

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES



Dr. Paulette A. Ramsay, BA, MA, PhD *UWI*
Head of Department

The 2013–2014 Academic Year commenced with a number of new members joining the Department: Dr. Nina Bruni – Lecturer in Spanish (Argentinean), Mr. Yefferson Romaña – ICETEX Instructor of Spanish (Colombian), Miss Gwenaelle Huydts – French Assistant, and Miss Aya Tamura, Japanese Volunteer sponsored by JICA.

The Department renewed its commitment to achieving the goals of its Operational Plan for 2011/2012–2013/2014. (See Table 1).

For the second year since the implementation of the policy for Repositioning Foreign Languages in The University of the West Indies (Mona), the Department witnessed an increase in the number of students, especially in the French section, Preliminary and Level I Spanish Language Courses (See Tables 2–9).

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Table 1: Operational Objectives for (2013–2014 Academic Year)

Objectives	Results
1. – Promote and conduct continuous curricular renewal. – Complete Japanese Minor.	– Completed. – Japanese Minor submitted and approved.
2. Recruit high quality staff.	Two (2) Lecturers with PhD in hand recruited.
3. Recruit high level students.	An on-going challenge.
4. Enhance learning effectiveness through more diverse resources e.g. Online Teaching.	Greater use of technology, Skype, Facebook and online resources in teaching – (OURVLE problems in 2013–2014 proved problematic).
5. Increase enrolment of full time Graduate Students.	Partially achieved and ongoing – increased numbers will be reflected in 2014–2015 registration.
6. Increase number of projects for income generation.	Partially achieved and on-going. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Translations (modest income). ii. Lunch time courses (very modest income). iii. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) classes. (Some income earned). iv. Summer School (modest income).

Table 2: French Courses Semester 1 (2011/2012 – 2013/2014)

Code#	Course Title	2011/ 2012	2012/ 2013	2013/ 2014
FREN0001	(F 01B) Basic French	22	29	23
FREN0101	(F 02A) Beginners' French I	71	81	76
FREN1001	(F14A) French Language 1A	24	26	22
FREN1304	(F 13D) Introduction to French Caribbean and African Literature and Film	–	18	12
FREN2001	(F24A) Seminar French Language IIA	20	28	26
FREN2807	Francophone Women Writers: Perspectives on Women's Issues in Literature	–	20	12
FREN3001	(F34A) French Language IIIA	16	15	17
FREN3003	Business French	12	11	14
	Total	165	228	202

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Table 3: French Courses Semester II (2011/2012 – 2013/2014)

Code#	Course Title	2011/ 2012	2012/ 2013	2013/ 2014
FREN0001	(F 01B) Basic French	26	26	44
FREN0102	(F 02B) Beginners' French II	62	57	72
FREN1002	(F14B) French Language 1B	21	17	16
FREN1305	(F 13E) Introduction to French Literature and Film	14	10	8
FREN2002	Seminar French Language IIB	18	23	23
FREN2214	(F 22N) Francophone Culture	16	16	17
FREN3002	(F34B) French Language IIIB	12	16	15
FREN3508	Caribbean Literature in French II	–	13	10
	Total	169	178	205

Table 4: Preliminary Spanish Courses Semesters I & II 2012–2014

Course Code#	Course Title	2012/2013 Sem. I	2012/2013 Sem. II	2013/2014 Sem. I	2013/2014 Sem. II
SPAN0001	(S01B) Basic Spanish	198	81	165	84
SPAN0101	(S01C) Beginner's Spanish I	74	–	91	27
SPAN	(S01D) Beginner's Spanish II	–	126	–	–
SPAN1000	(S10C) Intermediate Spanish	78	25	79	69

Table 5: Registration Per Faculty S01B/SPAN0001/ Basic Spanish (Semesters I & II, 2012–2014)

Faculties	2012/2013	2013/2014
Humanities	221	173
Science & Technology	25	56
Social Sciences	37	27
Medical Sciences	15	16
N/A	–	–
Gender	4	2
Law	5	2
Total	307	276

