
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

CURRENT NEWS 08 DECEMBER 2011

“Pleasure reading” key to second language learning

(Scoop)...Press Release

Victoria University of Wellington PhD graduate Gillian Claridge says the task of learning to read in another language could be made a lot easier. Dr Claridge’s research investigated the perceptions of learners, teachers and publishers involved in second language learner reading, and found that learners often try to read at an inappropriately difficult level. “Learners, teachers and publishers tend to believe that the harder the text, the greater the learning benefits will be. However, the evidence from this study suggests that devoting time to reading easy texts for pleasure, alongside the traditional approach of examining difficult texts, would benefit learners in developing fluency.”

Students armed with language skills speak out

(City Times)...Brennan Maclean

A classroom on the City College campus houses young, vibrant students striving to obtain a well rounded education. The City foreign languages department encompasses Arabic, Latin, Chinese, French, German, Vietnamese, Japanese, Russian, Tagalog, and Spanish. With many options to choose from, students take language courses for many different reasons. “I believe communication is the key to reducing tension among countries and cultures. I have taken Spanish and Arabic classes. When I meet people from countries that speak these languages, I feel the tension dissipate,” said Laura Tate a Russian 101 student.

NSU offers Cherokee language program

(CherokeePhoenix.org)...Tesina Jackson

In a cooperative effort between Northeastern State University and the Cherokee Nation, the Cherokee Education Degree Program allows students to major in the Cherokee language and give them the capability to teach how to speak, read and write Cherokee. “This cultural understanding opens all sorts of doors to careers, not jobs,” said Dr. Leslie Hannah, director of the Cherokee studies and language programs at NSU. “I make a distinct difference between jobs and careers. A job is something one does for a check. A career is something one does for life and these Cherokee language and culture courses change lives and create lifelong learners who in turn become life changers.”

Japanese most popular optional foreign language in high schools: MOE

(Taiwan News)...Lin Szu-yu & Hanna Liu

Japanese is the most popular second foreign language among high school students in Taiwan, the Ministry of Education (MOE) said Wednesday. In Taiwan high schools, English is a required course, while Japanese is the most frequently chosen optional foreign language, followed by French, the MOE said. In this year's fall semester, nearly 38,000 high school students took Japanese from among 10 choices of second foreign languages, according to the ministry. It said Japan's close proximity to Taiwan and the easy accessibility of Japanese learning materials are two factors that have contributed to the growing popularity of the language.

MSU sees rise of less commonly taught languages

(The StateNews.com)...Stephen Brooks

Out of nearly 48,000 students at MSU, international relations senior Spencer Nordwick is the only one studying the Tajik language — a variation of Persian. “It’s really rare to find Tajik speakers,” Nordwick said. “Having such a rare language skill is attractive to both employers in the international development sector as well as with graduate schools.” Tajik is one of about 20 [less commonly taught languages](#), or LCTLs, offered at MSU, and LCTL coordinator Danielle Steider said [many of these languages](#) are

becoming more popular among students in an increasingly globalized world. “Overall, the trend is (there are) more students in the LCTLs, and more of the languages being taught,” Steider said. Nordwick said his interest in the language was sparked by different cultural and political situations in Tajikistan throughout the past 20 years.

Design students immerse themselves in Gaelic

(Cape Breton Post)

Students from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design have been working on ways to help sustain and enhance Gaelic language and culture in Nova Scotia. During the final class of the term Thursday students will present their concepts to members of the Gaelic community and cap off their four-month immersion in all things Gaelic with a ceilidh. “I think it was an eye-opener for them — these are students coming not only from different cultures but different hemispheres,” he said. “But it was an eye-opener for us too and a real opportunity for us to get messages out that are authentic. This will help the community to look at themselves in new ways and with greater confidence.”

PREVIOUS NEWS

BRIEF OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUDICIARY INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLATORS AS AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONER

(KOUICHI TANIGUCHI v. KAN PACIFIC SAIPAN, LTD.)

NAJIT filed an Amicus Brief with the Supreme Court of the United States on the difference between an interpreter & translator.

Army Culture and Foreign Language Strategy

(Army.mil) ...Stand-To!

