Greetings from the Chair

Greetings to our students, alumni and friends of Modern Languages! This has been a great year for us and continues to be as we enhance our curricular and extra-curricular involvements, bring new faculty into the department and honor those who have achieved awards.

We recently welcomed new Assistant Professors Dr. Pascale Abadie (French) and Joshua Mabra, (Arabic); Instructors Dr. Maan Broadstock (Chinese), Ben Hirt (French), and Dr. Paula Garrido (Spanish); and new adjunct professors, Aicha El Yamani (Arabic), Marie Jergens (French), Kari Danner (French), Márcia Santos (Portuguese) and Dr. Donnie Richards (Spanish). Dr. Kirsten Halling received Wright State University's 2014 International Education Award; Dr. Damaris Serrano was awarded a two-semester research leave; Senior Lecturer Michelle Cipriano and Lecturer Maria Astudillo received professional development awards to develop new courses; Instructor Amira Orr was awarded a seed grant to develop an Ambassador Program to Amman, Jordan.

Our annual immersion days in Chinese, French, German, and Spanish bring about 800 high school language students to campus; in March 2015 we will offer our first Arabic Immersion. These immersion days offer our upper-level students the opportunity to build leadership skills and to inspire their high school counterparts.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are now able to provide more students with experiences that will last a lifetime, and our alumni will continue to make a difference nationally and globally.

Please join us on April 2, 5:00 pm in the Millett Atrium for our Modern Languages Lecture Series. Dr. Pascale Abadie will present "Why Do We Love to Hate the French?"

Browse our class schedule, check out our study abroad offerings and language news, stop by our offices, and drop us a line. We'd love to hear from you!

Amicalement,

Table of Contents

Language News: Arabic 2 Chinese 5 French 7 German 12 Spanish 19
2014 Highlights 25 Alumni News 26 Alumni Testimonials 27 ML Scholarship Recipients 29 Get in Touch 32

Schedules of Classes:

Summer 2015 Fall 2015

Upcoming Ambassador Programs:

China, France, Germany, Spain
Professor Mabra Combines a Passion for Arabic with a Quest for Family Heritage: An Interview

Joshua Mabra received his B.A. in Anthropology from Kenyon College in 2005. He began studying Arabic in 2002 and has studied the language in Lebanon, Syria, Sudan and Egypt. From 2005-2006, he worked as a journalist in Sudan, after which he moved to the U.K, where he received an M.A. in Islamic Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London in 2007. In 2011, Joshua received an M.A. in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago, and will complete his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in Spring 2015. Mr. Mabra’s research focuses on the great religious and cultural changes of the Late Antique and early Islamic periods. He is particularly interested in the intertextuality of Arabic, Coptic, Syriac, Ethiopic and Greek texts. In his spare time, Mr. Mabra also enjoys tennis, hiking, camping, and farming.

- How did you become interested in Arabic?

-My family’s oral history is what first got me interested in Arabic. My mother’s family came to Ohio in the 1940s during the Great Migration, and they carried with them a story of their origins. I grew up hearing from my great aunts that our family had come from Sudan before being enslaved in the American South. (DNA testing would later confirm this). With so much of my family’s history and culture lost due to slavery, I was very much inspired to recapture a part of this lost history, and learning Arabic was part of that process.

- What aspects of Arabic language and culture do you find the most fascinating? What is your favorite part of the Arab-speaking world?

- Classical Arabic texts are my passion, from the Qur’an, to 7th century papyri and graffiti, to the first Arabic histories. I love the formative period of Arabic literature; the period between the 7th and 9th centuries when the tradition of prose and historical writing were in their early stages. What fascinates me is the process of community building and identity creation that goes along with the early development of Arabic literature. These earliest works not only represent the development of a literary tradition, but also reflect the formation of Islamic civilization.

My favorite place in the Middle East is Sudan. I have a strong personal connection to it due
to my family’s history, but it’s also the first place in the Middle East I lived for an extended period of time. After graduating from Kenyon College in 2005, I moved to Khartoum, Sudan, where I worked for an English-Arabic newspaper, the Juba Post. Khartoum is an amazing city. It sits on the confluence of the Blue and White Niles, and has a wonderful mix of Ottoman, British colonial and traditional Sudanese architecture- all of these elements, combined with the great human diversity, create one of the most culturally unique cities I have ever visited.

**What attracted you to Wright State?**

-I was actually born in Springfield, Ohio, so I have known about and had a great respect for Wright State for many years. I moved back to the area to finish my dissertation, and I began adjuncting at Wright State in the summer of 2014. I was so impressed with the students and faculty of the Department of Modern Languages, and the excitement on campus for the growing Arabic program really drew me in. Due to its location and the large population of native speakers of Arabic at the university, I strongly believe that Wright State could become a major center for the study of Arabic, and I couldn’t resist being part of its future.

**What are some of the opportunities to practice Arabic and learn about the culture in the Dayton area?**

-To practice Arabic, students just need to walk the halls and pathways of the campus! I hear Arabic in the corridors of Millett and cafeteria every day. So just go hang out in the Hangar or Student Union with your Arabic book, or say, “Salam” to someone you hear speaking Arabic. There are also plenty of Arabic restaurants in the area, which are a great place to practice practical speaking skills.

**What can students expect to learn in the Wright State Arabic program? What can they do with Arabic in today’s world?**

-Here at Wright State we teach Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), which is the literary form of the language used in novels, newspapers and in formal settings. We offer a foundational curriculum of three years of Modern Standard Arabic, in which students gain an advanced foundation in speaking, reading and writing MSA. In addition, we offer a variety of upper-level text and conversation courses, such as: Arabic Fiction, Classical Arabic Texts, Media Arabic, Advanced Conversation (MSA) and Levantine Dialect. We are also in the early phases of planning an Ambassador Program to Jordan.

Arabic is a critical language and there is a great shortage of Americans who have a
knowledge of the language and culture of the Middle East. Students who combine studying Arabic with other skills have a great opportunity to work in the very lucrative and expanding markets of the Middle East. Studying a language like Arabic could give students studying history, politics, business, engineering, medicine, the sciences or those in ROTC great career opportunities in both the private and public sectors.

Join Us for the Inaugural Arabic Immersion Day!

The Arabic Program will celebrate its first Immersion Day on Tuesday, March 24th from 9:00 am-1:30 pm. This year, the theme is “A Journey to the Arabic World.” Activities will be centered on the Arabic culture, history and language and will include plays presented by the students, explorations of Levantine Arabic culture, a calligraphy session, and hand painting with henna. Joshua Mabra, Assistant Professor of Arabic, will present a lecture on Islamic history. Join us for this culturally rich event in the Apollo Room of the Student Union. For more information, contact Amira Ben-Amer Orr (amira.orr@wright.edu).

