

WCUSpanish faculty to present two Intercultural Dialogues

Ever wondered what it is that professors do besides teach? Two years ago, the Department of Modern Foreign Languages began answering students' questions about their professors' research interests by holding regular sessions of Intercultural Dialogues, in which professors give a student-oriented presentation of a topic that they are currently studying themselves.

There are two sessions planned for this semester:

- On October 22 at 4:00 in McKee 116, Dr. Lori Oxford will give a presentation on her recent work on the weaving of image and theme in the Argentinean film *XXY* (Lucía Puenzo, 2007).
- In recognition of International Education Week, Dr Mark Couture will talk about his work on the linguistic and social phenomenon of Spanglish. His presentation will be on November 17 at 4:00 in McKee 113.



WCUSpanish students honored at 4.0 Banquet

Every semester, WCU's Department of Residential Living holds an elegant banquet to honor all on-campus students who managed to achieve a **4.0 GPA** the previous semester. WCUSpanish proudly recognizes our Spanish majors and

minors who made this list:

- Sara Clark**
- Josie Guin**
- Krista Laplante**
- Bryce Payne**

¡Enhorabuena a estas alumnas!

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!

WCUSPANISH STUDENT PROFILES:

TIFFANY LOSADA

Where are you from?

I was born in Hollywood, Florida but moved to Raleigh when I was six and have lived there ever since.

You just got back from a study abroad program and internship in Valencia, Spain. Tell me about that experience.

It was an incredible experience. The first three weeks I was finishing my Spanish requirements with the WCU in Valencia program, which really helped prepare me for my intensive 10-week internship. The internship was a requirement for my Sport Management degree, and it just worked out perfectly that the classes ended and my internship began all in the same city! My internship was at the [Federación del Deporte de Orientación en la Comunidad Valenciana](#), where I was mostly doing marketing and promotional events for the company. It was exciting learning about the sport of orienteering and I gained a lot of knowledge about event planning and working for a Spanish organization. I also got to participate in events that are unique to Spain, like the Running of the Bulls in Pamplona and La Tomatina in Buñol!

What are some other places you've traveled?

My first experience abroad was my junior year in high school where I spent a week in Costa Rica traveling with a school group. After that I caught the travel bug! In fall 2011 I studied abroad in Granada, Spain, where during that time I also traveled to Portugal, Gibraltar, Morocco, Italy, and the Netherlands. I have also been to Chile and Colombia. For most of my travel opportunities I have to give a lot of thanks to my dad. He has always encouraged me and has used many of his frequent-flyer miles to help me fly overseas. The motivation for each

trip was to learn Spanish as well as embrace a new culture. It fascinates me how different people live in every country I've visited. I did not hesitate on this second opportunity to return to Spain and I'm so glad I got to go back. It really is a beautiful country and I still learned so much about it this second time around.

What are your majors?

When I first came to college I was unsure about what I wanted to major in but I knew I wanted to at least get a minor in Spanish. I chose Sport Management because I love sports and did gymnastics practically my entire life. It wasn't until my junior year when I had an Event Management and Sponsorship class that I realized how much I enjoyed event planning and organization in sports! After completing all the courses for my Spanish minor, it wasn't enough for me and I decided to just get a double major so I could keep learning the language. As a career, I want to organize marathons or other sporting events in a Spanish-speaking country or somewhere in the US where there are a lot of *hispanohablantes*.

How much of your motivation to study Spanish has to do with your heritage and how much is your own personal interest?

I would say about 50/50. Before we moved to NC from Florida, I was around my grandparents a lot and they would only speak Spanish with me. Since my parents moved to the US when they were young, they have become accustomed to speaking in English and always spoke English at home. I lost a lot of my Spanish when we moved, but I always had good pronunciation. It wasn't until high school when I really gained an interest in becoming fluent and decided I wanted to study Spanish when I came to college.



Tiffany with her mother at an overlook in Toledo.



At the castle overlooking Xàtiva

Put your Spanish to good use!

Many students in the WCU area have asked what they can do in the community with their Spanish. There are often new opportunities to help your Spanish-speaking neighbors, but two worthy organizations that can always use your help are [Vecinos](#) and the [Good Samaritan Clinic](#). Contact them today to offer your services, language-related or otherwise, and make your community a better place for everyone, including yourself.

WCUSPANISH ALUMNI CORNER

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

CASEY SHIREY (BA, Spanish and BS, Athletic Training '10) Upon graduation from WCU, Casey moved to Costa Rica and taught English as a Second Language. She returned to the USA after two and a half years and put her skills to use while teaching Spanish in a public high school in Kings Mountain, NC. While there, she coordinated a trip for her students to Costa Rica, helping them to connect what they were learning in her classroom to the real world. In 2013, Casey completed an MAEd in Teaching English as a Foreign Language from the Universidad de Jaén in Spain. Currently, Casey is teaching English as a Second Language at UNC-Charlotte. She is eagerly awaiting the arrival of her Costa Rican god-daughter in about a month.

¡Enhorabuena!

Nosotros aquí en WCUSPANISH siempre estamos muy orgullosos de nuestra@s alumn@s.

Upper-level offerings in Spanish set for Spring 2015:

- **SPAN 301 - Conversation and Composition.**

This course focuses on production-based skills like speaking and writing, based on topics relevant to the Spanish-speaking world.

- **SPAN 330 - Masterpieces of Spanish Peninsular Literature.**

A general overview of the literature of Spain from the Middle Ages to the present time.

- **SPAN 401 - Contrastive Features of English and Spanish.**

This class will examine the differences between English and Spanish from the point of view of pronunciation as well as word and sentence structure. There will be a special focus on common mistakes made by students

of Spanish due to the interference of the structure of their dominant language (which in most cases is English here at WCU).

- **SPAN 431 - Don Quixote and His World.**

A monographic course dedicated to Don Quixote analyzed in the context of early 17th century Spain.

- **SPAN 471 - The Art of Translation.**

What does it mean to translate? What do translators actually do? What jobs are available in this field? Why are there multiple ways to translate? The course will cover theory and a variety of translation topics. It will also include a translation workshop to practice the art of translation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

WCUSPANISH

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!

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. 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. Upcoming *tertulia* dates include:

- Wednesday, Oct. 22, 4:00-5:00 at Tuck's
- Wednesday, Oct. 29, 4:00-5:00 at Tuck's
- Monday, Nov. 3, 4:00-5:00 at Tuck's
- Tuesday, Nov. 11, 5:00-6:00 at Sazón
- Wednesday, Nov. 19, 5:00-6:00 at Sazón
- Monday, Nov. 24, 5:00-6:00 at Sazón
- Monday, Dec. 1, 4:00-5:00 at Tuck's



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 out on the [WCU Spanish program's webpage](#).

¡Muchas gracias!