

Canberra Region Languages Forum Update

May 2018

A celebration of Languages

Come and meet others with a love of languages and language learning. Help us celebrate the many languages spoken in the ACT region

WHEN: Sunday 20 May 2pm – 4pm

WHERE: Latin American Cultural Centre, 28 Astrolabe Street, Red Hill ACT 2603

COST: Free

- Explore story-telling and poetry in other languages
- Exchange information about raising children in more than one language
- Join in fun activities for all ages

Refreshments provided, but contributions to Afternoon Tea welcome

To assist with catering please RSVP by 16 May via [Eventbrite](#) (preferred) or email canberrabilingual@gmail.com or phone Mandy on 0408 089 235

Organised by the ACT Bilingual Education Alliance with support from an ACT Government Participation (Multicultural) Grant 2017/18

News from the ANU

ANU Asian Language Taster Courses

The ANU College of Asia and the Pacific has been running a series of Taster Classes on Mondays from 5-6pm since April. These classes are free, open to all, and are held in the Baldessin Building at the ANU. The three remaining languages are:

- 14 May Thai
- 21 May Mandarin
- 23 May Japanese

For more information see <http://asiapacific.anu.edu.au/cap-events>

ANU Language Teaching Forum

A discussion platform for language teachers and researchers across ANU colleges as well as language educators from outside the university such as secondary school teachers and educators from community schools. The main objective is to foster the exchange of research and new approaches in language education.

- Monday 21 May, 4.15 – 5.15 pm
- Room W3.03, Level 3, Baldessin Precinct Building #110, ANU
- Presenter: Ksenia Gnevesha
- Topic: Acoustic and perceptual correlates of comprehensibility in relation to suprasegmental features

Date for the following forum: Monday 23 July. For more information and/or to join the mailing list, contact France Meyer at france.meyer@anu.edu.au

ANU online courses available through Open Universities Australia

The ANU have been offering Hindi, Sanskrit, Tetum, Thai, Tibetan and Vietnamese online, but now the first year courses for these languages are available to the wider community through Open Universities Australia (OUA). ANU has plans to offer the later year courses of these languages, and to also include more languages to the OUA list.

New course in Tok Pisin

The ANU have appointed a language expert to develop course materials for Tok Pisin, which is an official language of Papua New Guinea. The first year courses will be offered online in 2019 and then both the first and second year courses, which will make up a minor, will be

offered in 2020 and beyond. Tok Pisin is also planned to be offered through OUA in due course.

Basic Intensive Persian Course

CAIS is offering a five week course in Persian over the Winter mid-year break. This Elementary Persian course aims at developing students' abilities to read and write Modern Standard Persian, and acquire basic oral skills to interact in limited aspects of everyday life situations. On completion of the course students will have acquired: the ability to read and understand a range of simple Persian sentences within a vocabulary range of 100-150 of the most commonly used words; the ability to speak at a basic level in Persian and elementary knowledge of some Persian cultural practices and traditions.

Instructor: Dr Negar Davari Ardakani

- Time: Tuesday & Thursday 5.00—7.30 pm
- Dates: 19 June — 19 July 2018
- Cost: \$450
- Venue: Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies (Building 127), ANU

For more information: <http://cais.cass.anu.edu.au/news/take-persian-winter-break>

Other opportunities for learning languages in the ACT region

French

Term 2 has begun but the Alliance Française de Canberra offers ongoing opportunities to develop your language skills and experience of French culture. For more information see their website at <https://www.afcanberra.com.au/>

CIT Short courses

Upcoming Spanish for travellers course:

<http://shortcourses.cit.edu.au/modules/details?ModuleID=BRU1129>

Canberra Language Exchange

A chance to practice your languages and meet people from diverse backgrounds and cultures.

- Every Tuesday 7pm until 26 June
- P.J. O'Reillys, 52 Alinga St, Civic
- The event is FREE

They always have speakers of English, Chinese, Spanish, French, Japanese, Korean, German, Arabic, Persian and a good mix of other languages. More details at Language Exchange Canberra Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LanguageexchangeCanberra/>

Mother Tongue - Winter Words! Multilingual Poetry Showcase

- 2pm - 5pm, Saturday 2 June 2018
- Woden Youth Centre
- Free

Feature poet is Jackline (Jackie) Okot. Born in a refugee camp in Kenya, Jackie is a young aspiring Sudanese poet from Wagga Wagga. Jackie will perform poetry in her mother tongue Acholi, and in English. Other poets signed up to perform include poetry in French, Italian, Chinese, Bengali, Spanish, Portuguese and Ngunawal.