The Arabic Club is sponsoring a weekly conversation table. Contact Joshua Mabra (joshua.mabra@wright.edu) for more information.

Faculty News

Amira Ben-Amer Orr, Instructor of Arabic, has developed several new courses, including Arabic Conversation, Arabic Media, Arabic Translation, and Levantine Arabic. She has received a UCIE Seed Grant to develop an Arabic Ambassador Program in Jordan. She is the coordinator of the upcoming Arabic Immersion Day on March 24th.
Chinese

In 2014, the Chinese Program had an exciting year! The Department hired a new full-time Chinese faculty member, Dr. Maan Broadstock. With this extra faculty support, the Chinese Program is able to offer several new courses at the 3000-level and above, such as Advanced Chinese Composition and Conversation, Chinese Culture through Film, and Multimedia Chinese. Modern Languages is now in the process of establishing a Chinese language minor.

The first annual Chinese Immersion Day took place on January 30, 2014. Professors Haili Du and Dr. Maan Broadstock organized the immersion experience for over 100 high school Chinese students from the Miami Valley and Columbus area at Wright State University. They participated in a variety of fun games and activities to practice their language skills, meet new friends, interact with native speakers, and appreciate the beauty of Chinese culture. Students ended their day by participating in a Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration organized by the Asian/Hispanic/Native American Center. Students’ responses from the evaluation survey were overwhelmingly positive.

Our Chinese Program also hosted the fifth annual Ohio Association of Teachers of Chinese Dayton/Cincinnati Regional Meeting on Saturday, December 6, 2014 in Millett Hall. Twenty-three local Chinese teachers attended this professional development workshop. Dr. Broadstock and six others shared their effective teaching strategies and useful resources with the audience. All the Chinese teachers were very pleased with the facilities at Wright State and appreciated this opportunity to connect with other Chinese teachers and learn from each other.

New and Noteworthy in 2015:

On February 12, 2015, the Modern Languages Chinese Program instructors joined the Asian/Hispanic/Native American Center to host the second annual Chinese Immersion Day. This fun and educational event provided local high school students with a rich, cultural
environment where they enhanced their language proficiency.

Haili Du will lead her fourth Ambassador Program to China this summer. This vibrant and comprehensive program allows students to experience many aspects of Chinese culture. Students will explore five very different cities in this giant and diverse country while focusing on the country's culture, language, history and business.

**Chinese Faculty News**

**Dr. Maan Broadstock**, Instructor of Chinese, joined the Department of Modern languages in January 2014. She was born in Taiwan and moved to the United States in 1997. Dr. Broadstock has both a B.S. and M.S. in Geophysics from National Central University in Taiwan, and she received her Ph.D. in Science Education from The Ohio State University. She taught physics and science education in Taiwan for 13 years. After moving to the United States, she started to teach Chinese at the Dayton Chinese School and later established the Chinese program at Centerville High School. She was also an adjunct faculty member at Wright State University from 2008 to 2014.

Dr. Broadstock and her husband, Tom, live in Centerville. They have two sons, Arthur and Alex, in college. In her spare time, she likes hiking, tai chi, gardening, Chinese painting, and calligraphy.

Dr. Broadstock advises the Chinese Club, now 30-strong and counting. She hosts Chinese Corner every Monday, 2:10 pm-3:10 pm, in the 3rd floor Millett lobby. In 2014, she served as a Head Teacher at the University of Virginia’s 2014 Summer STARTALK program, and brought a Dayton/Cincinnati Regional Chinese Teachers’ Professional Development Meeting to the WSU campus. She is a regular presenter at the regional Confucius Institute events and is the 2013 recipient of the Ohio Association of Teachers of Chinese Excellence Award.

**Haili Du**, Instructor of Chinese, has supervised Chinese Dual Enrollment program in collaboration with Oakwood and Bellbrook high schools and Dayton Regional STEM School. She organized Wright State’s Ambassador Program to China in 2010, 2011 and 2013 and will be taking students again in 2015. She also started the Chinese Immersion Day for high school students in 2014. Her foundational work in the WSU Chinese Program was recognized in 2013 with a CoLA Outstanding Instructor Award and a Presidential Award for Faculty Excellence.

[Click here](#) to access information about the 2015 Ambassador Program in Chinese.
French

Our French section had an outstanding year in 2014! The yearly Ambassador Program to France led by Drs. Halling and Abadie was a huge success. While waiting in line to enter the Musée d’Orsay, students and faculty were able to meet an American veteran who was in Paris to celebrate the 70th anniversary of D-Day at Normandy. What a great opportunity to thank a veteran who risked his life for the freedom of many during World War II! Students stayed in Bordeaux for one week with French families and taught American culture to students learning English. The group then traveled to Paris for cultural and historical on-site lectures en français.

Recently, Drs. Halling and Abadie, French majors, Tasha Fox and Jasmine Higgins, and alumna, Kayla Schaub, traveled to Chicago to see international pop sensation, Stromae, come alive on stage. His performance included hits from “Alors on dance” to “Papaoutai” and his lively presence was met by incredible enthusiasm from audience members who sang along in French. Stromae even took pictures with fans after the show. It was “formidable”, to say the least!

In November, we learned about la Gaule at French Immersion Day with 18 local high schools in attendance. With classes in full swing and an Immersion Day to plan, the French Club still found time to host a cooking demonstration, where students and faculty prepared a traditional French Christmas dinner. They also hosted a night of karaoke, a cheese-making demonstration, multiple conversation hours on campus, a presentation of French social media and met regularly at Carmel’s with Oakwood Sister City Association members (sister city to Le Vésinet, France and Outremont, Canada).

La Société d’Honneur Française, Pi Delta Phi, inducted 14 new members on February 20.

Félicitations to Dr. Kirsten Halling for receiving the 2014 International Education Award! Dr. Halling co-leads the
Ambassador Program to France every year and is constantly inspiring students to travel and helping them find the means to do so. We couldn’t think of an educator more deserving of this award!

What’s New in 2015?

With such a successful year in hindsight, the French section has many upcoming events in 2015.

In April, French faculty members will give presentations on a variety of topics. Dr. Abadie will present “Why Do We Love to Hate the French?” as a part of the ML Lecture Series at Wright State in the Millett Hall Atrium on April 2 at 5:00 p.m. Later in the month, the French section will head to Kalahari Resorts in Sandusky, Ohio for the Ohio Foreign Language Association Annual Conference where Drs. Halling and Abadie will present “Change Your Tune! Beat the Blues by Updating Your French Music Selections,” a half-day workshop offered to attendees on contemporary French music in the classroom. Dr. Abadie will also present “À la folie pas du tout” for AATF’s Movie Club. Current AATF Secretary and Treasurer, Karine Daddah, will give a presentation on Mauritania and Senegal. Alumna Kayla Schaub will present her senior honors project, “Service Learning: A Cultural Exchange between L2 Learners and Heritage Speakers”.