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Table 6: Registration Per Faculty S01C/SPAN0101 Beginner’s Spanish (Semesters I & II, 2013/2014)

Faculties	2012/2013	2013/2014
Humanities	23	38
Science & Technology	12	10
Social Sciences	37	61
Medical Sciences	1	7
N/A	–	–
Gender	1	2
Law	1	–
Total	75	118

Table 7: Registration Per Faculty S10C/SPAN1000 Intermediate Spanish (Semesters I & II, 2012–2014)

Faculties	2012/2013	2013/2014
Humanities	21	48
Science & Technology	28	34
Social Sciences	41	60
Medical Sciences	3	14
N/A	1	1
Gender	1	-
Total	95	157

Table 8: (S11A) Spanish Language 1A Semester I (2011–2014)

Course Code#	Course Title	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
SPAN1001	(S11A) Spanish Language 1A	50	68	52

Table 9: (S11A) Spanish Language 1A & (S11B) Spanish Language 1B Semester II (2011–2014)

Course Code#	Course Title	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
SPAN1001	(S11A) Spanish Language 1A	32	39	37
SPAN1002	(S11B) Spanish Languages 1B	47	54	32

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

The Departmental retreat included presentations on broad Foreign Language Pedagogy and Curriculum Reform. Several activities designed to promote Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures on the Campus and in the wider society were developed for implementation and execution during the academic year.

SEMESTER 1

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

September–December 2013

- Course to Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): The Department designed and delivered a course to the staff of the IDB. The course was delivered by Miss Andrea Cortés who successfully motivated the

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group to learn and acquire some linguistic skills in Spanish, especially in the area of Banking and Economic terminologies. This was an income generating project.

- Jamaica Translators and Interpreters Association (TIA) Career's Talk, FHE. – New Education Lecturer Theatre, October 17, 2013. Presenters: Mrs R. Barnett-Passard, Mrs E. Nuñez, Ms B. McLaren, Dr M.-J. Nzengou-Tayo.
- The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, through the Spanish Club facilitated, in collaboration with the Embassy of Mexico, an International Film Series dedicated to Luis Buñuel from October 14–November 14, 2013.
- The Department hosted thirty students from the Winston Jones High School on October 31 from 1:00 to 4:00. Students participated in a Workshop “Columbians and Latin American Culture and the Importance of Studying a Foreign Language.” It was jointly conducted by Mr. Yefereson Romaña and Miss Yenny Vargas. The students also participated in the activities of the Spanish Club.

Participation in University Activities (Office of Recruitment)

- School visits with Office of Recruitment (Hillel, Campion, American International School, Pegasus Hotel – Mr O. Martinez; Immaculate Conception High School – Dr P. Ramsay).
- Meeting of all Clubs – Chinese, French, and Spanish.

SEMESTER 2

Individual initiatives:

- Seminar for Ardenne High School – May 3, 2014 – Dr M.-J. Nzengou-Tayo.
- Participation in JAFT's French Vocabulary Competition. St. Andrew High School, May 16, 2014. (2 judges) – Ms G. Huydts, Dr M.-J. Nzengou-Tayo.

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

- Chinese Culture Week, March 3–7, 2014 – The Confucius Institute marked its fifth anniversary with a week-long celebration of various cultural events. These included lectures, dances and the showing of films.
- The Department hosted a Writing Workshop conducted by Venezuelan poet and Professor Luis Felipe Bellorín Neda on March 22, 2014.
- **Inter-Campus Modern Languages and Literatures Theatre Festival**, – March 25–26, 2014 – All staff: The Department hosted thirty-five (35) students and Lecturers from Cave Hill and St. Augustine Campuses respectively, for the inter-campus Theatre Festival. The event concluded with the Modern Languages and Literatures Day on March 27, 2014.
- **Modern Languages and Literatures Day**, March 27, 2014, was attended by more than 320 students and teachers from across the island. Students viewed typical items from different countries and sampled cuisine of the five language areas; Chinese, Japanese, French, Spanish and Portuguese. They participated in discussions and seminars on the Culture of Different Countries. The event ended with a concert in which UWI students sang, recited poems, danced and made other cultural presentations, typical of different countries.
- **CAPE Revision Workshop**, April 26, 2014 – Spanish and French sections. More than fifty (50) students from High Schools across Jamaica participated.
- **Japan Day**, celebrated with displays and performances by students on April 3, 2014 – Mrs. T. Iijima-Kelly, Ms. A. Tamura – co-ordinated the activities.
- **Japanese Speech Contest**, May 17, 2014 – Mrs. T. Iijima-Kelly, M.s A. Tamura. Six persons participated for a prize trip to Japan, sponsored by the Embassy of Japan.

