

'laNGgwij

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LANGUAGE CENTER



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The Language Center Newsletter

October kept us extremely busy with a lot of events and programs as well as our weekly conversation hours and tutoring drop in hours. We love being busy and we can't wait for the month of November.

After a brief break, this month newsletter has two new recipes to add to the LC Cookbook: a recipe from the Korean tradition and a vegetarian recipe from the ASL program.

Enjoy!

From the Director

Hello!

We hope that you're having a successful semester.

It is incredible to realize that mid-term season already happened and that we fast approach the month of November.

The past month of October was a record month for us here at the language center. We host more events than ever and we were thrilled to see that all events had amazing participation among all campus community. We thank you for your participation, ideas and constant support.

The Language Center has two teams working constantly to support your language improvement and to make sure that you always feel welcome into our spaces. Our support team here at the center is one of the most diverse teams I have had the pleasure to work with, and I am so happy that we can count on them on a daily basis. It is the fact that all of us come from different places, identify ourselves in different ways and sees the world with different eyes that makes possible to come together and as team offer as varied events as we do. My word of gratitude goes to them and they help us to project the Language Center as a space of diversity where multilingualism is the key component and multiculturalism its support.

Also, our team of outstanding tutors his at the center on a weekly basis to help you to succeed in your language study and improvement. They are an amazing group of language students themselves that have the passion for the language they represent and its culture(s). I invite your to join them for a Conversation Hour or during Tutoring hours. You will be amazed by their passion and how supportive they are. And if you schedule doesn't work during their drop-in hours you can always use the WCOOnline and request another time and day.

Finally, if you already speak a language and want to support them during events and conversation hours, feel free to do so. I am sure they will extremely happy to meet you. This coming month we plan to continue to offer interesting conversation hours and talks, as well as, continue to host many language focus events that range from our traditional karaoke nights to movie nights. Check our calendar to learn more about these and many other.

We wish you a wonderful time here on campus and we look forward to seeing you around the Language Center.

Obrigada,
Teresa Valdez

Staff Interviews



Karina always liked the idea of having an on-campus job that she was passionate about. As an international student, language has always been important for her because she has to know a foreign language, English, in order to attend this school. The Language Center is on-campus and focuses on helping students with language, so this job was the perfect combination for her.

She also loves the vibe that our job provides. She says that everyone is friendly, and she really appreciates how Teresa and Carlotta, the Director and the Administrative Assistant of the Language Center respectively, treat the staff since they are very eager to hear our thoughts on how to improve the center. She also feels that the center is located in a hub location which makes it conveniently located.

Karina has become known at the center as a social butterfly. She always manages to spot someone she knows and manages to convince them to join us during events. Unsurprisingly, before starting to work here, she was already friends with Andrea and Chetna, our ASL and German tutors respectively, and Andres and Ana, two of our Program Assistants. To those that she did not befriend before working here, she finds them to be very friendly and she really enjoys that there is constant communication. She also finds it very easy to ask others for help.

Thankfully, Karina doesn't feel intimidated by her coworkers who have been here longer. There are only four students from last year who are still working here, myself included, so there are a lot of new workers who are all trying to adjust to the job. She views all of the new workers as an opportunity to improve the center with the help of those who have been here longer. Karina also finds it really sweet how the people who worked here longer were very accepting of all the new students.

Kinga Flaga, '21

Staff Interviews



Kinga Flaga is one of our Office Assistants. She is really passionate about foreign languages and she loves having a job that connects her to that. She started working in the Language Center during her first year at the University of Rochester. She is a Creative Writing, Psychology, and Linguistics major.

Kinga is a returner to the Language Center. When asked why she decided to work here again she said that she likes the vibe of the center and that it is a good environment to work. She said she likes how communicative people are and that she has a good relationship with the director and everyone working here. In particular, she enjoys being treated like an adult. She feels valued and thinks that her ideas are always taken into consideration. The language center was Kinga's first job and she says that she really likes it and is still excited to come to work every day!

The Language Center hired more student workers this year and for Kinga that was a little unsettling when she find out that the team was expanding because she was already very comfortable with last group, and she thought that as someone who started earlier she would be asked lots of questions. However, that was only at the beginning because she thinks that both Teresa and Carlotta did a great job hiring staff and that they chose students that bring good things to the team; they are always willing to help and now the responsibilities are more spread out.