This summer, Modern Languages will offer the yearly Ambassador Program to France (Paris and Bordeaux) and Mme Daddah will be teaching her French Cuisine and Film course (FR 4940, MTWR, 9:00-1:00, Rockafield Center Kitchen). On adore manger!
French Faculty News

Dr. Pascale Abadie, Assistant Professor of French, has been teaching at Wright State University since 2005. Pascale earned her Ph.D. in Francophone Literature from the University of Cincinnati and her doctoral dissertation examines the shift in African Sub-Saharan literature by women authors from 1979 to today. Every summer Dr. Abadie co-leads the Ambassador Program to France, where students spend one week in Bordeaux and two weeks in Paris. For Dr. Abadie, this is a wonderful experience to be able to show Wright State University students her hometown, Paris, and share with them her love for France. Dr. Abadie currently advises the French Club and was awarded the President’s Award for best Instructor in 2010.

Karine Daddah, Instructor of French, regularly conducts French cooking classes and food tasting workshops. She will be offering FR 4940, “French Cuisine and Cinema” this summer. This introduction to the culinary arts combines film analysis with food preparation to deepen students’ knowledge of French gastronomy; that is to say everything about the food in history and its place in French culture. Karine likes to structure her classes in a practical, hands-on fashion to maximize learning. She also teaches French Business, which is offered annually in the fall and features French-speaking guest lecturers and on-site French-language visits to classified companies (i.e., GE). French Conversation (FR 3110) and Oral Proficiency in French (FR 3120) follow the same approach of getting students involved in an interactive class setting. Karine also manages the content of the Modern Languages website, and is a frequent presenter at various forums, regional and statewide. Some of her presentations cover Mauritania, a western African country where she resided for many years, movies, culinary arts, and business. Karine is very passionate about French and French culture, and finding creative ways to help her students discover new horizons.

Dr. Kirsten Halling, Associate Professor of French, is a co-facilitator, with Dr. Abadie, of French Conversation Club, a joint WSU-Oakwood Sister City Association activity, an Oakwood Sister City Exchange Coordinator, and a Moderator for the Theta Epsilon Chapter of Pi Delta Phi, the French National Honor Society. She has recently published an article in The French Review titled “Identity and ‘Street Cred’ in the Works of French Rappers Oxmo Puccino and Booba.” Dr. Halling regularly presents on French and Francophone culture, music and program building at state, regional, and national conferences. She has recently coordinated three service-learning projects: French language docent tours of the DAI’s French Collection, an after-school French program for heritage French speakers at Belmont High School in Dayton, and an elementary after-school French program at Southdale Elementary School in Kettering. Dr. Halling is the Ohio Foreign Language Association representative to the Ohio Board of Regents’ Foreign Languages Outcomes Initiative and is the recipient of the 2014 WSU International Education Award.
Benjamin Hirt, Instructor of French, joined the department in Fall 2014. He studied in France and Québec as an undergraduate. After obtaining his M.A. in French Language and Literature from the University of Kentucky, he taught French at the University of Cincinnati and Georgetown College in Kentucky and then spent four years working on his Ph.D. in French at The Ohio State University. Hirt then taught French at Dublin-Scioto High School in the Columbus area, where he took students on study abroad trips to Europe and wowed the staff during annual soup cook-offs with dishes such as roasted butternut squash soup, pheasant nugget stew and rabbit bourguignon. In November 2013, he brought his students to Wright State’s French Immersion Day, discovered a job opening and joined the faculty August 2014.

Hirt lives on a 6.5-acre farm in South Vienna, Ohio, where he raises goats, sheep, chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks and rabbits. He can grow anything in the garden and has a rototiller built by Ferrari, the Italian luxury sports car manufacturer. Hirt plans to bring goat’s milk from his farm to French Club meetings, where students will make cheese. By the spring of 2016, he hopes to have a cheese-making course that will also teach about heritage rabbits and artisan foods. The students will then be encouraged to take their skills to their home communities to improve the quality and healthiness of local foods.

Ben Hirt was recently featured in the WSU Newsroom. Click here to find out more.

Upcoming Events

March 11, 4:00-5:00, Room TBA — Presentation on Mauritania and Senegal by Mme Karine Daddah

March 27, 6:00-8:00 pm, Room TBA — Dinner and a Movie, Les Choristes

April 2, 5:00 pm, Millett Hall Atrium — ML Lecture Series and Dr. Pascale Abadie Present “Why Do We Love to Hate the French?”

April 3, 6:00-8:00 pm, TBA — Dinner and a Movie, Movie TBA. We will elect officers for the 2015-16 year!

April 10, 6:00 pm-12:00 am — Relay for Life; Contact Jasmine Higgins (higgins.55@wright.edu)

April 11, 9:00 am, Cincinnati — Franglais Day! We will visit Jungle Jim’s and attend a baseball game! Carpooling available.
French Conversation Club

Venez parler français avec nous dans une ambiance décontractée!

Carmel’s
When: March 16, March 30, April 13 (Mondays), 7:00-9:00 pm
Where: Carmel’s, 1025 Shroyer Rd., Dayton, OH

Marchez et Parlez
When: Wednesdays, 2:30-3:30 pm
Where: Meet in front of Mme Halling & Mme Abadie’s offices, 341+343 Millett

Starbucks
When: March 13, March 27, April 10, April 24 (Fridays), 4:00-5:00
Where: Starbucks in the Dunbar Library
Join us for German Club!

German Faculty News

Dr. Elfe Dona, Associate Professor of German, has recently returned from a productive professional development leave. She developed a new course, GER 3990/5990, “German-American Contributions to American Life” and presented regionally and nationally at the AATG and ACTFL conferences. She has served as Second Vice President of the Ohio Chapter of the German American Association for the Teachers of German and completed training for the German Examiner Certificate at the Goethe Institute. She is the translator and editor of German Pioneers of Montgomery County, Ohio: Early Pioneer Life in Dayton, Miamisburg, Germantown by H.A. Rattermann (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2015) and co-author of the article in the Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education titled “Modern Languages and Distance Education: Thirteen Days in the Cloud” (2014).

