

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES & CULTURES

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

Spring has been another excellent semester for the Department of Languages and Cultures. We develop new opportunities for student success by providing our majors and minors with professional, academic, and cultural experiences that broaden their global understanding. New courses and events showcase how language education prepares you to engage with the world.

Students, faculty, and staff devoted great efforts to expanding the scope of our program across the College of LAS and through partnerships with other departments. In this issue, we want to highlight their accomplishments. If you want to join in these experiences, please consider one of our courses, and find out what language is best for you.



LangCult website

UPCOMING VOTE TO REINSTATE LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT IN THE COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS, AND SCIENCES

The Department of Languages and Cultures has submitted a petition to reinstate the language requirement for the College of LAS. We hope to count on the support of all LAS Faculty! The vote opens on April 28th and closes on May 5th at 5 pm. For more information about the petition, please go to the LangCult website.

OPEN FORUM On Tuesday, April 4 and on Wednesday, April 5, the Languages and Cultures department hosted a 2-day open forum event. The purpose of this forum was to inform the LAS faculty of the vital role languages and cultures play in benefiting students personally and professionally as they progress in their lives and careers. The forum was presented by the department chairs Dr. Cota-Torres and Dr. Feliu-Moggi and included students' testimonials. The attendees found this opportunity useful and informative. The L&C faculty is looking forward to continuing working and collaborating with students and peer faculty colleagues and staff to promote the importance of languages and cultures.



—Chairs & Clyde Photo



—Instructors Glisson, Goñi, and Cook

MULTICULTURAL DAY

The 15th annual Day of the Dead celebration was held on the University's campus on November 2nd, 2022 as part of the University's yearly Multicultural Day. In honor of and remembering deceased friends, family, and loved ones, the exhibit is an important part of the event. There were three sections to the altar this year, an altar with images of the departed on it, an altar with ofrendas, and a table that contained the catrinas.



Tabling on November 2nd



Día de los muertos altar

SPANISH PROGRAM

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

In order to shed light on the importance of this holiday in the cultural and social spheres, this annual event has been organized by the department in order to provide an opportunity for people to experience a piece of Mexican culture. Latinos demonstrate the syncretism between indigenous celebration and Catholic influence. As a result of all the colleagues, students, and guests who took part in this celebration and visited the exhibit, we were able to make it a success!

NEW BORDERS

New Borders/ Nuevas Fronteras is a literary project involving Editorial Artificios, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California (UABC), and the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. Dr. Gabriel Trujillo Muñoz, Dr. José Salvador Ruiz, Rafael Rodríguez, and Dr. Édgar Cota Torres continue with this arduous and honorable work of projecting the literature and culture of various border themes. Our Department has also been supportive of this initiative since its creation in 2014. Three more titles are projected to be published in 2023.



New Borders Book Covers

NATIONAL HISPANIC HONOR SOCIETY

We would like to thank our past board of directors Annie-Claire Walch and Brennan Auger. As well as congratulate our new board of directors, Leah Bailey- President, and Morgan Lee- Vice-president. These students have done a spectacular job leading our Honor Society and connecting with our past and current student members.



—Morgan and Leah Bailey



Translation Dial

TRANSLATION COURSE

Explore the nuances of translating while working with real text from a variety of sources, including from areas of special interest to you. Internship in Professional Translation (SPAN3490 OL1) explores issues in translation studies from a practical perspective. You will engage technical, literary, professional, academic, and media texts in Spanish and English to understand how to approach different

language styles, genres, and cultural nuances and present them in the target language using a variety of translation techniques. The class is fully online, allowing students to explore areas of translation that are of interest to them, and to work on one professional text for publication.

RABINAL ACHI

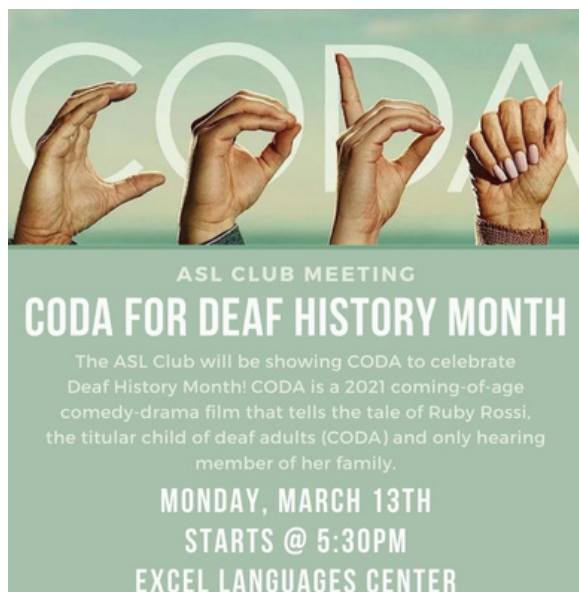
Rabinal Achí, one of the oldest plays in the Americas, is staged every year in the town of Rabinal, in Guatemala, and depicts a struggle between Mayan rulers. Over the last 500 years, the drama has become a symbol of indigenous resistance to Spanish colonization and a repository of Mayan culture and tradition. This Fall, join students of the Spanish and Visual and Performing Arts programs to explore this colorful historical drama in SPAN3910/FCS3990/THTR3210. This cross-listed class, with visiting experts in a variety of academic fields, will study the historical context and development of the play and its relationship to European and American dramatic traditions.