Kinga says that her favorite event last year was the international Karaoke event which she organized. During the event, she was in charge of many things and although it was a lot of work, she had lots of fun because it showed her she could handle all the responsibility. She is looking forward to see all the good things the Language Center will have to offer students this year.

Karina Vasquez, '21

Our Resources

The Language Center wants to make sure you know what resources we have available to strengthen your second language skills.

WE ARE EXCITED TO INTRODUCE OUR PS4!

Amongst the different services and resources available to the University community through the Language Center is the PlayStation 4 and a growing assortment of video games. Available to students any time when the center is open and free, the PS4 and the video games are part of our wider audiovisual array of tools used to sharpen second language acquisition skills. Students are strongly encouraged to play any of the games in languages, other than English unless if you are an ESL student, to improve their listening and comprehension skills, as they process the instructions and commentaries throughout the game.

It can also be an opportunity for international students and speakers of multiple languages to relax and play a game while listening to commentaries in one of their native or acquired languages. Only students who are taking English as a Second Language are allowed to play in English. Students can sign out a controller and reserve the PS4 for a maximum of two hours, and controllers are available for up to 4 players. At the moment, our expanding game repertoire includes FIFA 17 in English, Spanish and Italian, FIFA 18 in English, Arabic, Russian, Japanese and Chinese, and F1 2017 in Italian. We welcome individual students, and groups to join us and plan events around this incredible resource that's open to our linguistically diverse community.



Ian Manzi, '18

Conversation Hours

INTERVIEW WITH PORTUGUESE STUDENTS

One of the amazing opportunities that the Language Center has to offer is conversation hours. One of the conversation hours is in Portuguese, every Saturday from 12:30-1:30 pm. I had the chance to ask some of the non-native speakers who came a few questions about their experiences with the conversation hours, and here is what they had to say!

1) How have conversation hours helped you in your learning of the Portuguese language and of Portuguese culture?

Student 1: "You get to interact with other native speakers besides our professor. It's helpful to get a better sense of different accents."

Student 2: "You get to practice what you learn in the classroom!"

Student 3: "They help a lot with speaking and they teach a more first-hand experience of culture."

2) What is the most fun activity that you have done in Portuguese conversation hours?

Student 1: "The map game!" (The map game helped students learn about regions that speak Portuguese)

Student 2: "This is my first time here!"

Student 3: "We did fun games and kitchen stuff."



3) What would you say to someone who's interested in getting involved in conversation hours but is nervous about their level or speaking with native speakers?

Student 1: "Come! Experience it before you judge it. I'm not a proficient speaker; I'm barely learning, so getting practice and getting interactions with other people who speak it, will really help me. Come!"

Student 2: Everyone here seems pretty open to making mistakes, so, you guys bear with me if I mess up my speaking, which is nice, so there's nothing to really be worried about if you're not really amazing at Portuguese.

Hana Kallen, '20

Conversation Hours

INTERVIEW WITH ESL STUDENTS

ESL is a class that is now offered at the University which helps teach international students English as a second language.

ESL conversation hours has been a platform for me to gain confidence and adapt faster to the English language,” says a current Warner Graduate Student part of the ESL conversation hours.

What do you like the most about ESL?

My favorite part is that we are basically exposed to always talk and share our thoughts out loud so we could practice our speaking skills. Also, I feel comfortable in an atmosphere of respect.

The student was asked **what does she think has been her biggest improvement since she joined the class**, to which she responded: listening and conversational skills.



Students at ESL come together with the tutor and discuss different topics every week in which the students have the opportunity to express their ideas. Every session around 15-20 students come, and it seems to be a dynamic learning atmosphere for them, as it includes short videos, fun games, and conversation times for students to share in small groups.

“We are also given optional homework for us to keep practicing outside of the conversation hours,” said one of the students when asked about the resources available through ESL.

Past Events

Meliora Weekend

During Meliora Weekend, the Language Center had their open house and invited people to check out what the center had to offer! Both current students and alumni came to visit the Language center to learn about the new features. People came to learn and ask questions about the programs at the Language Center such as conversation hour and alumni came to tell their stories when the Center and the Computer Hub didn't exist!