Dr. Renate Sturdevant, Instructor of German, has recently developed a new course, “German Culture through Cinema.” She and students in the German Club she co-advises attended a number of events in the community this year, including the Germania Society of Cincinnati Oktoberfest, the Christkindlmarkt Parade, the Blaskapelle Pop concert by young Austrian author Vea Kaiser, and the Christmas celebration at Liederkrantz in Dayton. She has recently presented a paper titled “Preserving German Culture in America” at a Liederkrantz-Turner Club meeting. She also presented about the history of St. Martin at St. Martin’s Parade, a German children’s celebration brought to Dayton by Liederkrantz-Turner.
What’s New with German Graduates?

Seth Warncke at OSU

“I’ve moved on to Ohio State where I am pursuing a MA in German. I started last fall and am in my second semester now. There’s a lot of talk about finding a job with one’s major, and I’m working here! I’m a GTA and so OSU pays me and my tuition. It’s a lot of fun to have my own German class and to spread the language and culture. I also get to work with over a dozen other graduate and PhD students in the German department. We have some discussions in our seminars, and I am certainly learning a lot. It’s thanks to the support from the ML department, especially Dr. Sturdevant and Dr. Dona that I got here.”

Joshua Gearhart

“I graduated in 2012 from Wright State University with a Bachelor’s degree in International Studies. While enrolled at WSU I took three years of German. I am currently working in sales for a multinational corporation. The U.S. headquarters is located in Columbus, OH and the company’s headquarters is located near Zurich, Switzerland. The fact that I can speak, read and write German was discussed during my interview. My boss had stated it would be advantageous for the company here in the states along with my career ambitions and would enhance my odds to work abroad in Switzerland or one of our facilities in Germany. Daily, I come in contact with colleagues from Germany, Switzerland and many countries from around the world. Because of my classes with Dr. Dona and the other Wright State faculty, I have confidence interacting in German via phone, email or in person.

A recommendation I have is try to stay engaged and continue to learn your foreign language and not lose what you have already attained. I realize some of you may just be trying to complete course work to graduate, but employers want to see a dynamic and well-rounded people with characteristics that enhance the work place. Viel Glück!”

“German Takes you Places!”

Seth with his OSU professor, Dr. Davidson
Kelsey White at Madison, WI

“What have you been up to, Kelsey?”

“Since graduating from WSU, I’ve been in Madison, WI working on post-graduate education in German and Applied Linguistics. I’ve also been teaching first- through third-year German courses at the University of Wisconsin - and I love my job! This semester I’m working on completing my work for the PhD. I’m really excited to see what the next chapter in life holds for me.”

“How did taking German at WSU help?”

“I couldn’t have the (truly exciting and enjoyable) career that I have today if not for German at WSU. That is where I really solidified my language skills, but also where I was really exposed in-depth to the culture of German-speaking countries. Not to mention, the community and friendships that I formed in the German Program were a big part of what motivated me to continue with my studies.”

“Any good advice for German students?”

“My advice for WSU German students is twofold:

1) Don’t think of your German courses as just a place to learn a language; it’s so much more than that. I promise, you’re really gaining a lot more skills than you realize, which you’ll use in any career (not just German-oriented ones).

2) Get excited about German - don’t shy away from it! Sure, it can be intimidating to pick up a book in a foreign language and try to read it, and it won’t be easy at first. But how many people do you know who can do that?! It’s a really cool thing, and it just takes practice. On the same token, speak the language as much as possible. If you can study abroad - do - and promise yourself to use as much German as you can. If that’s not an option, do your best to get involved in your local campus community. The ties that you make there will be part of your connection to German long into the future.”

“To New Heights with German!”
Nathan Cardenas at Kent State, OH

“I am in the Masters of Translation program in the Institute for Applied Linguistics at Kent State University, where I am also instructing as a Graduate Assistant. Besides learning the language, the most important experience I got from the ML department at WSU was teaching Supplementary Instruction, which greatly strengthened my application and helped me get my GA position. Don’t think that there is nothing you can do with a language major besides teach. The language service industry is growing, and many graduates of our program also go on to careers besides translation, as project managers, terminologists, or others in the language service industry.”

Dr. Renate Sturdevant and Instructor Miriam Powers co-lead the Ambassador Program to Germany May 25–June 10, 2015

For information about the Ambassador Program to Germany, please click here.

“German: Never lost in Translation!”
What Future Plans do Present German Students have?

Alyssa Evans

Alyssa Evans is a junior psychology major and German minor. After graduation, she intends to apply to graduate school to pursue professional psychology after spending a few months in Germany. This is her first semester as a supplemental instructor, and is enjoying it thus far.

Daniel Moody

Daniel Moody is a third year German major at Wright State. His interest in languages was sparked at an early age while coming across various Latin words while reading Harry Potter. Because of this, he decided to take Latin and then later German (simultaneously with Latin) in school. His experiences with foreign languages in school made him decide to major in German. Being that he is a first generation college student, he is very interested in the SI program and in helping his peers learn the language.

Madison Geiling

“I will be studying German in Salzburg, Austria, from February 6th to June 30th. I will be staying with a host family and one other student from the program (organized by AIFS). There will be a 3-day stopover in London and a number of excursions including 3 days in Vienna, 3 days in Prague, 1 day in Munich and 1 day in Innsbruck. I also plan to travel a bit on my own on the weekends. I will be taking an advanced German course, a German-English translation course, and keeping up with my Spanish with a course there.”
Liz, Our “World Traveler”!

Elizabeth Schoppelrei

“My name is Liz Schoppelrei, and I am a Spanish major with minors in English Creative Writing and German along with a certificate in Women’s Studies. This year is my fourth year at Wright State; however, I am holding off on graduation for one more year. During Fall 2015, I will be studying in Lüneburg, Germany through USAC (University Studies Abroad Consortium). There, I will finish my German minor as well as intern with either a women’s center or an LGBTQ center. In Spring 2016, I will spend a semester in Chiang Mai, Thailand completing courses on gender in preparation for graduate school.

Taking German courses at Wright State has increased my cultural competency as well as allowed me to connect to my German relatives and even improve my relationship with my Oma (grandmother). Although German is my minor, it has helped to inform all of my other areas of studies. It has provided me with a different perspective and framework for imagining the world, its peoples, and where I fit in—for this I am extremely grateful to be a part of the German program at Wright State.”
Just add a little German today: Oma’s Frikadellen
Recipe from Jacob Hellickson

Place the roll in a bowl and pour milk over the roll until the roll is completely submerged. Let the roll stand in milk for 15 minutes.

Place both ground pork and beef/veal in a large mixing bowl. Take the roll out of the milk and squeeze as much of the milk out of the roll as possible (do this over the bowl of milk). Add the roll, egg, mustard, onion, and marjoram to the bowl of meat. Salt and pepper the mixture to your liking. Using your hands, mix all of the ingredients together, ensuring a thoroughly mixed mass of meaty goodness. If you find your mixture too loose, meaning a patty cannot be easily formed, you can add breadcrumbs to the mixture until you achieve the right consistency (once you can make a patty that doesn’t immediately fall apart, voilà). Although you want everything evenly mixed, don’t kill the mixture by over-mixing or using herculean strength to smoosh the mixture. This will make your Frikadellen very dense and chewy. You want a bit of a fluffy texture to them.

