**Important Dates & Deadlines**

Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>  Veteran’s Day; No classes, offices closed

Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>  SFSU Spring 2015 Schedule Available

Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>-Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>  International Education Week

Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>  Last day to withdraw from classes with a “W” grade

Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>-Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>  Thanksgiving Recess; no classes; campus closed Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

**Announcements**

- ENG 415: *Grammar and Editing for Multilingual Students* will be available in the spring!
- Trying to decide what to take next in the CMS Program? Your CMS instructors will be advising you soon on what course(s) to take next semester.
- Registration for spring session begins early-mid December. Check your e-mail for further updates.

**In This Issue, You’ll Find:**

- ENG 415 Flyer – pg. 2
- Global Connections Student Club Updates – pg. 3
- Student Highlights – pg. 4
- CMS Instructor of the Month – pg. 5
- Happening in the Bay Area Calendar – pg. 6

Got some free time before class? Stop by the office to pin your hometown on the map!
Attention Multilingual GWAR Students

Do you need help with editing and proofreading your writing assignments?

The Composition for Multilingual Students (CMS) Program is offering a 3-unit grammar/editing class specifically for GWAR students whose first language is not English. English 415 is an upper-division course to be taken concurrently with your GWAR or other writing-intensive class. You will receive instruction and practice in editing your written assignments for accuracy and style, and learn the correct format for citations.

All coursework is related to your writing class assignments. No extra writing required!

Spring 2015 Course Information:

ENG 415: Grammar and Editing for Multilingual Students

TTH 12:35–13:50
Lisa Vicar (lisagf@sfsu.edu)

No tests or exams!
No extra writing or reading!
No recommendation needed from your GWAR instructor or the CMS Program to register for this class
You may take ENG 415 with any writing-intensive course (it doesn’t need to be a GWAR class)
This course may be taken CR/NC or ABC/NC

For more information please contact the CMS Program
HUM 112 * 415-338-1320* cms@sfsu.edu
Global Connections @ SFSU

Last week Wednesday, the new student group Global Connections held their first meeting on: Halloween. ~

In HUM 109, students from in and outside the CMS Program came together for Global Connections’ first meeting. They started out with the icebreaker “train-wreck,” which got them moving around the room while learning about one another.

After that, they moved into a conversation about Halloween, where students shared their experiences with the holiday in the U.S. and abroad in their home countries. One student, Monica Rios, described her experiences celebrating a related holiday called Dia de los Muertos, “Day of the Dead,” as a part of her Mexican heritage.

Before decorating their pumpkins, the students split into 2 teams, engaging in a heated battle of Taboo, where each student described the word on a card, and their teammates guessed what the word was. Team 2 managed to win the game.

They capped off the evening with decorating their pumpkins, chatting, and munching on snacks and candy.

Thanks to all who came out!

Want to join in on the next meeting? Join the FB group for all the latest news.
Victoria Nosenko

Year: Sophomore
Major: International Relations
City/Country: Moscow, Russia

Length of time in U.S.: 2 ½ years

What brought you to SF State?
I always wanted to go to the U.S., but didn’t know where to start. I decided to come through the Education First program. The options were San Francisco or New York. They all said San Francisco was the best, so I came here and fell in love with the city.

What’s one interesting fact about you that your classmates don’t know?
That I am Russian and don’t drink vodka.

What do you enjoy most about being in the CMS Program?
The teachers: they really understand you and inspire you as a second language learner. And the atmosphere: nobody will judge you.

What do you find most challenging about the program?
The teachers push us to think outside of the box; that’s what I love about the program. I took 209 with Eva Opalka, and she inspired me so much. She pushed us to work hard, and introduced new topics I never thought of.

How do you think the CMS Program has helped you improve, academically/personally, so far?
I have been inspired to think outside the box and push myself further. It is teaching me how to express myself honestly.

Outside of class, Victoria likes to shop, dance, play sports, and go hiking.

Reiko Noma

Year: Freshman
Major: Undecided
City/Country: Kanagawa, Japan

Length of time in U.S.: 2 ½ years

What brought you to SF State?
I went to high school in Novado, CA, and lived with my aunt. When we visited the campus, I loved it.

What’s one interesting fact about you that your classmates don’t know?
My mother is full Korean, and my father is half Japanese, half Indian.

What do you enjoy most about being in the CMS Program?
It’s a great chance to get to know students from other countries. I also feel more at ease, because we are all practicing together and can relate to one another, so there’s no pressure.

What do you find most challenging about the program?
Learning a language is difficult, and so I have had to push myself to learn.

How do you think the CMS Program has helped you improve, academically/personally, so far?
I’m taking ENG 212 with Maureen Fitzgerald right now, and her class has really been helping me to improve my grammar.

Outside of class, Reiko likes to hang out with friends, read, draw sceneries, and play piano.

Jianghai (Harry) Xu

Year: Freshman
Major: Marketing
City/Country: Luan, China

Length of time in U.S.: 2-3 years

What brought you to SF State?
My English teacher in China recommended the ALI in San Francisco, so I came in through that program and decided to stay.

What’s one interesting fact about your classmates don’t know?
I have a dog named Pipi. He’s a little fat, but he’s cute.

What do you enjoy most about being in the CMS Program?
I get to improve all my English skills – reading, writing, and speaking.

What do you find most challenging about the program?
Grammar.

How do you think the CMS Program has helped you improve, academically/personally, so far?
It has taught me to be more prepared in life in general.

Outside of class, Harry likes to play computer games, like the League of Legends.
As a teacher…

What brought you to teaching in CMS and what makes you stay?

At first, I felt unsure about teaching, but I took a leap of faith and enrolled in the M.A. TESOL program here. While earning my degree, I was a teacher aide for 201 and 202 English classes, and I fell in love with the CMS students. It’s my passion for education, reading, and writing that has made me stay in the CMS program.

What is the most interesting thing that has happened in your classroom?

In one of my 215 classes we were learning about the California gold rush and there was a student whose grandfather came to California from China (to work) and then returned to China. Two generations later, this student came to San Francisco. It was so interesting to find that her family’s history correlated exactly with what I was teaching.

What is something you have learned from your students?

That despite their cultural differences, they all share common struggles that every college student goes through, and it’s inspiring that they’re able to come together and work hard to do well in school.

Any advice for students on how to survive University?

Sit in the front row and show up to class. Short and simple.

As an individual…

Have you ever been to a foreign country before? If so, what did you enjoy the most?

Yes! I lived in Europe for a year when I was 19 and travelled around Switzerland, Denmark, and France. Being in a different and unfamiliar place was exciting and an overall unforgettable experience.

What’s your favorite place in San Francisco to visit?

Fort Point is the place to be in San Francisco. You can enjoy the scenery of the surrounding area, the waves crashing against the rocks, and amazing views of the Golden Gate Bridge. Check it out if you have time!

What’s your favorite kind of food?

Italian cuisine. Not the fake Americanized pizza, pasta, and breadsticks you might be thinking of, but the real authentic and rustic Italian food.

What do you enjoy to do most, outside of teaching?

Reading, eating good food coupled with good conversation, and spending time with my family. I also have 3 chickens and 2 cats. My chicken’s names are Lulu, Red, and Edith Piaf (a French singer) and my cat’s names are Lena and Athena.

Lisa Heyer is the head of the CMS Program. She serves as the Program Coordinator, as well as a lecturer. Taking some time away from advising students and tending to office matters, Lisa sits down with office assistant Adrian Romero to share her story.

Lisa is currently teaching ENG 210, 215, and 670 (a graduate-level course).
### Happening in the Bay Area this Month

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>- “Attack of the Tjepetanis”&lt;br&gt;Political Letter Campaign&lt;br&gt;@ Make-Out&lt;br&gt;Rm, 22nd St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 6PM</td>
<td>- de Young Free Day&lt;br&gt;@ Golden Gate Park&lt;br&gt;Free, 9:30AM-5:15PM</td>
<td>- Guided Shuttle Tour&lt;br&gt;@ Park &amp; Lincoln Blvd.&lt;br&gt;Free, 12-1PM</td>
<td>- Chinese Historical Society Museum&lt;br&gt;@ Clay St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 12-5PM</td>
<td>- Friday Nights at the de Young&lt;br&gt;@ Golden Gate Park&lt;br&gt;Free, 5-8:45 PM</td>
<td>- $1 Book Sale&lt;br&gt;@ Treat Ave&lt;br&gt;10AM-2PM</td>
<td>- KLJFF&lt;br&gt;Rock’s Swap Record Fair&lt;br&gt;@ USF, Fulton St.&lt;br&gt;5PM, 10AM-3PM</td>
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<td>- Comedy Happy Hour&lt;br&gt;@ The Royale, Post St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 7-9PM</td>
<td>- Free National Parks Day&lt;br&gt;@ Muir Woods&lt;br&gt;Free, All Day</td>
<td>- “Nature Gonna Have” Comedy Show&lt;br&gt;@ The Royale, Post St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 8PM</td>
<td>- Free Chamber Music&lt;br&gt;Don’t by the Bay&lt;br&gt;@ Aquatic Park Center/Beach St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 1PM</td>
<td>- Midnight Mystery&lt;br&gt;Calendar&lt;br&gt;@ Check the Facebook page&lt;br&gt;Free, 11:59PM</td>
<td>- Admiral Barke Art Show&lt;br&gt;@ Shorewall St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 12-5PM</td>
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<td>- Diego Rivero’s 1st&lt;br&gt;US Musical&lt;br&gt;@ Disclosed&lt;br&gt;Free with RSVP&lt;br&gt;Free with RSVP, 3PM</td>
<td>- Yoga on the Labyrinth&lt;br&gt;@ Grace Cathedral/California St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 6-15PM</td>
<td>- Castro Farmers’ Market&lt;br&gt;@ Noe St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 4-6PM</td>
<td>- 3rd on Third Arts &amp; Music&lt;br&gt;@ 3rd St., Bayview&lt;br&gt;Free, 5-8PM</td>
<td>- Beaters Choice: Volunteer Sing-a-long&lt;br&gt;@ Laguna Honda Hospital&lt;br&gt;Free, 9:30AM</td>
<td>- Taung Sundays&lt;br&gt;Live Country Music&lt;br&gt;@ Three Parks/17th St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 4-7PM</td>
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<td>- Monday Night Comedy Night&lt;br&gt;@ The Showdown, Sixth St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 7:30PM</td>
<td>- SF History Night&lt;br&gt;@ St. Phillips, Diamond St&lt;br&gt;$5, 7:30</td>
<td>- Japanese Class&lt;br&gt;@ Cypressian’s, Turk St.&lt;br&gt;Free, 7:30-9:30</td>
<td>- “Under the Influence” Reading Performance Series&lt;br&gt;@ Emerald Tablets, Fourth St.&lt;br&gt;$5, 7PM</td>
<td>- City Year Party &amp; Trenches Night&lt;br&gt;@ TBA&lt;br&gt;Free, 5:30-10PM</td>
<td>- Treasure Island Flea Market&lt;br&gt;@ The Great Lawn&lt;br&gt;$5, 10AM-4PM</td>
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Thanks for reading this month’s CMS Newsletter! As always, please contact us if you have any concerns.

~CMS Office

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Suggestions?

Just send us an e-mail or visit our office!

SFSU Composition for Multilingual Students Program

1600 Holloway, Humanities 112
San Francisco, CA 94132
www.cmls.sfsu.edu
cmls@sfsu.edu
415.338.1320