—Rabinal Achí Celebration. Photo: Julio Serrano

ASL PROGRAM

We are excited to see the ASL club growing, new ASL minors, and numerous curious new signers! It is awesome to see more and more new signers joining the community of learning about the Deaf community, culture, and language! We are pleased to present different workshops. The next workshop provided by the ASL program will be on medical signs, which is hosted by the Pre-Health Society.



ASL Club Event Poster

ASL CLUB hosted several successful meetings and events. The most recent event, 'Movie Night', was fully booked! The movie shown was titled 'CODA', which stands for Children of Deaf Adults. It gave perspectives on the life experiences of children growing up with Deaf parents. Attendees enjoyed the movie along with delicious popcorn and snacks!



ASL Faculty & Staff Photo

We are happily pleased to recognize graduating ASL minors, who are: Inika Brass, Aly Drolet, Lauryn Dunlap, Emily Kassowitz, Mary Moorhead, Chloe Rosenkrantz, Kennadi Tipton-Pack, and Zoë Willis-Wildman. Congratulations! We commend four ASL minors: Emily Kassowitz for her contributions to the Excel Language Center; Chloe Rosenkrantz for her unique excellence in all courses; Kennadi Tipton-Pack for her contributions in incorporating ASL and Deaf culture in the medical field; and, Zoë Willis-Wildman for her immersion into the Deaf community, Deaf culture, and ASL. Congratulations, and best of luck in the future!



ASL Instructors and Students

FRENCH PROGRAM

FALL 2023 This fall, we will offer FR1010 (a Compass Explore course) and FR2110. Both courses blend language and culture study to prepare students for professional and personal connections with French speakers around the world. In FR3070, Sustainability in the French-Speaking World (both a Compass Writing Intensive and Sustainability course), students learn to communicate in French about problems and solutions to the challenge of living sustainably. They collaborate with Spanish and German students also studying sustainability in their target cultures.



Juan Pablo Maldonado

STUDY ABROAD Ices, France. Juan Pablo Maldonado is a senior at UCCS as a student of Biomedical Sciences. He also has taken part within the Languages Department for some time as a tutor and now as a student of French. This semester, he decided to embark on the opportunity of a lifetime: studying abroad in France! He describes his experience as “incredible, but most of all, eye-opening”. He is not only immersed in French culture, he has also gotten to know other students from around the world such as Spain, Turkey, Russia, Poland, and Romania. He shared the following: “I encourage you, even if at the moment it is a distant desire of yours to experience to go abroad, to go to that info session, to go talk to your language teacher about it (they themselves have experienced it!), to do some research and look into what might interest you!”. Find Juan Pablo’s full update on the Languages and Cultures web site.

NATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE Université de Montreal

Eric Boyle is a senior at UCCS majoring in History, and minoring in Political Science, Anthropology, and French. He is spending his 2023 spring semester at the Université de Montréal (UM) in Montréal, Québec, Canada. He shared: “Everything from its linguistic surroundings to the physical environment of Montreal has been both exciting changes to my usual life in Colorado Springs as well as challenges that I’ve had to overcome. I am happy to report that I have developed quite considerably as a student and an individual as a result.” Eric has met many interesting people, including his roommates from Luxembourg, Turkey, France, and Saudi Arabia. He highly recommends getting involved in an extracurricular activity:



Eric Boyle

“The most enriching French conversations I have actually been with my teammates on the local color guard team that I compete with out here, Les Éclipses de Longueuil. They have provided me with a comfortable and welcoming environment where I can [...] improve my spoken French.” Find Eric’s full update on the Languages and Cultures website.

