



# THE LANGUAGE & CULTURE WEEKLY

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## [CURRENT NEWS 21 JUNE 2012](#)

### [DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE](#)

#### [Arabic linguists put their skills to work in Oman](#)

*(dvids)*...Rebecca Doucette

Four soldiers from the 300th Military Intelligence



Brigade (Linguist) provided direct Arabic language support during a U.S. Army Central Command-sponsored field training exercise in Oman Jan. 17 to Feb. 4, 2012. "The relationships being built are critical to our country because of the importance of this region, and soldiers on both sides will

remember this for a lifetime," said Utah National Guard Chief Warrant Officer 4 Gary Callister, the Arabic linguist manager for the 300th MI Brigade.

#### [The Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency \(CULP\) Program](#)

*(U.S. Army)*

For Army ROTC Cadets, the world is their classroom. Every year hundreds of Cadets travel



the globe, spending up to three weeks immersed in foreign cultures, learning more about how other others around the world view the U.S. and, in the process, learning more about themselves. Cadets now receive opportunity to compete for

immersion in more than 30 countries. These opportunities expose them to everyday life in different cultures and intensifies language study, which helps produce commissioned officers who possess the right blend of language and cultural skills required to support global operations in the 21st Century.

#### [DLIFLC honors linguist hero](#)

*(DLIFLC)*

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center will honor Cpl. Bernard Corpuz during a dedication ceremony at the Presidio of Monterey on June 22, from 10:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Cpl. Corpuz was a French linguist who was killed in action by wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device in Ghazni, Afghanistan in 2006. Corpuz Hall is the newest addition to the DLIFLC campus in fiscal year 2012 and will add much needed classroom space for the expanding foreign language training requirement within the Department of Defense. DLIFLC, the largest language institute in the nation, has a native-speaking faculty of more than 2,300. The staff and faculty of DLIFLC come from more than 50 different countries around the world.

#### [Software May Help Analysts Read Between the Lines](#)

*(National Defense)*...Eric Beidel

People don't always say what they mean, especially when they know they are being



watched. Superfluous language and cultural nuance often prevent defense analysts from making the right connections when poring through

documents containing intelligence gathered during military missions. Many times, information is deliberately obscured and important matters are addressed in roundabout ways. The Pentagon wants to get to the bottom of what it calls "deep natural language" by creating an automated system that can process text at its most basic level to reveal meaning that otherwise may not be

apparent through Deep Exploration and Filtering Text (DEFT) program.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Education-Spending Bill Advances in the Senate**

*(The Chronicle of Higher Education)*...Kelly Field  
The Senate Appropriations Committee passed a spending bill on Thursday that would increase the maximum Pell Grant by \$85 in the 2013 fiscal year and give \$100-million more in funds to the National Institutes of Health. Most other student-aid and work-force programs would receive flat financing in the legislation, which [passed a Senate Appropriations subcommittee](#) on Tuesday. International and foreign-language programs would see a slight increase, from \$74-million to \$75.7-million, in the bill, which covers the fiscal year that begins on October 1.

### **Can Foreign Languages Go Digital with Online Education?**

*(US News University)*...Catherine Groux  
Today, online education has largely become accepted as an integral part of learning; however, some professionals question whether foreign languages in particular can be studied exclusively online. Learning a new language requires a great deal of speaking, hearing and social interaction, these individuals say, which simply cannot be provided through the internet. David McAlpine, president of the board of directors for the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages, said students cannot learn as much as their peers if they only learn online, and that web-based Spanish courses threaten the academic standards of classroom instruction. Additionally, Rosemary Feal, executive director of the Modern Language Association, said James Madison's online course is "scandalous."