Army Culture and Foreign Language Strategy - Cultural competency moves to center stage within military strategy. The Army Culture & Foreign Language Management Office was established in 2010 to lead the implementation of the Army Culture and Foreign Language Strategy (ACFLS) across the Army and Training and Doctrine Command and to integrate these culture and foreign language efforts with Army agencies, joint agencies, and other services. The primary value of the program, as directed through the ACFLS, rests with the use of 15 Culture & Foreign Language Advisors (CFLAs). These cultural experts advise commanding generals and commandants at Centers of Excellence (CoEs) and schools across the continental U.S. Each CFLA is tasked with helping CoE leadership integrate culture and foreign language capability appropriate to each branch, military occupational specialty, and cohort.

Dist. 203 looks to expand foreign language offerings

(TribLocal) ...Melissa Jenco

Naperville Unit District 203 is bringing in an outside expert to explore the possibility of improving and expanding its foreign language programs. Superintendent Mark Mitrovich said he wants the district to look at foreign language at all grade levels and is bringing in Carl Falsgraf, director of the Center for Applied Second Language Studies at the University of Oregon.

School's curriculum connects students to global community

(Brookfield Now) ...Kathy Adamson

In today's era of instant communication and global access, it's more important than ever for children to be more than just competent in the core educational disciplines. They must also have an understanding of the world at large, and how our community fits into the global landscape. One way to add this extra dimension to students' education is through classes such as computer science, foreign language, art, music, and library. St. John Vianney School (SJV) offers an excellent array of these classes, taught by accomplished professionals in their fields, carefully designed to ignite student's imagination and interest in these areas.

Hotspots: You might deploy here next

(Marine Corps Times) ...James K. Sanborn

As the Marine Corps resets itself after more than 10 years of large-scale combat, Marines will likely find themselves deploying more to exotic locations. Officials recently published a list of about 100 language skills needed to support current and future operations around the globe. Many are eligible for foreign language proficiency pay, which ranges between \$100 and \$500 per month per language, showing leadership's commitment to maintaining a cadre of select Marines who can speak every major and many obscure languages should there be a call to action.

DLIFLC hosts international BILC seminar

(Vimeo)...DLIFLC

More than 60 participants from approximately 20 allied nations, that represent their country's equivalent to the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, attended a four-day seminar to share best practices in the furthering of foreign language training goals through research.

Linguist serves with Marines, educates Nawa children

(dvids)...Cpl. Alfred V. Lopez

She fights the war on terror in Afghanistan as passionately as the Marines in her Female Engagement Team. She makes sacrifices for America, just like any uniformed service member. She is Marzia Dawlatzai, a linguist with Female Engagement Team 13, currently attached to Weapons Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, and she is currently serving both Afghanistan, her native land, and America, her adopted nation.

Language problem

(Inside Higher Ed)...Kaustuv Basu

In the weeks and month after 9/11, the talk in the United States was about the need to be better prepared to understand the culture and languages of the Middle East. There was a surge of college students enrolling in Arabic and Persian. More than a decade later, that initial surge is showing signs of slowing down even while the world focuses on the Arab world again as homegrown pro-democracy movements shake up governments in the region.

Army National Guard Changes Leadership

(Military.com News)...Sgt. Darron Salzer

On the day he formally assumed the duties of the director of the Army National Guard, Maj. Gen. William E. Ingram, Jr. was also promoted to lieutenant general. A native of Sturgis, S.D., Carpenter began his 44-year military career in 1967, when he enlisted with the South Dakota Army National Guard. A little known fact about Carpenter is that shortly thereafter he joined the U.S. Navy, where he attended the Defense Language Institute to study Vietnamese for 48-weeks.

Why teaching Chinese is a priority in Delaware

(DFM News)...Larry Nagengast

Adding Chinese language instruction at a handful of Delaware public schools isn't merely an effort to beef up the curriculum. It's also part of the state's economic development strategy. "Language learning plays a role in being economically competitive and can have an impact on Delaware's economic competitiveness in the world," said Gregory Fulkerson, education associate for world languages at the state Department of Education.

MLG Marines learn Afghan culture to prepare for deployment

(dvids)...Cpl. Michele Watson

To prepare for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan next year, Marines and sailors learned about the Afghan culture to improve their ability to maintain and increase relations with locals. In the war on terror, defeating the Taliban requires not only an extensive understanding of how the terrorist group operates, but also support from Afghan civilians. During the class, Marines and sailors learned about the political, social, religious and environmental aspects of the different groups in Afghanistan. A native Afghan and member of the Center for Advanced Operational Cultural Learning gave multiple periods of instruction.