

Newsletter of the Department of
French and Italian Winter 2008

UNDERGRADUATE NEWSLETTER

Our French and Italian students have been active in many pursuits this year! We've asked them why they choose to study our languages and what their experiences have been. Here are some of the responses.



Italian major **Brittany O'Neill** has been named to the Humanities Alumni board of Governors. Brittany is an honors student, a double major (with molecular genetics), a University Ambassador and a musician. Why did Brittany choose to double major? "I really enjoy expressing both my scientific side and my creative side. Learning Italian helps me do that and gives me a better understanding of different cultures."

ITALIAN

Keri Yourick was looking for smaller, more interactive classes at OSU when she discovered Italian. Last summer Keri studied in Lecce where "there are not enough words to describe how much fun I had." "The thing that made my time in Italy memorable was meeting so many people. The Italians are SO easy to make friends with!"



Cari Mullinax is majoring in both Italian and French, seeing both sides of the department.



During her freshman year at OSU, Cari wanted to start a new language, but couldn't decide which one. Then, she "heard two professors speaking Italian on the Oval one day, and decided that Italian would be it!" Cari thoroughly enjoyed studying in Lecce, Italy in 2007.

And now, for our French majors ...

Jessica Hanzlik, a double major in French and Physics, has been named a Rhodes Scholar. Jessica has "always been a huge proponent of the value of learning foreign languages." One of Jessica's interests is the role of French



women in science. She is currently completing an honors thesis on that subject.

Laura Belland decided to study French, "one of the most beautiful-sounding languages", because "it enhances my cultural education, helping to connect me to people around the world, to culture of other countries and to new ideas." Laura has enjoyed the FR 401 and 601 classes because "they focused mainly on grammar and vocabulary, areas which I desire to learn because they help me understand and have a strong command of the language."



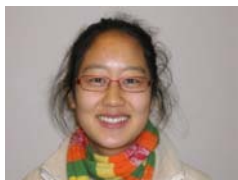
Caroline Sims began studying French "because of an English translation of 'Ode à Cassandra'. I wanted to read it in the original language." For Caroline, the best part of learning French is "being able to go to Paris and speak it." Caroline studied in Paris in autumn 2007 and said, "It was phenomenal, and I would stay there forever if I could."



Taking business courses in French with students from around the world attracted **Peter Carlson** to study this winter and spring at the Hautes Etudes Commerciales outside Paris. Peter views French "as a key to opening the door to a whole new world/culture. It allows one to understand a whole society of people."



Lisa Miyake learned French in order to communicate while traveling in France. "Also, I had a friend who was from Quebec, Canada who always spoke French at her house. Whenever I would hear her speak, it amazed me how pretty it sounded." Lisa enjoys learning about different cultures, and says, "it makes me happy when I am able to communicate with other people in French after learning all the vocabulary and grammar in class."



Adriana Lamonte, like Peter, hopes to work in a career "in which I can use my language skills." For AIESEC Ohio State, the local chapter of an international student-run organization that promotes peace and cultural understanding by sending students on work exchange programs, Adriana is helping to plan a spring quarter event called Global Village. If anyone is interested in participating in this project, please contact Adriana at lamonte.2.



The best goaltender in U.S. professional hockey came to class one day



In November 2007 Pascal Leclaire of the Columbus Blue Jackets spent a class period with students in a French 104.03, answering questions, signing autographs and sampling the French-Canadian cuisine cooked up by Professor Wynne Wong.

Leclaire seemed to have a good time during the hour-long visit. "I wasn't sure what to expect, I didn't know [whether] I was going to teach a class or what," Leclaire said, according to the *Columbus Dispatch* blog of Michael Arace. Leclaire was "impressed" with the students' range of questions and their command of the French language.

Look at the fun options that FRIT has for you this Spring!

Registration has already begun for spring quarter 2008 classes. You can find the classes offered at <http://frit.osu.edu/courses/default.cfm>. There's a wide range of possibilities, including:

- ▶ Contemporary Italian Society (IT 202),
- ▶ Sounds of Italian (IT 402),
- ▶ Francophone Literature (FR 427),
- ▶ French and Quebecois Culture (FR 440),
- ▶ French-speaking Cultures in a Business Context (FR 506), and
- ▶ Advanced French Pronunciation (FR 604).

... thinking about traveling this summer?

Improve your spoken French and Italian before you go.

Pictured are Ivano Fulgaro (GTA), Dianna McGlone, and Josh Przybyla.



Café + meets during Winter quarter on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. in Crane Café

Caffè Forte meets on Mondays 12:30-1:30 & 4:30-5:30, Tuesdays 12:30-1:30 p.m. and on Wednesdays 4:30-5:30 p.m. in Crane Café

Invite your friends to try French or Italian, too!! Here are the GEC courses in Spring Quarter 2008:

French 153 - French/American Cultural Relations: From Jazz to Freedom Fries

What do the French really think about America and Americans? What is the impact of different American exports (such as jazz, GIs, Hollywood, fast food, mass consumption) on French society and on how the French view Americans?

French 250 - Masculine/Feminine: Gender in French Literature and Culture (in English Translation)

Did men always dress and behave according to stereotypes? What about women? An overview of society's rules for men and women--and those who broke them--in French literature and culture (in English).

Italian 251 Dante in Translation (in English)– GEC Literature

A study of Dante's Divine Comedy with a focus on the Inferno and the historical, religious, philosophical and literary worlds that the poem engages.

Don't forget to look at scholarship options!

The deadline for FRIT department scholarships is February 28. Check out http://frit.osu.edu/students/undergradtestudies/French/fr_scholarships.cfm and http://frit.osu.edu/students/undergradtestudies/italian/it_scholarships.cfm.