

World Languages Fair 2024 Presentation Descriptions

Below you will find a list of the presentations taking place at this year's World Languages Fair (WLF). Each description includes a notation of which area(s) of the world the presentation will cover:

- AF = Africa
- AM = the Americas
- EA = East Asia
- EE = Eastern Europe and Eurasia
- WE = Western Europe

At the end of each presentation, the instructor will punch the corresponding world region on your WLF passport. You can only get one world region punched per presentation, so you will need to choose your presentations carefully if you wish to get a punch for each region. At the end of the day, you will receive one raffle ticket for each world region punched on your passport. The more varied the presentations you attend, the better your chances of winning a prize!

Ancient China at the Movies [EA]

In this session, we'll look at depictions of Ancient China in the opening scenes of the movie *The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor* and see how they match up to our knowledge of early China based on history and archaeology.

Presenter: Crispin Williams, University of Kansas

The Ancient Roman Selfie [EE, WE, AF]

In this presentation, we'll take a close look at portraits of Romans from ancient Egypt in the time that it was Egyptian, Greek, and Roman. We'll learn about how these Romans of all ages dressed and wanted to be seen--and so find diverse voices of Egypto-Roman culture, including those of non-rich, non-male and not ethnically Romans.

Presenter: Benjamin McCloskey, Kansas State University

Caribbean Rumba: Hispanic Culture through Dance [AM]

Learn the vocabulary and diverse cultural contexts for rumba, the iconic Afro-Cuban dance. Then use that new knowledge to learn some new dance moves. No prior knowledge of Spanish (or dancing ability) required. Immerse yourself in a different culture through Hispanic dance and music.

Presenters: Chita Espino-Bravo & Nicole English, Fort Hays State University

Chatting with Friends in Kaqchikel Maya [AM]

Pop into our presentation to pick up some useful words and phrases in Kaqchikel! These lively conversational bits will help you make fast friends on your next trip to the Central Highlands of Guatemala.

Presenter: Emily Tummons, University of Kansas

Chinese and Japanese Calligraphy [EA]

Explore the artistic world of Chinese and Japanese brush calligraphy. Learn proper techniques while exploring these standard style and stroke order of simple characters common in both the Chinese and Japanese languages. Take home the handout so you can keep practicing on your own.

Presenter: Tracie Whiting Kipper, Kansas City Art Institute

Crash Course in Arabic Language and Culture [AF, EE]

Come take a crash course in Arabic! In this session, you'll learn the basics of the sounds and writing system of the Arabic language as well as some common Arabic greetings and facts about Arab culture.

Presenter: Amal El Haimeur, University of Kansas

Dance and Dive into Korean Popular Culture! [EA]

Come and learn about world famous Korean popular culture elements such as sports, movies, and K-pop. Get ready to learn some dance moves too!

Presenter: Mego Londeen, University of Kansas

Decoding the Deutsch [WE]

Curious about what makes Germans *German*? Every country has its own cultural habits, and *Deutschland* is no different. Come learn about the major differences between German and American cultures as well as some useful phrases if you ever find yourself in Germany!

Presenter: Schirin Kourehpaz, University of Kansas

Discovering Linguistic Features in Japanese [EA]

Karaoke, judo, emoji, edamame ... did you know these words were originally Japanese and 'imported' into English? Come discover how words are imported and exported between English and Japanese. Learn pronunciation and other cool aspects of Japanese!

Presenters: Yuka Naito Billen, Ami Kitada & Ayumi Nobuki, University of Kansas

Flamenco: Hispanic Culture through Dance [WE]

Learn the vocabulary and cultural context for flamenco, the iconic dance from southern Spain. Then use that new knowledge to learn some new dance moves. No prior knowledge of Spanish (or dancing ability) required. Immerse yourself in a different culture through Hispanic dance and music.

Presenters: Chita Espino-Bravo & Nicole English, Fort Hays State University

French around the World [AF, AM, WE]

Come and explore the French-speaking world outside of France! Learn how sections of Canada, the Caribbean, and West Africa became affiliated with France and its language as well as the role colonialism played! Join us as we play some fun educational games and discover some interesting facts about the Francophone world!