Participation in Faculty Activities

- Research Day exhibits and activities, February 19–21, 2014 (Displays, micro-teaching, entertainment) – All Faculty members.

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- Faculty of Humanities Week, February 26, 2014. Only the Spanish section participated in this activity.

Participation in University Activities (Office of Recruitment)

- School visits with Office of Recruitment: Mr. Martínez participated in several visits.

Students' Outreach Activities

- Participation in U-Tech International Language Day, November 22, 2013. University of Technology (UTECH) Initiative. French, Spanish, Japanese and Chinese sections supported this.
- Visit to National Children's Home (assistance with homework and entertainment) – French Club.
- French Ciné – Club: 3rd Thursday of every Month (1st and 2nd Semesters).
- Visit to Liguanea School for the School's International Day – Spanish Club.
- Participation in Latin-American Cultural Expo – Spanish Club.
- Participation in the Luis Buñuel Film Festival – Spanish Club.
- Peer-to-Peer teaching/learning – Spanish Club.
- Japan Day Activities, April 3, 2014: Origami, course introduction, dances, quiz, food sale and ambassador's visit – Japanese Club.
- Spanish Writing Workshop.
- Seven (7) of our students sat the Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK) Exam – Standardized Chinese Proficiency Test in May 2013 and gained mastery at their level.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

- Miss Nina Bruni successfully defended her PhD. thesis entitled, “A Critical Analysis of Marcio Veloz Maggiolo's Vision of Society and

Culture as Presented in his Narrative,” with High Commendation.
The Department congratulates Dr. Bruni.

STAFF/ POST-GRADUATE SEMINARS – SEMESTERS I & II

The Department hosted its Staff/Graduate Seminar on November 28, 2013. Two members of the Department, Mrs. Yingping Liang (Lecturer) and Ms. Andrea Cortes (Foreign Language Instructor) presented on “Insights Into Chinese Culture: Wisdom and Beliefs” and “Error Analysis in Written Composition of Spanish as a Foreign Language of First Year Students at The UWI” respectively.

Ms. Nina Bruni – “Spanish Language: Classroom Research at The University of the West Indies (St. Augustine, Cave Hill and Mona) 2000 to present.”

Mr. Aldean Ellis (Post-Graduate student) “Spanish Caribbean Women in Exile: A Literary Examination of the US Immigrant Experience.”

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

Miss Nadine Barnett

- AATSP (American Association of Teachers of Spanish and French) 96th Conference July 8–11 in Panama.

Dr. Françoise Cévaër

- “Avant et après le séisme: réflexion sur l'évolution du personnage du policier dans les romans de Gary Victor”, presented at the Haitian Studies Association (H.S.A), 25th annual conference, Piéton-Ville, Haiti, November 7–9, 2013.

Dr. Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo

- Presenter: “Plus jamais comme avant: Life in Post-Earthquake Port-au-Prince and Its Surroundings in Kettly Mars’ Aux frontières de la soif.” Haitian Studies Association 25th annual Conference. Pétionville, Haiti, Hotel Karibe. November 8, 2013.

