

WCU SPANISH newsletter

Cine en español film series-2014



September 17 – Alamar (Mexico, 2009)
Before their inevitable farewell, a young man of Mayan roots and his half-Italian son embark on an epic journey into the open sea.

September 24 – Te doy mis ojos (Spain, 2003)

A romantic drama that is critically acclaimed for its treatment of domestic violence and how it affects all members of a family. Winner of SEVEN Goya Awards, including Best Picture.



October 1 – ¿Qué he hecho yo para merecer esto! (Spain, 1985)

This comedy-drama depicts a dysfunctional family in Madrid that breaks down amid female frustration and accidental crime.

October 8 – Nueve reinas (Argentina, 2000)

Two con artists carry out an elaborate scheme, filled with riveting twists and unexpected turns that will keep you on the edge of your seat.



Oct. 22 – Requiem por un campesino español (Spain, 1985)

Hypocrisy and betrayal are the two dramatic pivots in this effective, emotionally gripping tragedy about the life and death of Paco, a Spanish peasant who had been fighting against the brutal landowning system that kept farmers impoverished. (New York Times review)

Movie screenings are available for WCU students in Modern Foreign Languages and will be screened on the dates listed in McKee 121 at 5:30 p.m. The films will be introduced by a faculty member from the Spanish Program and a brief audience discussion will follow. For more information, contact Dr. Lori Oxford at lfoxford@email.wcu.edu.

Cine en español series to begin September 17th

WCU Spanish's yearly film series, *Cine en español*, will kick off again this month with five weekly screenings for WCU students. All films will begin at 5:30 p.m. in McKee 121, and each screening will be introduced by a faculty member in the Spanish Program. Each film will be followed by with a thematic discussion led by the faculty. Spanish students should check with their professors to check on extra credit requirements, since expectations vary according to class level.

Check the series poster in your Spanish classroom in McKee for more info on dates and times, view the poster online [here](#), or write [Dr. Lori Oxford](#) for more info.

Have you heard? The *Wall Street Journal* recently published [the results of a national study conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers](#), in which they revealed that the highest paying major in the Liberal Arts (WCU College of Arts and Sciences majors, that means YOU!) is Foreign Languages and Literatures, with an average starting salary of **\$46,900**.

2014's Top-Paying Liberal Arts Majors

Foreign languages and literatures for the win.



National Association of Colleges and Employers | WSJ.com

WCUSPANISH STUDENT PROFILES:

JARRED TEAGUE

Where are you from?

I was born in Asheville and raised in Candler in the same house all my life.

Where have you traveled?

I have been to Mexico, Cuba, Spain, and Honduras. Each trip had a distinct feel and purpose to it, and I loved them all for different reasons. The summer after graduating high school I went to Monterrey, Mexico to visit some friends that used to live in the States. I saw the rich places, the poor places, the safe and the dangerous, the urban and the rural, but I was mostly there to see old friends and make new ones, and it was overall life changing. I took a Cuban Culture Class in fall 2011 which included a trip to Cuba. There I got to see a world that hadn't been touched by America for the past 60 years, something almost no other country can say, and it was quite an experience learning about the differences between Cuba and the USA on philosophies of healthcare, economics, politics, and international policy. The class enriched the travel, and the travel enriched the class. Spain had a similar purpose as Cuba, but with a longer time. In the summer of 2012 I spent a month in Valencia, Spain, getting to see a country that builds new buildings next to castles and cathedrals that are hundreds of years old.

What are your majors?

My major has changed a few times, shifting around from Spanish education to Spanish/Communications to Spanish/Marketing. I have had plenty of interests come and go and continue to be undecided on my life direction, but I know that Spanish has remained a consistent passion since I was 16, so that's the thing I ultimately hold on to as far as education.

I can never tell if you study Spanish for the language, for the culture, or for the people. Could you comment on that?

My reasons for studying Spanish are circular. It began by knowing some amazing people from Mexico. They spoke English perfectly but I still wanted to know what they were saying to their parents, so I began learning the language. When you learn a language around the people who speak it, the culture comes naturally, and that's what happened to me. Each piece compliments the others. Ultimately I love it all. I love learning the similarities and differences between people of different hispanic countries. They all have their own accents, slang, foods, architecture, clothing, music, dance, and histories.

How do you foresee using Spanish in the future?

A few things I have thought of are teaching English in South America, interpreting for Health and Social Services in Asheville, continuing mission trips to Spanish speaking countries, and/or getting into international business.



from top:
a street in Valle de Ángeles, Honduras; in the Plaza de Revolución in Havana, Cuba in 2011; overlooking Tegucigalpa, Honduras' capital city

WCUSPANISH ALUMNI CORNER

WCUSPANISH wants to recognize achievements of WCU alumni with a major or minor in Spanish.

PAUL BROTHERTON (BA, Spanish with International Business Minor, '10) is currently employed at Lowe's Home Improvement, serving as a Merchandiser at their home office location in Mooresville, NC. Paul is currently responsible for the Pipe, Fittings, and Irrigation business for all 1700+ retail locations across the US. Last month, Paul married Ellyn (Lynn), who is also a WCU alumna (BA, Social Work, '11). Last October, Paul purchased a home in Huntersville, NC where he and Ellyn live with their dog, Milo. Ellyn is the Director of the Charlotte center operations for the USO of NC, where Paul gets told to volunteer frequently.