Things such as the TV in the main center which has Netflix and Roku with international shows, a PS4 with FIFA in every language taught at the school, textbooks for each of the language classes and the new layout of the room were the highlights.



Past Events

Meliora Weekend



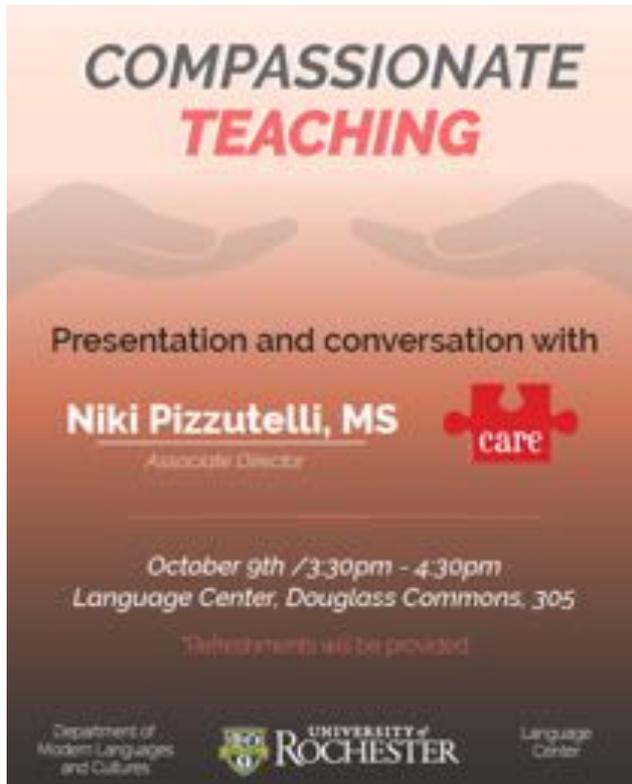
Most alumni were surprised to see the Computer Hub that had its renovation! Now there is a HUGE (I mean, it's ginormous) TV that is connected to each of the computers, allowing students to share what they have on their screens to the entire room, which is great for classes. On top of the TV, throughout the walls of the Computer Hub, there are photos of countries whose languages are provided at the school. Can you name them all?

But no doubt, what people were happy to see was the food! Between the Language Center and the Computer Hub, food from each of the languages were available for people to enjoy! From sushi from Japan to Bacalhau from Portugal, people were able to immerse themselves with food from all around the world! All in all, Meliora Weekend was great! People were able to enjoy the unique atmosphere that the Language Center provides and learned about the new resources available to students! No doubt food played a big role in their enjoyment!

Daiki Nishioka, '21

Past Events

Compassionate Teaching



The Language Center in collaboration with Professor Julie Papaioannou and the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures presented the first talk of the series called Compassionate Teaching.

For this first talk, Professor Papaioannou invited CARE Associate Director Niki Pizzutelli. The conversation focused on the topic of mental health and how we can better support our students in distress.

Also discussed was how CARE and faculty can help students promoting self-advocacy. Finally, many faculty members questioned several steps of the process and better strategies to connect CARE and students.

At the end of the event, all participants reported to have a better sense of understanding on these topics. At the end of such successful event, it was decided that much more can be done and that the conversation should, and will, continue at a later moment in this academic year.

Compassionate teaching is a series of talks that brings together faculty and multiple support services for students on campus, and it is a great tool to increase communication between offices like CARE and those that interact with students in the classroom.

Past Events

One Language One Recipe: KOREAN

On Oct. 4th, our very own traditional program One Language, One Recipe was kicked off by a Korean recipe! Professor Cho, the Head of the Korean program at the University, and her mom Hyesoon Park presented us how to cook a traditional dish- Japchae 잡채. Literally, it means food of 'mixed vegetables'

Japchae is one of the most popular Korean festive dishes. Often served on holidays (e.g., New Year's Day and Korean harvest day), special occasions (e.g., birthdays and weddings) and also other common days

This program consisted of a cooking demonstration in Korean, and a taste of what Koreans call, **엄마의 손맛** Korean moms' cooking. **엄마의 손맛** literally means 'mom's hand taste'.

