

WCU SPANISH newsletter

PROFESSORS SPEAK AT NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY (UK)

Lori Oxford and Alberto Centeno-Pulido received an invitation to participate in the Research Seminar Series of the School of Modern Languages and the [Centre for Latin American and Caribbean Studies](#) at Newcastle University in the UK. Dr. Oxford shared her approach to teaching Cuban culture in the US, with its challenges and rewards. In her own words, “if this class is successful, it is because it emphasizes the things that ordinary people have in common, regardless of where they are from.”



Dr. Centeno-Pulido discussed his research about the Colombian show *Metástasis*, a re-interpretation of the American TV series *Breaking Bad*, set in this South American country.

Both professors wish to thank Dr. [Jorge Catalá Carrasco](#) of Newcastle University for his kind invitation to participate in this forum.



Dr. Oxford (top right) and Dr. Centeno-Pulido (bottom left) in action. Notice the Newcastle United soccer jersey in the foreground of the bottom picture; Dr. Centeno-Pulido is a longtime fan of the team.

SUMMER 2019 FACULTY-LED COURSE IN COSTA RICA IS A GO!



This summer, beginner level Spanish students have the opportunity to immerse themselves in one of the most fascinating cultures in the Spanish-speaking world. From June 2 to June 23, 2019, students can take a SPAN 102 class at the Instituto

Tecnológico de Costa Rica in Cartago, as well as experience daily Costa Rican life with host families. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, contact Dr. Garrett Fisher (gdfisher@wcu.edu) for more details.

ALSO IN THE WORKS...

WCU Spanish is waiting for the definitive approval of the annual **WCU en Valencia** program, which will take place from May 20 to June 18, 2019 in Valencia, Spain. In this program, you can earn 6 credits at the 300-level... in **ONLY 4 WEEKS!!!**

If you are interested, contact Dr. Alberto Centeno-Pulido (acentenopulido@wcu.edu) for details.

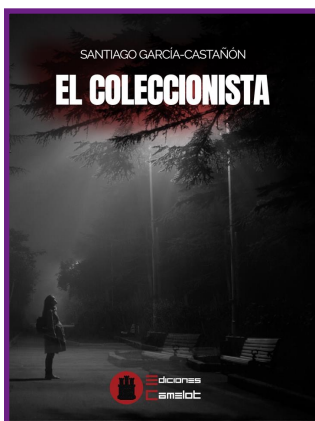
Upper-level courses for Spring 2019

Advising Day (October 30) is around the corner! Take a look at the Spring 2019 upper-level offerings for Spanish and talk to your professor or your advisor if you have any questions. There will be a **group advising session** (11am-12pm) in McKee 121 if you have questions about any of these classes.

SPAN 302	Conversation and Composition II	TR 9:30-10:45	García-Castañón
SPAN 302	Conversation and Composition II	TR 12:30-1:45	García-Castañón
SPAN 322	Hispanic Cultures II	TR 8:00-9:15	García-Castañón
SPAN 461	Spanish Phonetics and Phonology	MWF 1:25-2:15	Centeno-Pulido
SPAN 493	Hispanic Popular Culture	MW 2:30-3:45	Centeno-Pulido

Professor Santiago García-Castañón is like a West Coast party - *he don't stop!* Here are some highlights:

- ~ On June 22, he gave the lecture “El español en los Estados Unidos: retos y oportunidades” (“Spanish in the US: Challenges and Opportunities”) at the Asturias Press Club in Oviedo, Spain.
- ~ On June 30, he was one of five international poets invited to read their work at the 9th Poetic Encounter of San Miguel de Escalada in León, Spain. 16 of his poems were included in the anthology published by the organizers of the festival, *Nuestra torre de Babel* (León: Encuentros poéticos de San Miguel de Escalada, 2018); 89-105
- ~ On July 26, he gave a poetry reading organized by Asociación Cultural La Serrana at the Hotel 40 Nudos in Avilés, Spain.
- ~ The musical *Carretera de Avilés* (Road to Avilés) had its world premiere on August 22 in Asturias, Spain, featuring narrative texts by Santiago García-Castañón.



- ~His novel *El coleccionista* was finally released in July with a presentation organized by the publishers, Ediciones Camelot, followed by a roundtable and a book signing event. This is his 19th published book.
- ~His short story “Historia de un ángel herido” has been included in the collective volume *ERÓTICA XXI* (an anthology of erotic stories).
- ~His poetry collection *Las huellas de Erató* is about to be released in Argentina.
- ~Over the summer he satisfied all the requirements to be a North Carolina Certified Court Interpreter by the Office of Language Access Services of the NC Judicial Branch. He has now been sworn in and is the only certified court interpreter in Judicial District 30.

ALUMNI PROFILE



D'MYIA GAUSE

BS in Communications Sciences and Disorders with a minor in Psychology and BA in Spanish, 2017

D'myia says: "I'm a first-year graduate student at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) studying Speech-Language Pathology with a concentration in bilingual therapy. I am currently completing my clinic hours at NCCU's in-house clinic called *Hablemos* or 'Let's Talk.'