PATRICIA GRAHAM (BA, Spanish and BA, English Literature, '10; MA, TESOL and Linguistics, '13) is teaching ESL and Reading Specialist classes at Southwestern Community College in Sylva. She is currently working on a doctorate in Educational Leadership and Management with Capella University, for which she is examining research on how to deliver instruction to students with reading comprehension problems in order to determine if she can provide an alternative methodology for student learning.

KASSIE MCKIE (BA, Spanish and BSBA, Business Administration and Law, '11) moved back to her home state of South Dakota to attend law school after graduating from WCU. In the spring of 2014, she graduated with a Juris Doctor degree from the University of

South Dakota School of Law. She is now a licensed attorney and member of the South Dakota State Bar Association and Pennington County Bar Association. Kassie is currently an associate attorney with Lynn, Jackson, Shultz, & Lebrun, PC in Rapid City, South Dakota, where she practices employment law, education law, insurance defense, and business litigation. Kassie doesn't get the opportunity to use her Spanish-speaking skills often in her work, but she likes to read the daily news in Spanish and speak to her dog in Spanish. To date, the dog has never talked back. Kassie hopes to expand her law practice into immigration law to better utilize her Spanish-speaking abilities. (*WCUSpanish would like to note that Kassie won the Dean's Outstanding Student Award for Spanish in 2011.*)

BRANDON MARTINEZ (BA, Spanish and BA, Criminal Justice, '12) moved to Raleigh after graduation, where he worked as a Security Officer for United Therapeutics. While there, he gained skills that led to his being hired by the Wake County Clerk of Court in November 2013, where he still works as a Deputy Clerk in the finance section of the criminal division. He serves as a Spanish interpreter for the general public at the courthouse and is planning to become a Certified Court Interpreter there.

¡Enhorabuena a tod@s!

Nosotros aquí en WCUSPANISH siempre estamos muy orgullosos de todos ustedes.

Alumni: share what you've been up to with the rest of the **WCUSPANISH** community! Send your info to Lori Oxford (lfoxford@email.wcu.edu) and be sure to pass the newsletter along to your family and friends so they can celebrate your achievements along with the rest of us.

WCUSpanish professor [Dr. Santiago García-Castañón](#) has been busy! Since the spring semester ended, he has:

- co-edited (and translated materials for) the volume *The New Yankee Songster's Pocket Companion*
- had two poems included in the anthology *Unas pocas palabras verdaderas*
- had eight poems included in the anthology *Lluvia de palabras*
- been commissioned to write a bilingual "plaquette" (a brief poetry collection) about the founding of St. Augustine, the first Spanish settlement in what is now the United States
- given a presentation on "*Avilés: El club de los poetas vivos*" at the Aula de Cultura of the daily newspaper *La Voz de Avilés*

On top of all this, his novel *Vida y fabulosas aventuras de Pedro Menéndez de Avilés* is being translated into English and is expected to be released early next year.

¡Enhorabuena, profesor!



ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

WCUSPANISH

WaLC TUTORING AVAILABLE

The [Writing and Learning Commons](#), or WaLC, is currently offering tutoring for this semester in Spanish 101, 102, 231, 232, 240, and 333 with student tutors Elide Perez, Sebastian Berea-Moreno, Sebastian Noguera, and Carla Guerrero. If you think you'll need help in any of these classes with your reading comprehension, speaking and writing skills, or grammar usage, call 227-2274 or click on the link above to make an appointment. If you're interested in becoming a tutor, talk to the faculty member who teaches the class with which you'd like to work.

¡TERTULIA!

Come practice your Spanish with us! The weekly *tertulia*, or Spanish conversation hour, will allow you to practice speaking or just listen. All Spanish professors offer extra credit for attending, and this can be one more step in your

path to proficiency. This semester, all meetings take place at 4:00 p.m. in [Tuck's Tap and Grill](#) in Cullowhee. Upcoming *tertulia* dates include:

- Tuesday, Sept. 16
- Wednesday, Sept. 24
- Wednesday, Oct. 1
- Wednesday, Oct. 8

UPCOMING STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

Two new faculty-led summer study abroad programs are currently in the works with WCUSpanish: one in Argentina (with [Dr. Alberto Centeno-Pulido](#)) and one in Costa Rica (with [Mr. Garrett Fisher](#)). These programs will take place in addition to the yearly program in Valencia, Spain (with [Dr. Lori Oxford](#)). Keep these opportunities in mind as you plan out your work for your degree, and stay tuned for more details!

Are you a Spanish minor? Did you know that you can complete a MAJOR with only four more Spanish classes? Talk to your Spanish professor for more info. You may even be able to complete the entire difference in one summer (if you study abroad) or a summer and a semester!



Do you know a student in the Spanish program or an alumnus/alumna with an interesting story? Is there an event of interest to Spanish study that we should announce here? Let us know! Contact Lori Oxford at lfoxford@wcu.edu.



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Follow us on twitter: [@SpanishWCU](#) 

Come by and talk to us in McKee or check us on the [WCU Spanish program's webpage](#).

¡Muchas gracias!