You can find the recipe on our LC Cookbook page.



Shasha Cui, '21

Past Events

One Language One Recipe: ASL

On October 17th, the One Language One Recipe event for American Sign Language (ASL) took place in the Douglass Community Kitchen on the fourth floor of Douglass! We had Professor Guillaume Chastel cook ratatouille for a group of people who came to visit. The entire process was done in ASL with a translator for those who don't know ASL. As he was cooking, Professor Chastel was able to teach some simple words in sign language such as salt, oil, and tomatoes. Not only this but some people were able to ask questions to him about the deaf community and certain struggles and funny stories that they have. For example, did you know that when deciding what is considered to be a “good restaurant” for deaf people, although the best is if some of the workers there can sign ASL, it is also important that the restaurant has great lighting. Can you figure out why? (Answer is at the end)



Past Events

One Language One Recipe: ASL



To top all of this off, the ratatouille he made was absolutely delicious! Full of vegetables such as peppers, zucchini, and tomatoes, it was perfect for the cold weather that is arriving. Overall, it was a great event with great food and everyone, including myself, was able to learn something new about ASL that I didn't know about before. It was a great introduction to ASL and a great way to find out more about it. I even came out learning few words myself! Look out for the next One Language One Recipe event! Some of the languages that are being planning right now are Italian and Japanese! Stop by if you are curious about each of the languages, or want to try out some of the food! (A: Because if it is too dim, they won't be able to see what they are signing to each other!)

Daiki Nishioka, '21

Past Events

Global Local Dinner

Using local ingredients and inspired by global recipes, the Language Center teamed up with Dining Services and the International Student Mentor organization to host a multicultural celebratory dinner on Monday, October 22nd. A long line of students awaited their entry into Danforth Dining Hall as staff finished up putting decorative flags and labeled specific language tables where language ambassadors would be responsible to teach and engage those who sat there, to speak the language. There were many choices and the freedom to try a little bit of everything. For starters, there was Chinese-inspired chicken wonton soup, leshta chorba Bulgarian lentil soup, and Italian vegan garbanzo bean soup; along with a vast salad bar inspired by Israeli couscous.



Isabella Dos Santos, '19

Past Events

Global Local Dinner

The main courses were influenced by Russia, Philippines, Nigeria, Japan and yours truly: the US. All sourced from farms in New York State, ingredients like parsley, hot cherry peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, garlic, mozzarella and creamy mango sauce were used to make delicious international dishes. A popular favorite was the Filipino fried chicken adobo tacos and the carne asada flatbread from Central America. Finally, desserts were reminiscent of Mexico, Brazil and France. Mexican caramel-topped crepes and Brazilian chocolate mousse quickly ran out, but there was also a French vegan dessert called Poire Avec, in which pears are poached in sweetened and spiced orange juice. All of the dishes were delicious, so special shout out to the dining services staff for wonderfully creating our vision on the plates!



An evening of talking and eating was accompanied by amazing dance performances such as Salseros and UR Celtic, and an open picture booth where people could adorn hats with flag stickers and take geotagged photos with silly decorations. At the language-specific tables, people who have never spoken Turkish or ASL could learn to say/sign their names and introduce themselves. It was an evening of learning, eating and enjoyment. Thank you to all who came and shared space and time with us.

Isabella Dos Santos, '19

Past Events

Cultural Intersections: "Speaking a Language or a Culture?"

"Whenever somebody asks me if I am studying abroad, I tell them that I already am." - Ian Manzi, '18



The Language Center had its first Cultural Intersections discussion. The question for this conversation was if people feel that they are speaking a language or a culture when communicating in their non-native language. We had six students on the panel, three of which were international students and three which were domestic students who had studied abroad. A few of the language (and cultures) that were represented were French, Italian, Russian, Spanish, and more! The panelists were asked a series of questions which anyone in attendance was more than welcome to participate and share their experiences as well.

There were many fun facts that were shared during the event. A few are that in France, it is possible to be able to tell where someone is from based off of how they kiss as a greeting. The stereotype of people not smiling in Russia is true. In both ASL and Kinyarwanda it is not rude to tell people that they have become fat.

We would love to hear your voice again or for the first time in one of our future discussions! For more details, please look at "Future Events."