As a graduate clinician for this clinic, it is my job to provide evidence-based therapy in both group and individual settings with different clients who demonstrate a language or literacy disorder. We serve English, Spanish and Mandarin-speaking children from the preschool level to the school age level.

Our primary purpose is to help our clients become more effective communicators in their varying social settings (school, home, community etc.). When I am not in class, lesson planning for clinic or conducting a therapy session, I work part-time for a local movie theater. I also enjoy the local festivities and participate in group gatherings with members of my cohort.

I would like to thank the WCU World Languages faculty who have helped facilitate my growth in the Spanish language and have made it possible for me to be where I am today. You all are greatly appreciated!! And GO CATS!!!!"

Faculty research published

Places of (Non-)Belonging: Post-Colonialism, Nomadism, and Alterity is a book that gathers multidisciplinary research on the topics included in its title. It was edited by **Dr. Alberto Centeno-Pulido**, who also authored a chapter on the Spanish TV show *El Ministerio del Tiempo*, and it includes a piece by **Dr. Lori Oxford** about the 2002 Cuban film *Lista de espera*.

PLACES OF (NON-)BELONGING:
POST-COLONIALISM,
NOMADISM, AND ALTERITY





Photo: At the St. Augustine (FL) Lighthouse

WCUSpanish Student Profile: **KULLEN BHAÑATHÄE-LANE**

Where are you from? Where have you lived?

I was born in Marion, NC but my family moved around every 5-6 years so I grew up somewhat in Clinton, NC and later in North Wilkesboro, NC. After high school, I moved to Cullowhee to attend WCU.

What are some places you have traveled?

I've never traveled out of the country but have traveled along the East Coast to some hotspots like Gatlinburg, TN and Atlanta, GA and some parts of New York. I've always wanted to visit Ireland and Japan, though, when money and time allow.

You are majoring in International Studies and Spanish. Why did you choose these, particularly in this combination?

Throughout high school, I took as many Spanish courses as possible and my Spanish teacher really encouraged me to continue with that in college. So considering that and my love for language and culture I decided on the pairing of International Studies and Spanish. That said, I originally just wanted a linguistics type major but the greatest equivalent would just be a double major in two separate languages I suppose. However, I wanted to learn more cultural aspects rather than just language. I did take a few courses on the Cherokee language which was an amazing experience. The Cherokee language and culture is truly unlike anything I am familiar with because the language is polysynthetic and incredibly specific when referring to subjects and objects. The culture also has interesting perspectives on a lot of abstract concepts. For instance, I believe the Cherokee view time not as "when" but as "where". Time is very much a part of Space in that it acts as locations in which things are present. This perspective is reflected in the language with verb conjugations to various tenses. I have a lot of respect for the Cherokee, their history and culture, and their language. Unfortunately, I won't be able to take any more classes before graduation.

How do you foresee using Spanish in the future?

After graduating, I plan to pursue some Spanish tutoring positions if not just freelance. Of course, knowing the language and having previous experience helps. However, I don't expect to use Spanish for a career field, other than as a relevant skill set. Honestly, I wish to continue my education, not for a master's or doctorate, but for a culinary associate's. I've always loved to cook and would be thrilled to have professional training.

LATINX

Interested in studying the experiences of Latinx people in the United States?

The U.S. Latinx Studies approved program offers an interdisciplinary look at the cultures and experiences of Latinx groups within the United States, and the program is well on its way to becoming a minor. Would you like to add U.S. Latinx Studies to your current plan? Talk to [Dr. Melissa Birkhofer](#) to learn more.

Upcoming language-related events:

Thursday, Nov. 1st 5:00 - 6:00 pm Courtyard Dining Hall (outside Starbucks)	¡Tertulia! -weekly conversation hour in Spanish
Monday, Nov. 5th 4:30 - 5:30 pm Courtyard Dining Hall (outside Starbucks)	¡Tertulia! -weekly conversation hour in Spanish
Tuesday, Nov. 13th 5:00 - 6:00 pm Courtyard Dining Hall (outside Starbucks)	¡Tertulia! -weekly conversation hour in Spanish
Monday, Nov. 19th 4:30 - 5:30 pm Courtyard Dining Hall (outside Starbucks)	¡Tertulia! -weekly conversation hour in Spanish
Wednesday, Nov. 28th 4:00 - 5:00 pm Courtyard Dining Hall (outside Starbucks)	¡Tertulia! -weekly conversation hour in Spanish
Thursday, Dec. 6th 5:00 - 6:00 pm Courtyard Dining Hall (outside Starbucks)	¡Tertulia! -weekly conversation hour in Spanish

Do you know a student in the Spanish program or an alumna or alumnus with an interesting story? Is there an event of interest to Spanish study that we should announce here? Let us know! Contact the new [Spanish Program coordinator](#), Dr. Alberto Centeno-Pulido, with your news.

Like the Spanish Program on facebook: [Spanish @ WCU](#)
 Like the World Languages Dept. on facebook: [World Languages @ WCU](#)
 Follow the World Languages Dept. on twitter: [WCU World Languages](#)
 Come by and talk to us in McKee or check us out
 on the [WCU Spanish program's webpage](#).

¡Muchas gracias!