Participants on the day will be welcomed by custodian Tyrone Bell, a Ngunawal man who grew up in Yass, learning traditional culture from his father Don Bell (senior).

Interested in sharing poetry in your language? There is still time to register!

- Any language is welcome - or a mix of languages, which can include English.
- Read or recite your original poem, or a work by another poet.

- If your poem does not include some English, we ask that you give a brief introduction or explanation in English. Or you can include a full translation if you prefer.
- You will have 4 minutes to present your poem and any translation.

For more information, email mothertonguemic@gmail.com or call Jacqui on 0433 845900

If you are not sure, and want to have a go, you are invited to a free workshop

Workshop on poetry writing and performance

- Hosted by Mother Tongue and designed for people writing in languages other than English.
- 2pm - 4pm, Sunday 27 May 2018
- Woden Library Conference Room
- Free

Multilingual poets Vesna Cvjeticanin and Karina Bontes-Forward, along with Jacqui Malins, will lead exercises to get the words flowing from your pen and your lips.

Suitable for those who want to try writing poetry for the first time, or poets who want to be stimulated and inspired.

To register: email mothertonguemic@gmail.com

ACT Language Teachers' TeachMeet on games in the languages classroom

Organised by the Modern Language Teachers' Association (MLTA) of the ACT Inc. for members and friends

- Friday, 1 June 5pm for 5.30pm start until 6.30pm
- Dickson Tradies Club, 2 Badham St, Dickson
- Come along and meet your language teaching colleagues
- Share a game which engages your students, promotes learning or is just good fun!
- Or simply come along to listen and learn!

This is a free and relaxed professional learning and networking opportunity. Participants are welcome to continue networking over an informal dinner. Dinner, drinks and refreshments will be at the cost of participants.

Please RSVP by COB Tuesday 29 May using this Google Form link: <https://goo.gl/forms/1wFraZF3edCvhVLq1>

Chinese Acquisition: Theory and Practice

24th Conference of the Chinese Language Teachers' Federation of Australia Inc. (CLTFA)

- Saturday 7- Sunday 8 July 2018
- Canberra Grammar School, 40 Monaro Crescent, Red Hill, ACT 2603
- Reduced Registration fee for Community Language Schools

Keynote Speakers:

- Professor Yang Zhao, Peking University, China
- Professor Furukawa Yutaka, Osaka University, Japan
- Professor Richard Rigby, ANU

For more details see

https://learningmandarin.weebly.com/uploads/1/1/8/4/11842315/2018_cltfa_conference_registration_form-20-3-2018.pdf

Registration deadline is 29 June 2018.

Current issues in child bilingual development

- Thursday 26 – Friday 27 July 2018
- Macquarie University in Sydney

A free workshop which brings together national and international researchers to discuss current issues in bilingual and multilingual language acquisition. It should be of interest to researchers, clinicians, educators, parents and the general public, with implications for all.

Overview

More than half of children around the world grow up in bilingual environments. In English-speaking countries, including Australia, many children are Early Sequential Bilinguals (ESBs), who start learning their second language at preschool or school. Despite their increasing numbers, our knowledge of how ESBs acquire a second language (L2) is still very limited. This poses a challenge both for assessing school readiness, academic achievement, and for identifying those at risk for language disorders. A range of linguistic, developmental and environmental factors interact to determine how and when ESBs acquire knowledge of a L2, raising both theoretical and applied challenges for the field. Most ESBs eventually become competent in their L2. However, limited knowledge of what constitutes 'typical' ESB language development poses a significant challenge for identifying language delay.

Keynote Speakers

- Erika Hoff (Florida Atlantic University)
- Theo Marinis (University of Reading)
- Carmel O'Shannessy (Australian National University)
- Johanne Paradis (University of Alberta)

Registration is free. For details see:

<http://www.ccd.edu.au/events/conferences/2018/bilingualdevelopment/index.php>

FEEDBACK ON UPDATES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE UPDATES WELCOME

Copies of previous Forum Updates are available at
<http://canberralanguages.blogspot.com/p/forum-updates.html>