Kinga Flaga, '21

Upcoming Events

November 3rd: ISRAELI MOVIE NIGHT - Join us on November 3rd at 5pm to watch an Israeli comedy-drama with popcorn and pizza! Funny and captivating, *Zero Motivation* also sheds light on sexism within the Israeli army. Insightful and empowering at minimum, this will be your new favorite movie!



November 15th: CULTURAL INTERSECTIONS - Our personality is complex enough as it is, but we can see drastic changes in it as we learn new languages. Language changes the way we interact and behave with others, changing our personality in the process. We will pose and discuss the question "How do different languages shape my personality" on November 15th from 7 to 8:30pm, giving you an opportunity to learn and contribute on our linguistically diverse community!

December 1st: FIFA UPCOMING EVENT- Love FIFA? Love playing PS4? Love learning by doing? Join us at the Language Center on November 28th from 5-7pm. FIFA languages include French, Spanish and Japanese. Soccer is universal and exposure to foreign languages in a non-classroom setting can improve learning. Hope to see you there!



Marco Ramos, '20 and Isabella Dos Santos '19

Upcoming Events



November 28th: **COMPASSIONATE TEACHING** - The Language Center in collaboration with MLC is organizing a series of presentations and workshops on the theme of Compassionate Teaching. Next talk is a presentation on Disability Resources at the UoR. Faculty only.

December 6th: **ONE LANGUAGE, ONE RECIPE**: featuring Italian. The Winter Holidays are approaching fast as well as the season for cookies. Join us to learn how to make the traditional "Cantucci", crunchy almond cookies from Tuscany. Cooking lesson taught in Italian by Prof. Alessandra Baroni followed by a taste.



December 14th: **INTERNATIONAL KARAOKE NIGHT** - Come and sing your stress out loud at our next International Karaoke Night which will be held during the Late Night Study Break!

Marco Ramos, '20 and Isabella Dos Santos '19

Peer Tutoring

Are you struggling with one of the language classes offered at the UofR? Do you feel like you would benefit more from 1 on 1 help with a student that has already taken the class you are taking and/or is proficient in the language? Then you should come to peer tutoring!

Tutors at the Language Center are students who are screened and hired by the Center for Language Study to tutor undergraduates and their peers enrolled in language courses. Whenever Queenette comes across any language tutor, her first question is always how the person feels tutoring a language, and they all give positive responses.

The polish tutor Natalie Olechno from Chicago, who is so excited about the tutoring program, shares her feelings. She mentioned that she is from the city of Chicago but grew up in a Polish neighborhood, and her parents are from Poland. She grew up speaking Polish and learned English in school. She states that the fact that she is a bilingual increased her linguistic growth and cultural enrichment. One of her goals as a tutor is to meet up with a student's particular needs in Polish, share some of her cultural knowledge and fun things about polish.

She encourages students to come to the Language Center and practice Polish with her. Of course, professors can teach in class, but your fellow student can help you understand things beyond class activities, which is very easy for Natalie since she has experience in both the Polish language and culture.

Please note that the tutoring program is only available for students who are currently taking a language class at the University of Rochester. If you wish to practice a language but you are not taking the respective class, you are more than welcome to come to our Conversation Hours. Tutoring hours are listed on the next page.

Queenette Okwaraji, '21 and Carlos Bustamante, '20

Peer Tutoring

DROP-IN TUTORING SCHEDULE

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE	Tue. 4-5, Sun 5-6
ARABIC	Tue. 12-30-1:30, Wed 12-30-1:30,
CHINESE	Fri 10-11, Sunday 4-5
FRENCH	Thur. 5-6, Sun 5:30-6:30
GERMAN	Thur. 6-7, Sat. 3-4
HEBREW	Thur. 1-2
ITALIAN	Tue 12-1, Sat. 2-3
JAPANESE	Tue. 3-4, Thur. 3:30-4:30
KOREAN	Wed 7-8, Sat. 3-4
POLISH	Tue 5:30-6:30, Sun 3-4
PORTUGUESE	Wed 12-1, Fri 12-1

THE LC COOKBOOK

A Traditional Festive Korean Dish

잡채 Japchae

주재료 Main Ingredients (for 4 servings):

