



## ***Cultural Connections The Language Villa***

**MLNG 293-01**

**0-1 cr.**

**Department of Modern & Classical Languages**

**Saint Louis University**

**Fall 2008**

### **Objectives**

The *Language Villa* provides linguistic and cultural experience in a second language through interactive community living. Proficiency in more than one language enhances personal and professional development while enabling students to connect with multiple disciplines and to become better informed citizens in an increasingly complex world.

#### *Villa Expectations:*

- Speak the language of the floor as the primary means of communication and encourage other students to do so;
- Share at least one meal per week with others in your language group;
- Participate in the cultural activities planned for your language floor (coffee hours, museum visits, etc.);
- Attend all General Sessions organized for the Villa (see the *Cultural Connections Schedule*);
- Participate in the *Cultural Connections* Discussion Groups for your language. The themes will cover cultural, historical and social subjects of general interest to all Villa participants. In Fall 2008, topics of discussion will also be linked to themes relating to History 112-07, "Origins of the Modern World Since 1600", in which First-year students are co-enrolled.

## Cultural Connections Schedule

**Week 1:** General Session – *The Concept of a Learning Community* (Dr. Donald Stump)

**Week 1:** *Cultural Connections* (discussion by language) – *Basic Language Strategies for Everyday Living in the Villa* (Foreign Language Teaching Assistants and Faculty Liaisons)

**Week 2:** General Session – *Tips for Learning a Foreign Language* (Dr. Kara McBride)

**Week 3:** General Session – *Improving Language Learning Through the Internet* (Dr. Simone Bregni)

**Week 4:** *Cultural Connections* (discussion by language) – History 112-07 (Faculty Liaisons)

**Week 5:** General Session – *Introduction to International Studies* (Dr. Tom Finan)

**Week 6:** *Cultural Connections* (discussion by language) – History 112-07 (Faculty Liaisons)

**Week 7:** Break (Mid-term Exams)

**Week 8:** General Session – *European Union Roundtable* (Dr. Sandy Hamrick)

**Week 9:** *Cultural Connections* (discussion by language) – History 112-07 (Faculty Liaisons)

**Week 10:** General Session – *Careers in Foreign Languages* (Ms. Christine Keller)

**Week 11:** *Cultural Connections* (discussion by language) – History 112-07 (Faculty Liaisons)

**Week 12:** General Session – *Social Awareness: Immigration Issues and Fair Trade* (Dr. Ana Montero)

**Week 13:** *Cultural Connections* (discussion by language) – History 112-07 (Faculty Liaisons)

**Week 14:** General Session – Evaluation & Party!

*Note: The schedule is subject to change.*



## **Faculty Liaisons**

- *French:* Dr. Sandy Hamrick, Tel. 977-2447, hamrick@slu.edu
- *German:* Dr. Evelyn Meyer, Tel. 977-3665, emeyer16@slu.edu
- *Italian:* Dr. Simone Bregni, Tel. 977-3668, bregni@slu.edu
- *Spanish:* Ms. Yaoska Tijerino, Tel. 977-2453, ytijerin@slu.edu

## **Evaluation**

- A minimum 70% attendance required of meals, cultural activities, General Sessions and *Cultural Connections* Discussion Groups for a passing grade.
- Final reflection paper (3-4 pages) on a cultural/historical aspect of the material covered either in the General Sessions or the *Cultural Connections* Discussion Groups. Students having sufficient proficiency write the paper in the foreign language.
- Grading Scale: S/U

## **Academic Integrity and Honesty**

Students are expected to be honest in their academic work. The University reserves the right to penalize any student whose academic conduct at any time is, in its judgment, detrimental to the University. Such Conduct shall include cases of plagiarism, collusion, cheating, giving or receiving or offering or soliciting information in examinations, or the use of previously prepared material in examinations or quizzes. Violations should be reported to your course instructor, who will investigate and adjudicate them according to the Policy on Academic Honesty of the College of Arts and Sciences. If the charges are found to be true, the student may be liable for academic or disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion by the University.

## **Students with Special Needs - Disability Services**

Students who believe that, due to impact of a disability, they may need academic accommodations in order to meet the requirements of this, or any other, class at Saint Louis University are encouraged to contact Adam Meyer in Disabilities Services (977-8885 or at meyerah@slu.edu). Disabilities Services is located in DuBourg Hall, Room 36. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries.