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## **Students**

### **Admissions:**

Students interested in majoring in Linguistics should contact the Coordinator of the ILP.

**Colloquium:** Every year in April, after the exam period, the Annual Student Colloquium is held, offering to students an opportunity to present the results of their research to the audience of their colleagues.

In 2014/15, **the XVI Annual Student Colloquium in Linguistics will take place on Friday, April 24th, from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, in room 3D01, on main campus.**

**Award:** The Angela Mattiaci Memorial Scholarship in Interdisciplinary Linguistics is awarded every October to a student majoring in linguistics with a distinguished performance in ILP courses. For more information visit our website at: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/interdisciplinary-linguistics>

**Spring 2015**

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One day last summer I was quietly working on a paper in my office when I heard a rather upset man charging up and down the hall outside. He knocked on my open door and said "Can you help me?" His words did not carry the predictable phonological tone of someone looking for a particular room on campus, but they carried the emotional desperation of someone needing serious help. To be honest, I felt a tad intimidated. He did not look like a student, and I didn't know what to expect. Should I be opening my door to him, or calling security?

I went to the door, and asked if I could help him. Once he calmed down enough to tell me his story, it appeared that I could. He told me that he had had a fight with his girlfriend. This had led to his moving out, and her placing a restraining order on him to keep him away. I felt quite out of my depth, until he started to tell me about several emails she was cur-

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For a civilization that has populated the Japanese archipelago since 14,000 BCE, Japan has had a relatively short history of writing. The earliest accounts of Japan come not from Japan but from Chinese descriptions transcribed in dynastic histories, notably the 297 CE (History of Wei). The Wei

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eign nouns as in (tomu sumisu or Tom Smith). Even Romanized letters were incorporated into Japanese writing for particular events, dates, or places.

It is clear that for most of its history, Japan had imported and adapted foreign alphabets to transcribe its lexicon. Only in the past thirty years has the Japanese language and writing system experienced a globalization of sorts.

Words related to Japanese cuisine—sushi, teriyaki, soba—have become commonplace in English, and certain cultural and historical phrases—karaoke, Zen, bonsai, and rickshaw—have been appropriated for use in non-Japanese languages as well. Finally, smartphone users across the world have, perhaps unknowingly, achieved fluency in the newest Japanese alphabet of emoji (絵文字 or “picture characters”).

Suggestions for Further Reading:  
Kornicki, Peter.

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derstand the language, while in Valencia and in the Balearic Islands more than 3 million and than 800.000 people, respectively, are fluent in Catalan. It shares many traits with Italian, Sardinian, Occitan, French and, of course, Spanish; those similarities are more obvious in written language, but substantially reduced when in the spoken language due to the different accents and pronunciations.

The three non-Spanish languages were either forbidden or repressed under Francisco Franco's fascist regime between 1939 and 1975, and declared official in their autonomous communities after his death and the arrival of democracy in Spain under King Juan Carlos I. In the three autonomous communities they have been used in order to request the independence of these communities, above all in the overindustrialized Catalonia and Basque country, where the linguistic, cultural and/or racial difference can be an excuse that aims to justify the most important desire not to pay taxes to the Spanish government in the central capital of Madrid. Some of their greatest writers are the XIXth century romantic Galician poet Rosalía de Castro, the XXth century Basque poet Gabriel Aresti, and the XIIIth-XIVth Mallorcan philosopher, poet, mystic and theologian Ramon Llull, who wrote in Catalan.

### **Bibliography**

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- . . Santiago de Compostela: Edicións Laiovento, 1997.
- Lleal Galcerán, Coloma. . Barcelona: Barcanova, 2003.
- Pharies, David A. . Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007.
- Trask, Robert Lawrence. . London, UK: Routledge, 2014.



Madrid, Spain, Photo Tana R 2013

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## Books

James Turner:

Princeton University Press, 2014. 978-0691145648.

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Linda Dietrick, *Modern Languages*

Lovers of language will enjoy this book. Turner's basic argument, elaborated in this comprehensive, erudite, but remarkably readable work of intellectual history, is that most of the myriad disciplines that we now call the humanities have descended from a common ancestor: philology. Now "coated with the dust of the library" such that one "would not be startled to see its gaunt torso clad in a frock coat," philology was once "chic, dashing, and much ampler in girth" (ix-x). Until the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was the "king of the sciences" in Europe and North America, for it encompassed all studies of language and texts. Originating in Antiquity and revived in the Renaissance, it was always more a method than a subject matter. Philologists concerned themselves with rhetoric and with exacting research into the historical origins of texts, languages and language itself. They explored the history of texts so as to establish authoritative versions and understand them in the context of their times. They employed systematic comparisons of texts, languages, and their contexts, allowing each to illuminate the other in what we would now call a hermeneutic circle. And they used these tools genealogically to uncover origins and lines of descent. One

ground-breaking result was the reconstruction of Proto-Indo-European.

By telling the stories of the careers and discoveries of philological researchers, Turner constructs a genealogy of his own. As he shows, around 1800, beginning largely in Germany, the modern fields of historical linguistics, literary studies, classical studies ( ), archaeology, history, and biblical criticism gradually started to emerge. Later, after the secular "higher criticism" of German biblical philology had made inroads into pious English and American universities, the field of comparative religious studies came into being. Eventually, each discipline marked off its territory with its own learned societies, scholarly journals, and standards of peer review. And so here we are. There is, however, one ancient discipline now classed with the humanities that Turner firmly excludes from the philological family: philosophy. Philosophers "understood studies as the y ! 2 t



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### **The Interdisciplinary Linguistic Program (ILP) at the University of Winnipeg (UW)**

The ILP at UW provides a vibrant environment for teaching, study and research, offering a 3-year BA, a 4-year BA, and an Honours BA degrees in Interdisciplinary Linguistics, through a variety of courses offered at several different departments. Linguistics is defined as the branch of knowledge whose subject-matter includes both language as a general property of human species, and particular languages. Since human language is both a biological phenomenon (language faculty is innate), and a socio-cultural one (language is the main carrier of all human culture), linguistics is necessarily an interdisciplinary field covering the academic divisions of Humanities, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences. We invite you to join us in this magic adventure that is the study of human language in all its protean forms, from conventional to quirky.