당면 (8 ounces) Sweet potato starch noodle
 소고기 (4.5 ounces) Sliced beef
 시금치 (4 ounces) Baby spinach
 당근 (One medium, 4.5 ounces) Carrot
 양파 (4.5 ounces) Yellow onion
 표고버섯 (4 ounces) Shitake mushroom

양념 Ingredients for Seasoning:

식용유 (4 table spoons) Vegetable oil
 참기름 (6 tea spoons) Sesame oil
 간장 (4 table spoons) Soy sauce
 설탕 (4 tea spoons) Sugar
 소금 (1/2 tea spoon) Fine salt
 참깨 (1 table spoon) Toasted sesame seeds
 후춧가루 (1/2 tea spoon) Ground black pepper
 올리고당 (2 tea spoons) Oligo-sugar
 다진 마늘 (1 tea spoon) Minced garlic



THE LC COOKBOOK

A Traditional Festive Korean Dish

잡채 Japchae

순서 *Instructions*

표고버섯은 미리 물에 불려둔 후에 채 썰세요. Soak shitake mushrooms in water for one or two hours and slice the mushrooms into thin strips.

채 썬 소고기와 표고버섯을 간장, 참기름, 후추, 마늘로 간해서 30분 정도 재워 두세요. Season the sliced beef and shitake mushrooms with soy sauce, sesame oil, ground black pepper and minced garlic and keep the mixture in the fridge for about 30 mins.

팬에 기름을 두르고 재워 둔 소고기와 표고버섯을 볶으세요. Heat up a pan, add some vegetable oil and the beef and mushroom mixture and stir fry on medium heat.



솥에 물을 끓이세요. Boil some water in a pot. 물이 끓으면 7분 정도 당면을 넣고 삶으세요. Once the water starts to boil, add the noodles and boil them for 7mins.

당면을 찬물에 헹구고 채에 받쳐 물기를 빼세요. Rinse in cold water to cool down the noodles and let the water drain for 1-2 mins.

당면을 가위로 먹기 좋은 길이로 자르세요. Cut the noodles with kitchen scissors a couple of times. 당면을 믹싱볼에 담고 간장, 참기름, 설탕, 올리고당, 후추로 간하세요. Season the noodles with soy sauce, sesame oil, sugar, oligo-sugar and ground black pepper.

맛있게 드세요!

THE LC COOKBOOK

A delicious vegetarian dish for ASL

Ratatouille

Ingredients

For 8 people

1 large (1.25 lb) eggplant

Salt

6 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

1 medium yellow onion

1 yellow bell pepper

5 large cloves garlic

5 large vine-ripened tomatoes (1.75 lb)

1 tablespoon tomato paste

2 teaspoons fresh chopped thyme

3/4 teaspoon sugar

3 tablespoons chopped fresh basil

3 cups rice



THE LC COOKBOOK

A delicious vegetarian dish for ASL

Ratatouille

Instructions:

- Cut the eggplant into 1/3-inch cubes
- Cut the zucchini into 1/3-inch cubes
- Finely chop 1 medium yellow onion
- Cut the bell pepper into 1/4-inch dice
- Chop 5 large cloves garlic
- Cut the 5 large vine-ripened tomatoes into 1/3-inch cubes, with their juices
- Chop the fresh thyme. Reserve some for serving
- Chop the 3 tablespoons of fresh basil



Prepare the white rice in a slow cooker.

For the Ratatouille, prepare:

In a large skillet cook the onion and the garlic in 2 tablespoons of the extra virgin oil over moderately low heat, stirring occasionally, until the onion is softened.

Add salt to taste.

Add the eggplant and cook the mixture, stirring occasionally, for 8 minutes, or until the eggplant is softened.

THE LC COOKBOOK

A delicious vegetarian dish for ASL

Ratatouille

Instructions:

Stir in the zucchini and the bell pepper and cook the mixture over the moderate heat, stirring occasionally, for 12 minutes.

Stir in the tomatoes and cook the mixture, stirring occasionally, for 5 to 7 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender.

Stir in the fresh thyme, salt, the tomato paste and sugar, and cook the mixture, stirring, for 1 minute.

Stir in the basil and combine the mixture well.



Bon Appétit!