
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

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Learning a different tongue

Learning a foreign language opens doors to a wealth of opportunities — both on a cultural level as well as on the work front. Today, it is commonplace to find French as part of a high school or college syllabus with other Indian second languages, not because of the need to help expat children or other international citizens to cope with the Indian syllabus better but because our global landscape is undergoing a paradigm shift. Our world is becoming a smaller place, and the need of the hour is to communicate efficiently.

Foreign Language: The solution to a better world for all

The fact that we, a nation where a mere nine percent of the population speaks at least two language fluently, govern a globe where fifty-two percent of the world speaks at least two languages represents the reality of the year 2011. European students learn at least two, sometimes three or four. And some people still find it strange that other nations are ahead of us academically.

Armenia's Minister of Diaspora visits Jefferson Elementary

Four years after launching the district's first Armenian heritage program at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, Glendale Unified officials on Wednesday welcomed Armenia's Minister of Diaspora Affairs Hranush Hakobyan to the site. "I am absolutely thrilled and impressed with how our kids in such a short period can be perfectly fluent in both languages, Armenian and English," Hakobyan said through a translator.

8 subtle ways to prepare middle schoolers for college

Encourage children who are curious about the world to take a foreign language. This can be with CDs or at school. Most middle schools do not require a foreign language but nearly all offer some classes. "Chinese or Arabic would be two to consider," Bloomquist said. "Colleges are increasingly international in nature. Twenty years ago, Yale had one in 50 international students. Today it is one in 11."

Russian Educators To Plan Exchange Program With Huntsville City Schools

Russian educators traveled more than 6,000 miles to visit Huntsville City Schools this week. Wednesday, they observed classes at the Academy for Science and Foreign Language. They say the trip is about securing an agreement for an exchange program in Huntsville. "We'd like very much for the kids of Huntsville, in this case, to come to our place to learn the culture," said Professor Andrey Ponomarenko. He's also the Chief of the International Department of the People's Friendship University of the Russian Federation. The educators say their students will volunteer at the [2014 Winter Olympics](#) in Sochi. They want the students to prepare for it by learning American culture and the English language in Huntsville.

Q&A: Help introduce students to world of opportunities

Since 2003, she has been president and co-chief executive officer of the company, an agricultural- and industrial-equipment manufacturer with 2,100 employees and more than 400 agricultural dealerships and 150 industrial dealerships around the globe. Q. Should every student in kindergarten through 12th grade study a foreign language? A. Yes. It helps us to be more culturally sensitive. I think Americans tend to be a bit arrogant about that. We [at Vermeer] feel very inadequate as we travel that [some of us] only speak English, when we are often with people who speak two to three languages. I took Latin in school. It's still a regret I have that I didn't broaden my language skills more.

[PREVIOUS NEWS](#)

[Department of Defense Language and Culture Summit: A Strategic Imperative](#)

On January 25-26, 2010, the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness hosted a Language and Culture Summit in Alexandria, Virginia. The Summit brought together leaders from Congress, government, academia, and industry to discuss and promote bold and innovative ideas for enhancing language, regional, and cultural (LRC) capabilities within the Department and throughout the nation to strengthen our operational readiness, as well as to enhance our intergovernmental, national, and international partnerships.

[DLIFLC participates in DoD Summit on language and culture](#)

"I was struck by the common theme that our senior leaders resonated - language and culture are critical skills for our nation and national defense," commented Pick, following the conference. "We need to look at the entire educational system regarding language. This is more about America than the Department of Defense," said Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Dr. Clifford Stanley, referring to repetitive calls for the introduction of foreign language education from early from pre-K levels through 12th grade.

[New JKO program promotes Afghanistan language, cultural awareness](#)

[U.S. Joint Forces Command](#) (USJFCOM)'s [Joint Knowledge Online](#) (JKO) recently unveiled an online training program to promote better language and cultural understanding between Afghan and U.S./NATO military troops. This initial release of Virtual Cultural Awareness Trainer (VCAT) Afghanistan focuses on working with interpreters, extending culturally appropriate greetings and building rapport with local populations. The program is broken into five modules that teach students how to address local grievances, coordinate humanitarian assistance projects, set up check-point manning, conduct training with Afghan National Security Forces and perform home searches. All modules will be available by the summer of 2011.

[Women, War & Peace in Afghanistan](#)

"You really have to have female counter-insurgents if you are expecting to have a successful counterinsurgency strategy," says U.S. Marine Captain Matt Pottinger. "If you cannot access or even deliver a message to half of the population just because of this taboo between the sexes, you're at an enormous disadvantage in trying to persuade people that you're there for reasons that are in their interests."