Presenter: Brigid Enchill, University of Kansas

Gladiators and Games in Ancient Rome [WE]

Who became gladiators? How did they train? Did they really fight to the death? What other contests happened in the arena? Come learn about Roman games - who played, who watched, who profited, and who paid the price.

Presenter: Gina White, University of Kansas

Introduction to the Korean Language and Culture [EA]

Come learn the Korean alphabet, how to read Korean names, and useful tips about Korean culture, especially when introducing yourself to Korean friends and their families!

Presenter: Rachel Kook, University of Kansas

Japanese Language 101 [EA]

ハロウ！ Know what that means? Come learn how to read Japanese katakana, then take home a katakana chart and your name in Japanese!

Presenter: Yosei Sugawara, Johnson County Community College

Hujambo! Introduce Yourself in Kiswahili [AF]

This presentation will teach how to introduce yourself in Kiswahili, a language spoken by nearly 200 million people in Africa. Come learn about the language and the people who speak it!

Presenters: Peter Ojiambo & Asmaha Heddi, University of Kansas

The Language of Ukraine's Resistance [EE]

It's been two years of Ukraine's resistance to the Russian invasion. During this presentation, we will learn about important words and phrases that support Ukrainians these days and explore a new script – the Ukrainian Cyrillic alphabet.

Presenter: Andriyana Baran, University of Kansas

Learn to Read (and Sing!) the Russian Cyrillic Alphabet [EE]

Learn to introduce yourself in Russian and familiarize yourself with the letters of the Russian Cyrillic alphabet. Sing the alphabet song in Russian, learn to read familiar words, use your new alphabet skills to play a game, and sing a well-known Russian folk tune!

Presenter: Megan Luttrell, University of Kansas

Memes & Translating Between English and Spanish [AM, WE]

During this presentation, we'll look at some Spanish language memes that help beginners learning Spanish! Learn how to start speaking Spanish with memes featuring popular T.V. and film characters ¡en español! ¡Sí se puede! Yes, you can! Also, there'll be some Latin-American treats for you to try!!!

Presenter: Claudia Nazario & Angélique Courbou, Kansas State University

Persian Festivals [EE]

Persian, an Indo-European language, is spoken in Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan and other parts of Central Asia. Persians take pride in their rich cultural history, many elements of which date back at least 2500 years. Come learn about their beautiful festivals and pick up a few Persian phrases along the way.

Presenter: Razi Ahmad & Saidkhoja Mahmadiyev, University of Kansas

The Polish Perspective [EE]

Cultural competency is the key to avoiding miscommunication with others. In this presentation, we will examine how cultural differences between everyday life in Poland and America could cause misunderstandings in communication as well as practice some key Polish phrases!

Presenter: Svetlana Vassileva-Karagyozova, University of Kansas

Superheroes and French [WE]

In this presentation, we'll see how Superheroes can help us better understand the French-speaking culture and the French language. Cartoons! French! Bright Colors! Fun for all!

Presenter: Angélique Courbou, Kansas State University

Surviving in Italy: Key Phrases & Gestures for Young Travelers [WE]

Join us to learn the must-know Italian phrases and gestures to get around like a local. Find out how to communicate effectively and grasp important cultural nuances.

Presenters: Francesca Beretta & Edward Bowen, University of Kansas

Türkçe and Other Turkish Delights [EE]

Join this presentation to learn what the Turkish language is like and to learn about Turkey's vast history, beautiful landmarks, and rich cuisine. Discover the top 10 places to visit and top 10 foods to try while learning some Turkish words and phrases along the way!

Presenters: Esra Predolac, Deniz Tozaraydin, & Begüm Çolpan, University of Kansas

Vem cá! Learn 10 Different Ways to Say Hello in Portuguese [AM]

Have you ever thought about learning Portuguese? Come learn 10 different ways to greet your friends in Brazilian Portuguese. You will also learn how to introduce yourself and some phrases for everyday situations. Take advantage of the opportunity to familiarize yourself with this beautiful language.

Presenters: Ana Laura Marques & Laryssa Rodrigues, University of Kansas

如鱼得水: Why Chinese is not as Hard as You Think [EA]

Chinese is a concise language, sharing the same basic sentence patterns as English but without all the complicated grammar rules. Come learn some basic phrases in the language spoken by about 1.3 billion people and enjoy some linguistic freedom of speech.

Presenter: Yue Pan, University of Kansas