
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

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Humanities and the military

(Know – UT at Austin) ...Eileen Flynn

Sgt. Jeremy Couch and two fellow Texas Army National Guard soldiers enter the home of an Afghan family looking for information about escaped prisoners. Thieves, the men of the house tell them, have been stealing their livestock. Couch, a stocky soldier with bright blue eyes, attempts to assuage the family's fears while also trying to suss out information on the criminals at large. A spontaneous burst of applause jolts everyone back to reality: a low-slung cinder block building at Camp Mabry in Austin where the soldiers are participating in a training exercise for their upcoming deployment. The "Afghans" are Middle Eastern Studies students at The University of Texas at Austin. Members of the audience — faculty and staff members and several other soldiers — offer a critique of the soldiers' behavior. The role-playing sessions came at the end of an intensive weekend-long language and culture workshop conducted by the College of Liberal Arts' [Department of Middle Eastern Studies](#) and [Center for Middle Eastern Studies](#) for soldiers who will soon be deployed to Afghanistan.

NGCSU's ROTC Language Institute Ups the Ante

(The Saint) ...Ben Helton

North Georgia's on-campus language institute has garnered national attention since it was introduced in 2008, thanks to federal grant funding. NGCSU has become one of only three universities to be awarded flagship status for Cadet instruction in foreign language. Along with Georgia Tech and Arizona State, North Georgia has been awarded \$720,000 in federal funds as part of this designation for Chinese instruction for Cadets. Now offering foreign language training in Chinese, Russian, Arabic, Korean and Spanish, the institute hopes to continue expansion in order to be a benchmark for foreign language training, which is something the United States military has taken notice of.

Foreign-Language Instruction, Digitally Speaking

(The Chronicle of Higher Education) ...Marc Parry

Wylder Fondaw struggled with an online Latin class in high school. So when he arrived at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this year, he hesitated at studying a language online. But the freshman had no choice: At his skill level, if he wanted to take introductory Spanish, an online class was the only option. Instead of showing up in class four times a week, Mr. Fondaw conjugates verbs on a computer program in his sparsely furnished dorm room. He attends a live class every Tuesday afternoon—but it, too, is virtual. The class convenes via Web-conferencing software. If students want to answer a question, they click an icon that depicts a raised hand.

Internet sites go global with free language translations

(KPTV.com) ...Elaine Zimmerman

Gerri: I do business in several foreign countries. I would like to have my Internet site appeal to foreign buyers. I would also like to sharpen my foreign language skills in my correspondence and on the phone. Do you have any suggestions?

Elaine: Many sites that wish to appeal to customers worldwide have added translation capabilities to their sites. It is relatively inexpensive to add. It changes the content from one language to another with merely a click of a mouse on the foreign flag icon for which language you wish to view the site.

Chinese students arrive at UW-Madison with dreams and fears for their future

(Wisconsin State Journal) ...Deborah Ziff

Eighteen-year-old Xinyi Wang's bus rolled up to Memorial Union on an August night. After a 14-hour plane ride from her home in Eastern China, then a 3-hour bus trip from Chicago, she stepped onto the

UW-Madison campus for the first time. She plans to spend at least the next four years here. "It is my dream, when I was young, to study in the U.S.," said Wang, a UW-Madison freshman. Now that she's settled into her dorm room in Witte Hall, she said the hardest things to get used to are the language and culture.

Helping Welsh children explore the Chinese world

(Wales.com)

Welsh schoolchildren are growing up in a world where China is an increasingly influential player. A Cardiff University-led project aims to equip pupils with language skills and cultural awareness which will help them to work with Chinese partners in the future. Last year, the pan-[Wales China Schools Project](#)[\[External link\]](#) delivered more than 100 different Chinese courses across the country. The [University's Confucius Institute](#)[\[External link\]](#), which runs the Project, has just been successful in its bid to create three new Confucius Classrooms to act as hubs for the delivery of Chinese language.

PREVIOUS NEWS

In Afghanistan, Special Units Do The Dirty Work

*(USA Today)...*Carmen Gentile

At their hillside base, made up of a cluster of old Soviet barracks and newer wooden huts, there are about a dozen Green Berets as well as a squad of conventional forces. The Green Berets here spend much of their time recruiting men for the Afghan Local Police (ALP) and training them to defend their village. The efforts require an understanding of tribal customs and village politics that exceeds that of typical forces. Green Berets blend in by growing beards and wearing local clothing. Several in the Chamkani unit speak Pashto, the predominant language in this part of Afghanistan and neighboring western Pakistan.