Next, take a small portion (about 2 tbs worth) and form into a patty. Heat a skillet over medium heat with a touch of oil and a pat of butter. Once the butter melts, place your test patty in the skillet. This test patty is your opportunity to ensure you have seasoned your meat mass sufficiently. If you’re happy with the taste, form your Frikadellen. Again, the size is up to you (keep in mind, the bigger the patty, the longer it will take to cook). I prefer baseball-sized patties. Ensure all patties are of similar size.

Cook the Frikadellen in the skillet with oil and butter. The butter gives great flavor while the oil keeps everything lubricated. Cook each patty for about 4-5 minutes on each side, or until the inside is cooked.

You may serve the Frikadellen as is with a side of Spatzle and salad, or draped with a lovely mushroom sauce over your meaty treasures. If you’d like the sauce recipe, email Dr. Elfe Dona at elfe.dona@wright.edu. Guten Appetit!

Ingredients

- 1/2 lb. ground beef or veal
- 1/2 lb. ground pork
- milk
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1 medium onion, finely diced
- 1 day-old hard roll
- 1 bunch of parsley, finely chopped
- 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp paprika
- 1 tsp dried marjoram
- plain breadcrumbs
- salt, pepper to taste
- oil and 1 tbsp butter
Spanish

“The World Awaits You:” Focus on Panama
by Dr. Damaris Serrano

This February, Wright State University and the Office of Latino Affairs hosted a delegation from the University of Panama (UP), Republic of Panama, whose mission was to learn about the possibilities of exchange and cooperation between both universities. The Deans of different colleges of the UP visited several WSU Colleges, UCIE, LEAP, and met with President Hopkins.

This initiative was a long envisioned project that had its origin in the Department of Modern Languages’ Teaching Innovation Grant “The World Awaits You.” The proposal, directed by Dr. Kirsten Halling and jointly submitted by Modern Languages professors Dr. Pascale Abadie, Dorothy Alvarez, Jennifer Buckwalter, Michelle Cipriano, Begoña Clavería, Haili Du, Dr. Marie Hertzler, Dr. Stefan Pugh, and Dr. Damaris Serrano, led to the establishment of new Ambassador Programs and teaching and learning opportunities.

The first stage of the project, titled “Living and Studying in Panama,” became a collaborative project with LEAP. In 2011, Dr. Damaris Serrano, a native of Panama, visited the Republic of Panama with Professor Carol Cornett, former Director of LEAP, and now Emeritus Professor. At that time, connections with several major universities and academic and research institutions along the country were established.

During the second stage, Dr. Serrano presented the project to Professor Tony Ortiz, now Associate Vice President for Latino Affairs. Provost Sundaram Narayanan (at the time Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science), Associate Vice President for International Affairs Stephen Foster, the College of Liberal Arts Dean Kristin Sobolik, the Raj Soin College of Business Dean Joanne Li, as well as other Deans at WSU have embraced the opportunity afforded by this strategic partnership.

The visit of the University of Panama, hosted by the office Amigos Latinos (Latino Affairs) under the aegis of Tony Ortiz and his team, proves that the unstoppable faith of Modern
Languages in constant work pays off. This collaboration will represent the beginning of a path for which our students will gain new enriching experiences that will empower them to live and face the challenges in this global world.

**Spanish Faculty News**

**Dorothy Alvarez**, Senior Lecturer of Spanish, teaches Spanish for Law Enforcement and Social Work Personnel and has recently co-developed, with Associate Professor Damaris Serrano, a two-course sequence “Spanish for Medical Professions.” She continues her stellar work in community outreach. She has recently co-chaired, with Senior Lecturer Michelle Cipriano, a Spanish Immersion Day that brought over 300 high school students to the Wright State campus. In Spring 2014, students in Ms. Alvarez’s Intermediate Spanish course volunteered as interpreters and translators at the Sinclair Community College Health Fair. Ms. Alvarez is an Intermediate Spanish Mentor in the Dual Enrollment Program and a frequent presenter on Puerto Rican language and culture and Hispanic heritage.

**María Astudillo**, Lecturer of Spanish, has recently welcomed the addition of baby Luke to her family. She is currently developing a Spanish service learning course in collaboration with El Puente, an afterschool enrichment program for Latino immigrant children. She continues to supervise Spanish teaching candidates and has recently developed activities for the celebration of “A Day in Mexico” at the Centerville Library.

**Dr. Ksenia Bonch Reeves**, Associate Professor of Spanish and Assistant Chair of Modern Languages, developed partnerships with community organizations serving Latino immigrant children. Students in her Beginning Spanish course worked as volunteer tutors for El Puente and the Miracle Makers program at Ruskin Elementary School in East Dayton. She has presented on campus and regionally about service learning Spanish and piloted a community-based internship. She was the recipient of the 2014 Excellence in Service Learning recognition award. She is an OPI tester nationally certified by ACTFL and enjoys working with Spanish teaching candidates on advanced-level skills.

*Alyssa Wagner, On-Site Coordinator of El Puente, with her students*
Dr. Nancy Broughton, Associate Professor of Spanish, has recently co-authored an article in the *Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education* titled "Modern Languages and Distance Education: Thirteen Days in the Cloud." She was recently a keynote speaker at the MAFLA Foreign Languages Day at the Wright State Lake Campus delivering a lecture titled "How Global Are You?" Dr. Broughton has pioneered online courses and seminars in Spanish linking Wright State’s Dayton and Lake campuses.

Jennie Buckwalter, Senior Lecturer of Spanish, co-led the Ambassador Program to Spain in 2013 with Michelle Cipriano and they will be traveling back with a group of students this summer. The two also co-presented “The World Is Your Classroom: Study Abroad Made Fun” at the 2014 OFLA Conference. Ms. Buckwalter contributed to the success of Spanish Immersion Day in 2014 by leading one of the breakout rooms. In addition to her contributions to Modern Languages, she serves as Assistant Dean for Community and Student Engagement where she oversees scholarships and internships for the College of Liberal Arts. She also organizes major events for the college such as ArtsGala, Internship Breakfast Celebration and Donor Appreciation Reception.