Dr. Paulette A. Ramsay

- Centre for Black and African Arts Civilization (CBAAC) International Colloquium Conference. April 24–25, 2014. The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus.
- February 14–16, 2014. Dr Paulette Ramsay, Dr Courtney Hogarth and Prof Lu Shaogang attended the 5th Confucius Institute Conference “Panama–Jamaica–Chinese Connection.” Miami Dade Confucius Institute Conference.
- February 9–14, 2014. “Foreign Language Teaching and the Preparation of University Graduates as Global Citizens.” 9th International Conference of Higher Education. Havana Cuba.
- October 30–November 4, 2013. “Masculinity in Post-Colonial Context.” 7th Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD). Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

PAPERS PRESENTED AND CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Nina Bruni

- Translation 2014. Cowie, Lancelot. “El impacto regional e internacional de *The Mighty Sparrow* en la esfera del calypso.” Cuadernos del Centro de Investigaciones Culturales-Museo (CIC), Universidad Autónoma de Baja California. Original English versión: Cowie, Lancelot. “The regional and international impact of *The Mighty Sparrow* in the calypso arena.” *Calypso as an instrument of social justice*. Ed. Fondazione Adkins Chiti: Donne in Musica. Roma: International Music Council; Fondazione Adkins Chiti: Donne in Musica; Ford Foundation; Editore Colombo, 2007. 65–77.

Dr. Françoise Cévaër

- (Nick Stone: la créolisation du thriller à travers le prisme du trickster> (The creolization of thriller through the prism of the treickster), in

Antillanité, créolité, littérature-monde, ed. Iabelle Constant, Kadhuidi C. Mabana and Philip Nanton, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle, UK, 2013, 109–124.

- <Avant et après le séisme: Réflexions sur l'évolution du personnage du policier dans les romans de Gary Victor>, the Haitian Studies Association (H.A.S.), 25th annual conference, Petion-Ville, Haiti, November 7–9, 2013.

Dr. Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo

- 2014 Review of Bonel Auguste, *Un cri Lola*. La Roque d'Anthéron: Vents d'ailleurs – Fragments, 2013. 63 pages. JOHS. *Journal of Haitian Studies*. Vol 19. No. 2. (Fall 2013). Santa Barbara: Center for Black Studies Research. Pp. 221–224. Print. Electronic Version: DOI: 10.1353/jhs.2013.0022.
- Presenter and Facilitator: New CAPE French Syllabus. MOE – JAFT– Alliance Française Workshop for French Teachers. February 28, 2014, Alliance Française, Kingston.
- Presentation: “New Paradigm for Testing” at the National Conference of Foreign Language Teachers, organized by the MOEY Core Curriculum Unit, held at Caenwood Auditorium. September 27, 2013: 15’.
- Panel Chair. “Before and After the Earthquake: Changes in Representations of Haiti.” Haitian Studies Association 25th annual Conference. Pétienville, Haiti, Hotel Karibe. November 7–9, 2013.
- Panel Chair. Panel 5B “Haiti and the Dominican Republic: Development and Regional Integration.” SALISES Conference Re-Thinking Regionalism: Beyond the CARICOM Integration Project. October 7–9, 2013. UWI Regional Headquarters. October 8, 2013.

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- “Shirley Campbell’s Ideology of Historiographic Legitimation.” *Hispania*, Volume 97 Number 1 (March 2014.) 140–153.
- “When Trees Speak with the Tongues of Women: Eco-Feminism and

Female Empowerment in Selected Afro–Mexican Folktales” *PALARA* (Fall 2013.) 60–72.

- Poetry: “The Way She Was”, “Closing Doors”, “Her Majesty’s Seal”, “Potiphar’s Wife” *Proud Flesh: New Afrikan Journal of Culture, Politics and Consciousness* (2013): Issue 8. 125–128.
- Discussant, Centre for Black and African Arts Civilization (CBAAC) International Colloquium. “Anthropological, Archaeological, and historical investigation of the areas of origins and contemporary domicile of the African Diaspora.” April 24–25, 2014. The University of the West Indies Mona Campus.
- Chairperson. Centre for Black and African Arts Civilization (CBAAC) International Colloquium. “Culture, Education and Leadership and Global African Development.” April 24–25, 2014. The University of the West Indies Mona Campus.

Professor Claudette Williams

- Introduction to Juanamaría Cordones-Cook’s *Soltando amarras y memorias: mundo y poesía de Nancy Morejón* UNEAC, Havana, 2013, pp. 5–9.

PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Dr. Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo

- Judge – JAFT Vocabulary Competition. May 16, 2014. St. Andrew High School.
- Presenter. CAPE Revision Seminar for Ardenne High School on Dany Laferrière’s *Pays sans chapeau*. May 3, 2014.
- Presenter. CAPE Revision Seminar for High School Students. *Maryse Condé’s Pays mêlé*. Department of Modern Languages & Literatures, UWI, Mona, April 26, 2014.
- Interview about the Dominican Constitutional Court ruling depriving Dominicans of Haitian descent of their citizenship. Front Page on Nation Wide Radio with Kara Powell. November 1 (15 minutes).

Dr. Paulette A. Ramsay

- Member of CAPE Modern Languages Examining Committee
- E-Learning Jamaica – Writing and Adapting Spanish lessons for online teaching.
- Standpipe Outreach Programme (Mona Chapel).
- Editorial Board – PALARA – Dartmouth College, USA.
- Review Editor, *Caribbean Journal of Education*, The UWI, Mona.
- Editorial Board – *Quality Education Review*, The UWI Mona.

Professor Claudette Williams

- QA Assessor, University Council of Jamaica.
- Editorial Board Member, *Afro-Hispanic Review*.
- Peer reviewer for *Afro-Hispanic Review*, *Contemporary Caribbean dynamics: Re-configuring Caribbean Culture*.

Dr. Nina Bruni

- CENLAC Committee Member, UWI, St. Augustine.

Dr. Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo

- Interview with Carole Bérotte-Joseph, Past President of Haitian Studies Association. (Interviewer, 25'). November 9, 2013. H.S.A. 25th Anniversary Documentary Project.
- Peer Reviewer for *Caribbean Quarterly*, *JOHS: Journal of Haitian Studies*.
- Member of Renee Latchman's Advisory committee. Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Resource person for French Graduate students (on Haiti and on French Foreign Language Teaching in Jamaica).

Dr. Paulette A. Ramsay

- Member, Organising Committee Centre for Black and African Arts Civilization (CBAAC).

REVIEWER WITH JOURNALS

- *The Journal of Learning and Teaching Learning.*
- *Caribbean Journal of Education.*
- *Caribbean Curriculum.*

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Dr. Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo

- Consecutive interpreting and simultaneous interpreting. CDCC Meeting of ECLAC in Kingston, April 23 and April 25, 2014.
- Simultaneous interpreting (English-French) for Private Sector Company. Montego Bay Conference Centre. February 10, 2014.
- Consecutive interpreting for Haitian delegates during the visit of Haitian President Joseph Michel Martelly in Kingston, Jamaica. November 15, 2013.
- Simultaneous interpreting (English-French). VIH/AIDS & Vulnerable communities. Kingston Conference Centre. November 18, 2013.
- CEPALC Conference. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade. Montego Bay Conference Centre. October 24–25, 2013.
- Assistance with interpreting. French-English (pro-bono). October 7, 2013. SALISES Conference Re-Thinking Regionalism: Beyond the CARICOM Integration Project. October 7–9, 2013.
- Translations for Caribbean Studies Association (pro-bono).
- Translation of documents for the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures.

Dr. Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo

- Workshop on the New GPA System. (Facilitators: Dr. Mervyn Chisholm; Prof. Stafford Griffith, Dr Vivette Milson-Whyte), CETL-IDU. May 1, 2014.

- Workshop on Stimulating and Motivating Students in the University Classroom Using 21st Century Technology. (Facilitator: Prof. David Yearwood). CETL-IDU. October 11, 2013.
- Workshop on Course-Design (Facilitator: Dr. Mervyn Chisholm), CETL-IDU. August 14, 2013.
- Workshop on use of Moodle 2. (Facilitator: Mr. Kirk Wilson), ISS-MITS. August 14, 2013.
- Blended Learning Workshop. (Facilitator: Mrs. Michelle Stewart-McKoy), CETL-IDU. August 15–16, 2013.
- Contribution to Consultancy Fund for 2012–2013: JMD 24,652.76.