

CONNECTIONS 2022

A Publication of the Department of World Languages at the University of Northwestern - St. Paul

LEARN TO SPEAK CHINESE!

In fall of 2022, Northwestern will again offer CHN1001 Beginning Chinese I. This excellent opportunity is open to all students; those who complete four semesters of Chinese language courses can earn a Chinese Studies minor.



Professor Jennie with her Intermediate Chinese class

Anna Podolinsky, a UNW sophomore majoring in finance, is taking the intermediate Chinese language class. She recalls being nervous about learning a new language at first, but Professor Jennie Yu Yi and her fellow classmates helped her feel welcome and grow in the language. Her favorite part of the class has been discovery: “There is an accomplishment to learning anything, so it does make you kind of excited... Let’s say you’re watching a Chinese drama and you

understand a little more; that’s really exciting!” After graduation, Anna hopes to return to her homeland in Singapore and use her skills in finance and Mandarin to help those in need. Her advice to students considering learning Chinese is to “come ready to learn and absorb everything that you can. . . . It can be hard learning a new language, but if you put in the time, you will get the most out of it.”

Professor Jennie has been teaching Chinese language courses at UNW since fall 2020. She explains her motivation in this way: “Christians who have bilingual and Christ-centered hearts can more strategically undertake the Great Commission. Therefore, I especially hope that more students at the University of Northwestern will learn Mandarin.” Professor Jennie actively seeks to immerse her students in the Mandarin dialect of Chinese by offering opportunities to network with local and global organizations. Additionally, as international travel again becomes more possible, she hopes to bring her students abroad to China and continue a tradition of Northwestern engagement with the people of this country. Professor Jennie’s goal is to give her students a variety of ways to learn about the Chinese culture and spread the Gospel.

SPEAKING SPANISH ABROAD AND AT HOME

Do you hope to make a difference in the world? With UNW's Spanish major, this is possible! Learning a new language opens a door to many possibilities. Andrew Barnett graduated in May 2021 with a degree in Spanish Education and is now living in Spain. Andrew's skills have helped



Andrew Barnett in Spain

him grow in his faith and make connections in his field: "The Spanish courses at UNW are incredible. . . . I've been able to get involved at a local church, and my abilities have led to some very good and deep conversations about

how culture influenced Christianity in different parts of the world." Andrew recalls his favorite part of Spanish was having in-class debates and applying the language outside class as well. He explains, "Real language learning happens from interacting with the community and finding ways to truly find authentic interaction." Barnett adds his advice to students considering a Spanish major or minor, "Do it! Spanish is a beautiful language . . . it has helped me to meet so many people and understand my faith in a new way."

Learning Spanish can help equip you to live abroad like Andrew, but it can also prepare you for

a career in your own backyard. Joel Broberg is a junior majoring in linguistics, Spanish, and Bible who is currently studying abroad in Costa Rica. Joel firmly believes that everyone can also use their skills here in the United States: "There's a general expectation for immigrant populations in the States to learn English, while there is no expectation for [native] English speakers. . . . I want to work on



Joel Broberg in Costa Rica

translation and revitalization projects in minority language groups. Knowing Spanish opens such a large portion of the world as a potential area to work in." By taking Spanish, Joel has been able to foster relationships with the community around him by conversing with Twin Cities shopkeepers in el Mercado Central and worshiping with families at la Iglesia Pacto de Victoria. Joel's advice to new students is to recognize the opportunities and the challenges that go along with learning a language. He adds, "Afford yourself the space to make mistakes and the grace to laugh at yourself."

TEACHING ESL IN PARAGUAY

Do you want to study abroad? Consider courses and offerings from the Department of World Languages, as modern language classes in Spanish, Chinese, Russian, and ESL Education can equip you to learn anywhere in the world. The department offers special programs such as a semester in Spain or Costa Rica and international student teaching for education majors. Delaney Fraser, a UNW senior double majoring in ESL Education and Linguistics, elected to travel to Paraguay to teach ESL at Asunción Christian Academy for her student teaching. While she is in Paraguay, she is also taking Spanish classes, attending churches in the area, and making connections with local communities and missionaries. She is thankful that UNW has helped prepare her by providing domestic and international applications for her majors and by building professional skills in different cultural contexts. Delaney hopes to continue down the path of ESL teaching by trusting in God to lead her wherever He calls her. “My hope is that I can provide a space for students no matter where I am . . . to come together through language learning and celebrate our differences and

similarities.” She hopes that students who want to study abroad pray and seek earnestly where God is calling them. “If you have fears, pay attention to that and pray to see where God is calling you. But if God gives you the green light to go, don’t make excuses because He will guide you through the whole process... The lessons you will learn and the experiences you will have far outweigh the fears.”



Delaney Fraser

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

- Galatians 3:28



**UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHWESTERN**
ST. PAUL

DEPARTMENT OF
WORLD LANGUAGES

CONNECTIONS

is a publication of the
Department of World
Languages at the University of
Northwestern – St. Paul for the
following:

MAJORS

ESL Education
Spanish Education
Spanish

DUAL LICENSURE MAJORS

ESL/Elementary
ESL/Spanish
Elementary/Spanish
ESL/Communication Arts &
Literature Education (CALE)

MINORS

Spanish
Teaching English to Speakers of
Other Languages (TESOL)
Modern Languages
Chinese Studies
International Studies

and all
language students.

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LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CLUB ADVISORS

Language classes and clubs at Northwestern host events and provide opportunities for cultural experiences. Anyone can join a club! If you would like to join a club or receive information about classes or events, please contact one of the advisors listed below:

CHINESE

Prof. Jennie Yu Yi: yjyi@unwsp.edu



RUSSIAN

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AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Spanish Praise Chapels
- Spanish Senior Capstone Presentations
- World Language Day: Chinese
- World Language Day: Russian
- World Language Day: American Sign Language (ASL)
- World Language Day: Spanish

UPCOMING CLASSES (FALL 2022 & SPRING 2023)

- CHN 1001 & CHN 1002 Beginning Chinese
- SPA 1001 & SPA 1002 Beginning Spanish
- SPA 2101 & SPA 2102 Intermediate Spanish