GERMAN PROGRAM

Servus and Hallo from the UCCS German Club! We are excited to announce our upcoming events in the Fall 2023 Semester to help share our passion for the German Culture and the German Language with our fellow students. We are planning to hold a German Movie Night at the Excel Languages Center in August, an Oktoberfest event in Clyde's Gastropub in September, and to host a Christmas Party at the Excel Languages Center in December. Furthermore, the German National Honor Society will be holding a dinner to commemorate new members and celebrate graduating members during the Fall '23 Semester.



German, Swiss & Austrian Flag

GER/FCS/FILM 3450

Prof. Robert von Dassanowsky Fall 2023 Th/F 1:40-4:20 CENT 188

From the influential German Expressionist horror to the dreams of the future and the daring topics of the New Woman and mad men --- From the propaganda to the extravaganzas of war and cinematic divisions, resurrections, re-visions of the 50s, 60s, 70sNOW. The ultimate experience in GERMAN STUDIES and FILM.

Taught in English/Work in German for GER credit. Prereq GER 2120 or equivalent.

GER 3070 German Topics in Sustainable Development – Fall 2023

T/Th 3:05-4:20 Dwire 112 (Prereq Ger 2120 or equivalent)

Taught in German by Senior Instructor of German: Andrea Brehm

Compass curriculum: Writing intensive and sustainability.



To protect and to preserve the environment we are living in remains a hot topic globally. Are you interested in learning about what countries in the German speaking world think about the environment and, more importantly, what sustainable practices they use to ensure that future generations have the resources they need to live a healthy life? Ger 3070 will introduce students to sustainable practices used in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland examining all areas of life – consumerism, nutrition, energy, waste management, etc.

JAPANESE PROGRAM

JAPAN EXCHANGE & TEACHING PROGRAM

The Embassy of Japan has accepted Taela Gallegos and Alex Dorland for Assistant Language Teacher positions in the JET program. Taela and Alex took one or two years of Japanese courses. The two will work as English assistants for up to three years at Japanese public schools. After submitting an application essay and resume, they were interviewed online. Their work will start this summer.



Alex D. & Taela G.

COLORADO JAPANESE SPEECH CONTEST

Students in our Japanese Minor participated in the 35th Colorado Japanese Language Speech Contest, organized by the Colorado Japanese Language Education Association this past March 4th. We congratulate our first-place winners Gunnar Anderson in Speech College I, Joseph Nelson in Speech College III, and Frederick Frilman in Speech College IV. We applaud Kaylene Rhodes for winning second place in Speech College II. Senior Instructor Mioko Webster and Lecturer Mi Na Choo praise their students for such a fantastic job, and for making our department and the rest of our university proud.



Contest winners and Aaron Stoner

KANAZAWA UNIVERSITY

Four students and a professor from Kanazawa University in Japan visited UCCS and local schools for a week in March. Prof. Taku Yamamoto, the head of the Teacher Education Department, is a friend of Senior Japanese Instructor Mioko Webster. They hope to develop exchange programs between the universities. Kanazawa students interacted with Japanese language students by visiting a class, eating meals on and off campus, and taking city tours.



UCCS and Kanazawa Students

KOREAN

We hosted the first Korean movie night, which had 14 attendees! We watched "Minari", a 2020 American drama film about a Korean American family who moves to Arkansas. There was a discussion regarding the film afterwards, and many students expressed that we should host a similar event next semester. So, a second Korean Movie Night will be coming in Oct. 2023!



Korean Movie Night



Excel Language Center

EXCEL LANGUAGE CENTER

The Excel Languages Center (LC) is the hub for UCCS's language learning community. They are most known for providing students with academic support, and world languages tutoring and conversation tables. The LC currently provides tutoring and language workshops for American Sign Language (ASL), English, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish.

DR. PEREZ

Congratulations on completing your doctoral studies on Education in Leadership for Educational Equity! It's an incredible accomplishment that speaks to your dedication and hard work. You should be proud of your success and excited for what lies ahead. You are an invaluable part of our team, and we are extremely pleased to have you onboard!



Doctor Jesse Perez

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SPRING GRADUATES!

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE MINORS

Inika Brass
Aly Drolet
Lauryn Dunlap
Emily Kassowitz
Mary Moorhead
Chloe Rosenkrantz
Kennadi Tipton-Pack
Zoë Willis-Wildman

JAPANESE MINORS

Thomas Macalester

FRENCH MINORS

Courtney Bessell
Catriona Clarke
Moir Grady
Juan Pablo Maldonado

SPANISH MAJORS

Erika Cruz Duke
Sofia Cruz Duke
Baxter Gray
Christopher Marcial-Cortez
Anna Nast
Thomas Root
Ysabelle Angeli Sadiarin

SPANISH MINORS

Molly O'Flannigan
Joshua Sims



Clyde Celebrating. Photo: Gabby Hensley