Michelle Cipriano, Senior Lecturer of Spanish, co-presented, with Jennifer Buckwalter, “The World Is Your Classroom: Study Abroad Made Fun” at the Ohio Foreign Language Association Conference in Columbus. Ms. Cipriano and Ms. Buckwalter co-led an Ambassador Program to Spain titled “Spain's History and Culture from a Culinary Perspective” in 2013 and will be leading another trip in May 2015. Ms. Cipriano has recently brought over 300 high school students of Spanish to the WSU campus as a co-coordinator of the Spanish Immersion Day and hosted 30 students from Kettering Fairmont High School in the fall. She has recently translated “A conversation with Walter Mignolo” for the Fundación Paiz, Guatemala. Ms. Cipriano is also a Beginning Spanish Mentor in the Dual Enrollment Program.

Congratulations to Dr. Melissa Doran, Instructor of Spanish, who recently defended her doctoral dissertation, "(De)Humanizing Narratives of Terrorism in Spain and Peru," at The Ohio State University. She also presented as a part of the Department of Modern Languages Lecture Series, “(De)Humanizing Narratives of Terrorism in Spanish and Peruvian Film,” in November. Dr. Doran is the advisor of Sigma Delta Pi, the Spanish Honor Society and co-advisor to the Spanish Club.

Dr. Paula Garrido, Instructor of Spanish, was born in Cipolletti, Rio Negro, Argentina. At age 18, she started teaching music to children while pursuing a Bachelor in Elementary Education from the Universidad del Comahue, then worked at elementary schools teaching Spanish and Social Sciences, before moving to the United States in 2001. Dr. Garrido started studying and teaching Spanish at the University of Cincinnati, completing both a master's degree and a Ph.D. in Literature. Her doctoral dissertation deals with contemporary Argentine women's literature. Dr. Garrido is interested in non-realist genres, such as fantastic and magical realism narratives. She has presented papers at national and international conferences on these topics, and has co-
edited and co-written *Espejos: Reconsideraciones sobre lo fantástico en la literatura hispanoamericana*. Dr. Garrido joined WSU in Fall 2014.

**Dr. David Garrison**, former Chair and Professor of Spanish and Portuguese, retired in 2009. In the past year, he has had an article accepted for publication in *Confluencia* and was named Ohio Poet of the Year for his book, *Playing Bach in the DC Metro*. His poem, “Every River on Earth,” provided the title for the anthology of poems about Appalachian Ohio in which it was published. He still lives in Oakwood with his wife, Suzanne Kelly-Garrison, who teaches law in the Raj Soin College of Business and who recently published a novel, *Stolen Child*. The Garrisons often play tennis and sail in their spare time.

**Janet Irvin**, Adjunct Instructor of Spanish, will retire to full-time creative writing at the close of the current semester. She has published several short stories and won literary prizes for them. She recently published "A House on the Edge of Darkness" in the fall issue of *Nexus Literary Journal*. Another story, “A Principle of Light” was awarded the Grand Prize in the fall fiction contest and is scheduled to appear in *Spark a creative anthology*.

**Dr. David Petreman**, Professor of Spanish, has published another book in Chile titled *El témpano de Coloane*. It is a series of essays, interviews and poems about the work and life of Chilean writer Francisco Coloane. He also wrote the prologue, ”You Can't Escape Life Here“ for the book *Letters from Nicaragua: Journey of a Peace Corps Volunteer*. He had two articles on the work and death of Gabriel García Márquez printed in the local paper *The Millennial*. Now in his 29th year at Wright State, he still loves teaching Spanish language and Latin American literature.

**Dr. Damaris Serrano**, Associate Professor of Spanish, delivered two keynote lectures as the honorary guest speaker at the University of Panama to commemorate the centennial of the Panama Canal, “Sites of Memory and Geopoetic Spaces” (in August), and “Esther María Osses and the Forge of the Global Nation” (in October). She inaugurated the XXXV Week on Panamanian Literature. She also delivered the inaugural keynote lecture at the ICCL International Conference on Caribbean Literature, an event attended by university professors from around the world.

Dr. Serrano is a Research Scholar in the University of Panama Masters’ Program on Preservation of the Literary and Cultural Memory. She has co-developed, with Senior Lecturer Dorothy Alvarez, a Medical Spanish course sequence and is currently working on developing a practicum seminar for student nurses and doctors in Panama. Dr. Serrano is a multiple recipient of the Writing Across the Curriculum Recognition Award and of the Republic of Panama’s most prestigious literary prize, the Premio Ricardo Miró, most recently for her essay “Panamá: (re)cuentos de la nación en diáspora (Panama: (Re)telling Stories of a Nation in Diaspora)”.

Dr. Serrano
**2014 Spanish Immersion Day:**

**El Descubrimiento de Puerto Rico**

On Wednesday, November 19, 2014, we celebrated our annual Spanish Immersion Day with a record number of attendees - 307 high school students of Spanish III and IV! This year the theme was *El Descubrimiento de Puerto Rico* (November 19, 1493).

Our attendees and their dedicated language teachers came from fourteen schools from all over the state of Ohio. The following high schools were represented: Alder, Anna Local, Badin, Buckeye Central, Carroll, Cedar Cliff, Cedarville, Circleville, Edgewood, Fairmont, Gahanna Lincoln, Hilliard Darby, London, and Saint Peter's.

After being welcomed to campus by President Hopkins, Dean Sobolik, ML Chair Dr. Hertzler and Mr. Ortiz, Associate Vice President for Latino Affairs, the students participated in several breakout sessions led by WSU faculty and students to learn about a variety of topics related to Puerto Rico such as: government, language, music, tourism, *puertorriqueños famosos*, the indigenous *taínos*, and dance. Students had signed an agreement to only speak *español*, but those who were caught speaking in English had to serve some time in jail answering questions *en español* about grammar, geography, and vocabulary in order to be released. The students were treated to an authentic Puerto Rican lunch that included: *arroz con pollo* (rice with chicken) or *arroz con gandules* (pigeon peas with rice), *plátanos maduros* (plantains), and *mantecaditos* (shortbread cookies with jelly) while listening to live music.

The event ended with a *fiesta* of music and dance.
In Her Own Words: Spanish Major Larissa Swartz

“My four years at Wright State University have passed by so quickly that I can’t believe I’m going to graduate this semester! I never would have guessed that I would travel to Ecuador, not to mention Spain! Winning a scholarship from Sigma Delta Pi to study in Spain for a month this past summer was a surprise to be sure!

Not only did I have the opportunity to use my Spanish abroad, but also in our very own Dayton community when I worked with the Catholic Hispanic Ministry last semester as part of a new internship program by the Department of Modern Languages. Although I’ve taken history and literature classes about Spain and Latin America, there’s nothing like encountering the actual culture for yourself to better understand the people of a country. However, one of the most important things that I have learned during my time at Wright State is that a cross-cultural life is a lifestyle and not simply a matter of how many countries one has visited, because I have known more cultures here at Wright State than in my own travels. To learn a language is the key to open the door to a culture and to open your mind to a new perspective. Even though I’m not sure of my plans after graduation, what I know for sure is that I want to continue being a student of cultures so that I can expand my conception of the world and society in which we find ourselves.”