Cal State Long Beach Receives \$250,000 Department of Defense Grant to Create Pilot Language Training Program, Teach Arabic and Persian

*(Media Newswire)...*Press Release

California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) has received a \$250,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Defense's (DoD) National Security Education Program (NSEP) to create a pilot Language Training Program to help meet the language and cultural needs of military units in California. The intent of this initiative is to accelerate the development of foundational or higher-level expertise in critical and strategic languages and regional studies for DoD personnel by leveraging U.S. institutions of higher education to meet the existing needs of DoD units, offices or agencies.

Team aims to unlock the mysteries of language

(Cambridge News)

A team of linguists are embarking on a five-year project in an attempt to decode how languages are created, and how we pick them up as a child. The ambitious research, led by Prof Ian Roberts from Cambridge University, will work on a suggestion made by American linguist Noam Chomsky in the 50s that children are born with the ability to learn any language on the planet, with their brain hardwired to a set of universal rules. The group have secured 2.5 million euro in funding for the project from the European Research Council. "The main aim of the research is to increase our understanding of how languages vary, and how the brain works to pick up a language."

Students experience overseas education, culture

*(Point Park Globe)...*Kelli Murphy

As Leah Fiore sits sipping her coffee in a café close to her school, she could not think of a better place to be. However long it took to go through the stacks of time-consuming paperwork and sit through all of the long Visa meetings, it had to of been worth it. Every day, she wakes up to the busy-bodied, lively streets of the city to begin a new day in a new home – in Paris. Fiore, along with a handful of other Point Park University students, chose to take part in a number of different study abroad programs offered through the university and take their studies far and wide to other countries of the globe.

More Foreign Language Classes Use Online Education

(US News University Directory)...Catherine Groux

Various reports have shown that online education is becoming an integral part of colleges and universities. For example, an August survey by the Pew Research Center indicates that about 77% of college presidents said their schools now offer some type of online education. One benefit of doing so is that schools can give students increased access to popular campus-based classes. According to the most recent information from the Modern Language Association, between 2006 and 2009, enrollment in [foreign language](#) classes grew by 6.6%.

Pony Post: Learn a new language through social media, the Web, or mobile apps

(The Daily Campus)...Natalie Posgate

If you missed the boat to take a foreign language, the realm of technology is offering new methods for you to brush up on a different tongue before traveling abroad. Budget Travel ran a blog post a few days ago that talked about a few programs that let you learn a new language via your smart device, social media, or in the comfort of your own home for under \$100 – easy and affordable options for college students. Here's the two I found most interesting: Babbel.com: Website and mobile app that lets you learn a foreign language on your computer, iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch; and Livemocha: The Facebook of foreign languages. This social media app allows you to interact with native or fluent speakers of the language you're trying to learn.

Army Chief claims DLIFLC is important for advancement

(DLIFLC)...Brian Lamar

Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. Raymond Odierno, visited the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey Calif. 4 Nov. While speaking to staff during his visit, Odierno shared his views of how DLIFLC is handling the task of conducting DoD's language and culture training mission. "The size and ability for DLI to reach out not only to initially teach our young Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines how to operate in a language, but also the way servicemembers can reach back and continue to learn once they leave is impressive," said Odierno.

Foreign language, more math among UW's possibilities for new admissions standards

(The Republic)

The University of Wyoming is considering tougher admissions standards for new students, including a new foreign language requirement and requiring four years of math and science instead of three. The UW Office of Academic Affairs is looking for stricter standards because school trustees want to boost retention and graduation rates.

Participants in language exchange program more than double

(Daily Trojan)...Rahel Gebreyes

The International Language Exchange program, which matches foreign students with native-speaking English students to improve both students' secondary language skills, has increased its participation by 82 percent since it began in fall 2010. The program aims to help American students become multilingual, while offering international students a "window into a different culture," according to Kate O'Connor, the director of the USC Language Academy, which runs the program.

Bridging language barrier

(Mercury News)...Eric Bradley

A large portion - 45.4 percent - of those living in Long Beach speak a language other than English at home, according to U.S. Census data. Long Beach, labeled as the most diverse city in the nation in a USA Today study of the 65 largest U.S cities, has translation and interpretation resources for its non-English language residents, but no organization wide plan to deliver it. To administer elections, the City Clerk's Office provides voting information in English, Spanish, Khmer, Tagalog, Vietnamese and Korean. Susanne Browne of the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles will work with city staff to develop the Language Access Policy along with other community partners, including the Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition, Housing Long Beach, Centro CHA and United Cambodian Community.