[NGCSU's Egypt program uncertain](#)

The uprising in Egypt has led North Georgia College & State University officials to evaluate the school's new language immersion program in the country. The university signed an agreement with Egypt's Alexandria University to allow students studying Arabic to travel there for eight weeks beginning this summer.

[Bilinguals Find it Easier to Learn a Third Language](#)

For this study, two groups of 6th grade students in Israel were chosen to represent a sample of students studying English as a foreign language. The first group comprised 40 students, immigrants from the FSU whose mother tongue is Russian and who speak fluent Hebrew as a second language. The second group comprised 42 native Hebrew-speaking students with no fluency in another language, besides the English being studied in school as a foreign language. Each participant took part in two meetings: a group meeting and an individual meeting. At the group meeting, the participants were given tests that assessed reading strategy and familiarity with the orthography of each language – Hebrew, English and Russian for the Russian speakers, and were asked to fill out personal questionnaires. At the individual student meetings, the researchers gave the Hebrew-only speakers a test in Hebrew and English, and the same tests with Russian added were given to those who were Russian speakers.

Bill to pare education draws ire

More than 100 people tried to cram into a hearing room yesterday on a bill to trim the state's definition of an adequate education by dropping art, world language, health and technology classes. The legislation would require schools to pay for any subjects beyond English, math, science, social studies and physical education.

'Give kids the world' with Chinese

The students from Barbara B. Rose Elementary School in South Barrington participated in the free sessions offered by Barrington Community Unit School District 220 as a kind of introduction for them and their families to the language and the optional Chinese immersion program that is expected to begin in the fall. Offering the language to elementary students is to compliment the classes already in place at the middle and high schools, said Todd Bowen, chairman of the World Language Department at Barrington High School.

The Value of Foreign Languages

Most high school students have been introduced to some kind of foreign language. The numbers range from one to three years. Some students, although, find that in high school foreign language education has no effect. Sophomore, Savannah Moritzky, complains that "it's a lot of memorization that you forget". While French teacher Brita Swenson says "[high school] foreign language helps because I use authentic material from native speakers". While the true test of literacy in a language is the job of the student, teachers can attest that they teach students the basics of the language. As Mariah Peralta, Junior, says "it's just an introduction, not the 'meat and potatoes'". As Spanish teacher Deborah Diz says "we live in a global society".

NPS hosts workshop on imagining safe communities

A panel discussion on imagining safe communities will be held from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday in the Barbara McNitt Ballroom of Herrmann Hall at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. Local community and business leaders, members of the faculty and staff of the Naval Postgraduate School, Defense Language Institute, Monterey Institute of International Studies and Monterey County artists and teachers will be among the participants. The discussion will be facilitated by the Guiding Lights Network in conjunction with the Lincoln Center Institute, in partnership with NPS and its Center for Homeland Defense and Security. Featured speaker and facilitator will be Eric Liu, co-author of "Imagination First: Unlocking the Power of Possibility" and the discussion will illustrate the importance of imagination as a resource to create innovative solutions for real-world challenges today and in the future.

Notre Dame panel discusses females in war

Sweeney was part of a group of female members of the military and faculty from the University of Notre Dame who contributed to a panel discussion titled "Women in War: In and Out of Uniform." The panel held Thursday night on campus, analyzed how women in both civilian and military roles affected and are affected by war. "Male Marines are not allowed inside of the compounds because of the cultural differences," she said. "Getting in there was not something they had been able to do until I showed up there with my Marines."

East Lancashire linguist: languages open up the world

Queen Elizabeth Grammar School's head of modern foreign languages Andy Rose said learning French, German or Spanish should be taken as seriously as English, math and science qualifications. Foreign language learning hit the headlines last month when the Department for Education announced they would be included in the new English Baccalaureate – which pools humanities and languages with English and math. Mr Rose, who is fluent in French and German and teaches Spanish, said languages also help students with memory and analytical skills which can be used in essay writing.

Children in France may be forced to learn English

Children in France will be forced to learn the English language from as early as nursery school if President Nicolas Sarkozy gets his way, a media report here said. Sarkozy, who has recently come under fire for his own grasp of French language, has said that he wants France's youngsters to learn 'the

language of Shakespeare', the Daily Mail reported Sunday. He further enraged a proud -- and sensitive -- nation by suggesting that children should learn the Queen's English... from as young as three.