Upcoming Events:

March 26, 5 p.m.; April 6, 6 p.m.; and April 23, 5 p.m.: Hora de conversación, Millett 3rd Floor.

April 17: Noche de película, 5 p.m. “El Libertador” (Spain-Venezuela, 2013). Join us for the screening of Venezuela’s first blockbuster – a biopic about Simón Bolivar, leader of South American Independence. Location TBA.
2014 HIGHLIGHTS

Pictured here with College of Liberal Arts Dean Dr. Kristin Sobolik, ML faculty Dr. Yuliya Walsh (front left), Dr. Damaris Serrano (back left), and Dr. David Petreman (center back) were among CoLA faculty celebrated for publishing books in 2014.

Masters of Humanities Thesis, 2014:

German Writer Bertold Brecht’s Mutter Courage (Tom Miller, Dr. Renate Sturdevant)

Honors Theses, 2014:

“French Learning Community: Linking Wright State French Students with High School Francophone Immigrants” (Kayla Schaub, Dr. Kirsten Halling)

“Reasons for Studying Abroad, Experiences and Impacts” (Brandon Broadwater, Dr. Kirsten Halling)

“A Case Study in Early Language Acquisition: Why Culture Matters” (Kaitlin Coyle, Dr. Kirsten Halling)

“La Chanson de Roland: Comparative Study of Diverse Transcriptions and Translations” (Kayla Abner, Dr. Kirsten Halling)

“Las lombrices intestinales en Nicaragua” (Angela Borgerding, Dr. Nancy Broughton)

“Detrás del disfraz de España: explorando las creencias espirituales de una nación católica” (Larissa Swartz, Dr. Damaris Serrano)
Alumni News

Outstanding ML Alumni 2014: Justin Goney

Justin Goney earned his B.A. in French from Wright State University in 2005. He spent two years in France, where he studied the French language and worked as an English language teaching assistant. Upon returning to Wright State, he completed his TEFL certificate as well as a summer teaching internship in Okayama, Japan. Then he headed to Moscow, Russia to work for a short period of time.

He went on to earn his M.A. in French Philology/Computer Science from the University of Helsinki (Finland) in 2012. He’s been working and living in Finland for the last eight years and is currently a testing and documentation engineer at NVIDIA.

Justin traced his career from WSU to his current position and followed with an extended and lively Q & A session for a group of Modern Languages students and faculty on September 12 as a part of the ML Lecture Series.

Luke Wortley, B.A. in Spanish (2012), will be earning an M.F.A. this May in Creative Writing from Butler University, where he is currently the fiction editor of the journal Booth. He has recently published two short stories, "Sara" (Pea River Journal) and "Open Season" (Inch).

Krystyna Wieczerzak, B.S. in Biology and Chemistry with a minor in French (2012), is currently enrolled in Graduate School at Wright State to earn her M.S. in Physiology and Neuroscience. She is defending her thesis this semester and is applying to doctoral programs in the U.S., as well as in France, to continue her studies in Neuroscience. Krystyna is also traveling to Nepal this summer to teach English.

Seth Warncke, B.A. in German (2014), currently attends the Ohio State University, where he is pursuing an M.A. in German. He started at OSU last fall and is in his second semester now.

“There's a lot of talk about finding a job with one's major, and I'm working here! I'm a Graduate Teaching Assistant and so OSU pays me and my tuition. It's thanks to the support
from the ML department, especially Dr. Sturdevant and Dr. Dona that I got here.”

**Drew Ramsay**, B.A. in French and International Studies (2013), currently works at Wright Patterson as a Training Manager for a military unit. He aids unit members in learning their jobs, by scheduling them for specialized trade schools, teaching classes, proctoring exams, and then reporting training efficiency to his Commander. Drew plans to start a master’s at Wright State in International and Comparative Politics this fall, in hopes that it will lead to an opportunity to obtain a career in an Embassy.

**Alexis Gomez**, B.A. in Spanish (2014), is currently a contestant on the popular TV show, “American Idol.” She is focusing on being a singer and songwriter, but eventually plans to get her master’s degree and teach Spanish. Gomez has said the environment was what she admired most about the university.

“Wright State for me was just the perfect fit. It put me in a place where I could focus on my grades, but I could still have music as a part of something I was doing with school. It was great.”

To learn more about Alexis, please read the full article “Idol Chatter” by Jim Hannah.

**Alumni Testimonials of Success**

“My Spanish definitely came in handy in PA school - I speak more Spanish than English these days as I work heavily with the Hispanic population and hope to continue to do that after graduation. I was fortunate to get some time off for a medical mission trip to Honduras over the summer and I hope to return soon. Also, my boyfriend of over a year is Mexican, and although his English is great, it's nice to go back and forth and speak both languages.

I'm always grateful to you and all the other faculty members at Wright State. I have very fond memories of the program and I think of you all often!”

“I’m happy to say that since graduating from WSU with a B.A. in French and International Studies in 2009, life has been really good! After graduating, I moved to Brattleboro, VT where I worked as the Program Coordinator for Europe, Brazil, and Cuba at SIT Study Abroad. In 2012, I moved to Minneapolis, MN for my current position as an Associate Program Director in the Learning Abroad Center at the University of Minnesota. I mainly work with our programs in Senegal, Thailand, London, and Sydney, with faculty-led programs and with STEM students. I’m lucky in that I still get to use some of my French skills for my work!

I’d always been interested in different cultures and languages, but if you told me that ten years after I first stepped foot on campus, that I would have traveled to 14 different countries, would have an established career in international education, and would be applying for the University of Minnesota’s Heritage Conversation and Preservation program in hopes of one day working with World Heritage Sites, I would’ve said that you’re crazy! I would not be where I am today if it weren’t for my time at Wright State and truly amazing, dedicated teachers like Mme Halling and Mme Abadie (whose brioche I still miss very much). Please give Mme Halling and Mme Abadie my best and tell them I hope to catch up with them in person during one of my trips home this year!”


“My name is Jami Eckle. I am a 2008 Graduate of WSU, with a B.A. in French. I have been a French & Intervention teacher for the past seven years in Southern Ohio. I’m a single mother to an exceptional 11 year-old son, who was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder in 2008 shortly before my graduation.

The excellent education I received from WSU gave me the confidence to make a difference in the world. I decided to combine my education and my experience as a parent of an autistic child to help others. My experience at WSU has greatly assisted me both abroad and locally, to spread education, awareness, and support groups for students and families affected by Autism worldwide.”

