a guess talk By Dr. Mila Saskova-Pierce, followed by a discussion

Information: 472-1336

Medieval and Renaissance Studies Program

presents

"Censorship, Compromise, and (Non-)Conformity: A Puritan Minister's Creative Strategies for Publication in Laudian England"

Amy Gant Tan, PhD Candidate, Department of History, Vanderbilt University

Dudley Bailey Library
October 27, 5 pm
228 Andrews Hall

Refreshments will be served

Please help spread the word, and announce it in your classes.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln not to discriminate based upon age, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, gender-identity, sex, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran's status, marital status, religion or political affiliation.

LCTL Section meeting
8/21/2014 2:00 meeting PM

AGENDA:

a. Introduction and welcome
b. New minor A
c. Cultural activities
d. Attendance policy
e. Classroom teaching assessment
f. UCARE
g. Digital humanities
h. Potluck date

Present: **:** Radha Balasubramanian, Abla Hasan; Chisato Steele; Fabricio Garcia, Gloria Liu, Hana Waisserova; Hideko Nishihara Ikuho Amano, Mila Saskova-Pierce, Nadia Lahbass.

The section of Less Commonly Taught Languages met during its assigned time during the Orientation week. Present were all the members of the section. Abla Hasan was present over SKYPE.

The section members welcomed its new Fulbright Scholars, Nadia Lahbass and Fabricio Garcia.

The new Minor A format was briefly introduced.

Plans for Czech, Japanese, and Russian cultural weeks were described. The International Food Bazaar has been introduced, as Czech and Russian programs plan to take a part in it in November. Perhaps Brazilian and Portuguese program might as well.

Departmental Attendance text and teaching observation format was shared. (See the appendix1 and 2)

UCARE program and its opportunities for students was introduced including application deadlines(http://ucare.unl.edu/apply (Apply for UCARE October 28 - January 13: Summer 2015 Application Period; **January 21 - March 23:** Academic Year 2015-2016 Application Period)

Digital humanities call for collaboration was discussed (See appendix 3) (http://news.unl.edu/newsrooms/unltoday/article/unl-a-partner-in-consortium-to-expand-humanities-research/)

Potluck date for the section was decided for Friday September 5, 2014, at 4:30 at the home of Mila Saskova-Pierce (6701 Everett st.)

Appendix 1

Attendance policy

DMLL Attendance Policy: Regular on-time class attendance is of vital importance in language acquisition. Unexcused absences seriously jeopardize the final grade. You may accrue [five/three]discretionary absences (the equivalent of one full week of class) without penalty which will be granted by your instructor if properly explained in writing – you must inform your instructor of the reason for the absence, beforehand if possible, and if not, as soon as possible after the fact. Use them wisely.
More than [five/three] absences, and/or any absence for which you do not document an explanation, will become unexcused and will incur deductions to the final grade. For each absence in excess of [five/three], 1% will be deducted off the top of the final grade until the tally reaches [fifteen/nine,] the equivalent of three full weeks of class*. If the total number of unexcused absences exceeds this limit, you will incur an automatic failing grade in the course.
Tardies, or late arrivals will be counted on a percentage basis. (ex: 30 minutes late in a 50 minutes class period constitutes 60% of attendance for the class.)

- Absences for *personal* reasons (including but not limited to family emergencies, funerals or any other reason not related to a UNL class, activity or obligation) are discretionary.
- Absences due to illness are also discretionary unless they are documented with a note from Student Health or a physician verifying the need to miss class.
- Excused absences are University obligations, sports and field trips.
- For an excused absence, you must inform your instructor either in writing or in person as soon as possible and present documentation from the relevant professor, coach, faculty advisor of the club, etc.
- If you have or develop an ongoing medical condition that affects your ability to attend class, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities and document your situation so that SSD can develop an authorized protocol for accommodating your attendance needs.

Appendix 2

Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
100/200 Level Instructor Observation Form

Name of Instructor_____ Date _____

Course/Section_____ Room _____

Observed by: Number of students _____

Outline of lesson / Description of tasks

Time	**Task**

RATING SCALE:
C = commendable; S = satisfactory; U = unsatisfactory; N/A = not applicable

I. Command and appropriate use of target language				
1. Pronunciation (including intonation)	C	S	U	N/A
2. Grammar	C	S	U	N/A
3. Suitability of vocabulary	C	S	U	N/A

II. Classroom atmosphere and situation				
1. The student-teacher rapport was conducive to learning.	C	S	U	N/A
2. The classroom atmosphere was successfully established at the beginning of the class (e.g., by a warm-up).	C	S	U	N/A
3. The instructor elicited the participation of all students.	C	S	U	N/A
4. The students were aware of what was expected of them.	C	S	U	N/A
5. The instructor guided the class successfully.	C	S	U	N/A
6. The instructor showed strong interest and enthusiasm in the subject.	C	S	U	N/A
7. The instructor made the tasks / material relevant to the students.	C	S	U	N/A

III. Lesson (plan and implementation)				
1. Did the class begin/end on time?	yes		no	
2. Were homework assignments communicated clearly and concisely? (whether in class or by other means)	yes		no	
3. Was the lesson plan well thought-out and organized? Were its goals and objectives clear?	yes		no	
4. Were the lesson objectives made clear to the students?	yes		no	
5. Did the instructor effectively set up tasks by modeling (when appropriate or necessary)?	yes		no	
6. Were students made aware of time limits for completing tasks?	yes		no	
7. Did the instructor effectively monitor students' work? (e.g., circulating during group/pair work)	yes		no	
8. The lesson progressed smoothly and the lesson plan was implemented successfully. The tasks were related, contextualized, and there were clear transitions between tasks.	C	S	U	N/A
9. There was an appropriate balance of activities (e.g., teacher-centered activities, group work, pair work)	C	S	U	N/A

IV. Teaching methods and techniques				
1. Instructor demonstrated a good knowledge of subject.	C	S	U	N/A
2. There was an appropriate balance between teacher talk and student talk.	C	S	U	N/A

3. The target language was used as much as appropriate.	C	S	U	N/A
4. When giving explanations or clarifying a point the instructor used effective techniques.	C	S	U	N/A
5. Instructor provided effective, tactful, and appropriate error correction.	C	S	U	N/A
6. Visual and other multisensory learning tools (e.g., blackboard/whiteboard, transparencies/document camera, pictures, videos, Internet, music, etc.) were used effectively.	C	S	U	N/A

Optional comment and/or suggestions for improvement:

I have seen the completed observation form and wish to make the following comments about the class/observation. (Comments are **optional, not required**.)

_____ _____
Signature of Instructor Date

_____ _____
Signature of Observer Date

Appendix 3

Digital Humanities

http://cdrh.unl.edu/

The Center for Digital Research in the Humanities (CDRH) advances interdisciplinary, collaborative research. Humanities faculty and students affiliated with the Center are expanding our understanding of history, literature, languages, and culture. The Center also develops unique digital content and tools for scholarly discovery, and offers workshops and forums on humanities topics.

The Center for Digital Research in the Humanities (CDRH) is a joint program of the UNL Libraries and the College of Arts & Sciences. It was officially established by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents in 2005 and has been designated a Program of Excellence at UNL since 2004.

CDRH is a founding member of centerNet, an international network of digital humanities centers, and is an institutional member of the TEI Consortium, the National Humanities Alliance, and the Consortium of Humanities Centers & Institutes.

View some of our projects below.

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