— Jami Eckle, B. A. in French (2008)

In Memory of Sue Ann Fox

Sue Ann (Susy) Fox of Beavercreek, Ohio left her family and friends on December 11, 2014. She graduated from Beavercreek High School in 1976 and then started classes at Wright State University, where she graduated, majoring in Spanish and History in June 1981. She graduated as a Summa Cum Laude University Honors Scholar and Modern Languages Honors Scholar. Susy continued her education and received her Master’s Degree in Humanities, plus 30 additional hours on December 5, 1987. From September of 1983 to October of 2002, she was a Spanish teacher at Beavercreek High School, when in early 2002, she was chosen as Outstanding Teacher of the Year. On April 26, 2008, she was named Outstanding Alumni of the Modern Languages Department at W.S.U.
Scholarship Recipients in Modern Languages 2014

David & Suzanne Garrison Endowed Scholarship for Modern Languages

Donors: David and Suzanne Garrison
Recipients: Ashley Binns, Brenda Hershey, Kayla Schaub, Seth Warncke, Kaitlyn Williams (pictured)

Featured Recipient: Kaitlyn Williams
Area of study: Spanish
Class standing: Senior at time of scholarship, has since graduated

Katie hails from Beavercreek and graduated in May 2014 with a bachelor’s degree in Spanish. She attended Xenia Christian High School, where her love for the Spanish language was sparked by her teacher, Miss Clements. As an undergraduate, Katie was a student in the University Honors Program, served as an editor for Con la pluma entre dos mundos, and was inducted into Wright State’s chapter of the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi. She is now studying for her master’s degree in TESOL and working as a graduate assistant, teaching English composition at Wright State.

Joëlle Giacinti Endowed Scholarship

Donors: Pascale and Thierry Abadie
Recipients: Kayla Abner, Jessica Carter, Kaitlin Coyle, Leah Fay, Hyatt Hammad (pictured), Jennifer Ladu, Alma Martinez, Kayla Schaub, Ryan Stone

Featured Recipient: Hyatt Hammad
Area of study: French, English
Class standing: Junior

Hyatt Hammad moved from Wichita, Kansas, to Beavercreek, Ohio, when she was eight years old. She attended Beavercreek High School, graduating in 2012. She is double majoring in French and English with a concentration in creative writing. Hammad is part of the French Club at WSU, and she enjoys reading, writing, drawing, playing video games, and watching movies in both English and French. She loves learning about new languages and cultures, and she hopes to learn Japanese and Arabic and travel around the world. Hammad visited France this summer, and she is looking into publishing her most recent novel.
Jennie and David Buckwalter Endowed Study Abroad Scholarship

**Donors:** Jennie and David Buckwalter  
**Recipients:** Christina Culler, Erin Haney

Featured Recipient:  **Erin Haney**  
**Area of study:** Spanish and English  
**Class standing:** Senior

Erin is a dual major in both English and Spanish with a passion for communication and language. Erin currently works at a law firm as a paralegal. She plans to attend law school and hopes to work with a broad client base, including the Latino community. She understands the importance of connecting with people and believes that the experience of global travel will create a maturity that will benefit her future as an attorney. Erin plans on spending three semesters in Spain and believes that this amount of time living abroad will prepare her for her career ahead.

Stefan M. Pugh Endowed Study Abroad Scholarship

**Donor:** Linda Pugh  
**Recipient:** Tasha Fox  
**Area of study:** French  
**Class standing:** Junior

Tasha Fox is a French major from Xenia, Ohio. After graduating from Yellow Springs High School in 2011, she was a Rotary Youth Exchange Student in Belgium and has since had the opportunity to study abroad with Wright State in several other countries. She is currently studying in Angers, France, for two semesters. She is an active member of French Club and loves adventure in every form. Fox’s hobbies include photography, traveling, writing, and camping. After completing her B.A., she plans to begin an M.B.A. in International Business at Wright State University.

*Your generosity ensures the continued success of our students. If you would like to make a gift to one of these scholarship funds, click here.*
Class of 2014: Top-Paid Liberal Arts Majors

Spotlight for Career Services Professionals
Spotlight for Recruiting Professionals
October 15, 2014

Majors in foreign languages and literatures were the top-paid among Class of 2014 liberal arts graduates at the bachelor’s degree level, according to results of NACE’s September 2014 Salary Survey.

These majors earned the highest average starting salary at $46,100, followed by political science/government majors at $43,500 and liberal arts and sciences/general studies graduates at $42,400. (See Figure 1.)

Employers hiring both foreign languages and literatures majors and liberal arts and sciences/general studies majors and did so primarily to fill elementary and middle school teaching positions. Meanwhile, employers hired political science/government majors for various teaching positions ranging from elementary to postsecondary, and as management analysts, financial and insurance managers, social workers, human resources workers, paralegals, legal assistants, and legal support workers.

In all, Class of 2014 graduates in five liberal arts majors earned average starting salaries that exceeded $40,000.


Figure 1: Starting salaries for Class of 2014 liberal arts majors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Starting Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Languages and Literatures</td>
<td>$46,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science/Government</td>
<td>$43,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal Arts and Sciences/General Studies</td>
<td>$42,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other social sciences</td>
<td>$41,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language and Literature Letters</td>
<td>$40,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>$39,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice and Corrections</td>
<td>$38,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>$37,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>$36,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>$36,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual and Performing Arts</td>
<td>$35,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: September 2014 Salary Survey, National Association of Colleges and Employers.
All data are for bachelor’s degree graduates.
Get in Touch

We want to hear about you! Please fill out the following form and return it to the ML Newsletter Editors:

Attn. Kayla Schaub or Dr. Ksenia Bonch Reeves
Department of Modern Languages
325 Millett Hall
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.
Dayton, OH 45435.

If you prefer to respond by email, please send your information to kayla.schaub@wright.edu or xenia.bonch@wright.edu. Thank you!

Name: ______________________________________________________________________________

(Please provide your maiden name also, if your last name has changed.)

Degree/Year: _______________________________________________________________________

Language(s) studied at WSU: ________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________

(Street, City, State, Zip, Country)

Email address: ___________________________________________

UPDATE:

• Did you participate in a study abroad program(s)? _______ If yes, when and where?
____________________________________________________________________________________

• Are you still using your language skills? ___________ If yes, how?
____________________________________________________________________________________

• Would you like to share any special memories of your language study? __________ If yes, please provide details on reverse.

• Are you still in contact with any other alumni? __________ If yes, could you provide their contact information?

____________________________________________________________________________________

Your generosity ensures the continued success of our students and programs.

Click here to donate to the Department of Modern Languages or visit our web site at https://liberal-arts.wright.edu/modern-languages/connect/