



Nebraska Department of Education

300 Centennial Mall South ♦ Lincoln, Nebraska ♦ 68508

World Language Review

September 04, 2017



Wōmen lái hē diǎn chá "Let's Drink Tea."

High school students of Chinese gathered at the University of Nebraska Lincoln to participate in STAR talk. This annual academy provides a two-week immersion experience for 20 Nebraska high school students to study Chinese language and culture. For more information about STARTALK, visit

<https://sites.google.com/site/startalkchineseacademy2017/overview>

As always, summer has gone way too quickly to accomplish all of the tasks we set out to do in May. Life at NDE has been no exception to this; a new specialist arrived in June, visiting teachers in July, and a new program begins this fall at UNL.

- [Meet NDE's New WL Specialist](#)
- [Nebraska's Newest J1 Teachers](#)

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Meet NDE's New WL Specialist



"To have another language is to possess a second soul."
 -Charlemagne

- Hastings High School
Hastings, Nebraska
- BS. Education
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- ME. Technology in Education
Lesley University
- ME. Educational Leadership
Cardinal Stritch University

Likes	Dislikes
Nature	Boredom
Travel	Traffic
Reading	Raspberries

Stephanie Call Joins Teaching and Learning Team at NDE

Stephanie Call is the new World Language Specialist for the Nebraska Department of Education. A K-12 Spanish teacher for 20 years, she has served as a curriculum coordinator, technology integration specialist, an educational consultant to community organizations, and a yearbook advisor. Her work with the Wisconsin Education Association Council involved providing local, regional, and statewide professional development support and advancing educational issues. She also served as a member of a Fulbright Hayes Teacher Exchange group to Uruguay that reviewed dual language immersion schools.

Stephanie Call, World Languages Specialist ♦ 402-471-4331 ♦ stephanie.call@nebraska.gov

Nebraska's Newest J1 Teachers

This summer Nebraska welcomed its newest J1 Visiting Teachers. Nebraska currently hosts teachers from China, Mexico, and Spain through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. State Department, the Hanban and the Confucius Institute of UNL, the Embassy of Mexico, and the Ministry of Education of Spain represented at the Spanish Studies Institute at UNL. Teachers apply through their home countries, interview at schools in Nebraska, and must satisfy all immigration and certification standards before coming to the United States. All teachers have experience as K-12 educators in their home countries. This year, 11 teachers from Spain and 2 from China will be in Omaha Public Schools, Fremont Public Schools, Silver Lake Public Schools, and ESU #5 in Beatrice.



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World Language Discussions

World Language teacher educators gathered in Lincoln on August 9 to talk with content specialists from NDE's Teaching and Learning team about their teacher education programs. The World Language team discussed the potential and concerns of World Language teachers around Nebraska. It was suggested that teachers would benefit from content language practice in a relaxed setting. A next step will be to consult with teachers to provide and encourage area and regional 'round-tables' or discussion groups.

UNL's Newest Master's Program—ONLINE!

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is pleased to announce the addition of an online Master's program designed specifically for current and aspiring K-16 Spanish classroom teachers. Authentic Spanish texts serve as context for all courses and discussions are conducted primarily in the target language. Teacher participants can either complete the "full blown" MA program with a Specialization in World Language Education or simply take individual courses without applying for the entire MA program.

Along with building a strong community of fellow Spanish teachers, participants also have the benefit of learning by doing. Courses allow participants to first experience new tasks, activities, and apps as a student and then to reflect on the experience as a teacher. Many times lessons and tasks are designed to use in participants' own classrooms, followed by a discussion of the experience with colleagues. If necessary, accommodations can be made for course participants not currently teaching in a language classroom.

You may still register for classes this fall by applying as a non-degree seeking graduate student using the express admit option. More information on how to apply / enroll can be found in the attached document. Please contact Dr. Sheri Hurlbut at shurlbut2@unl.edu who would be happy to provide further information.

Spread The Word!

The Confucius Institute has trained and certified teachers in the Lincoln and Omaha area who are available to visit your class to talk about Chinese language, history, and culture. We can also provide help or guidance on teaching resources for China. For more information, contact the Confucius Institute at confuciusinstitute@unl.edu.

*Best of the Best

websites

Teachitlanguages

Free online resources for elementary world language teachers

ChinesePod

Free podcasts and classroom materials to learn Chinese.

BBC World Languages

The BIG resources on 40 different languages. Find interactive courses, guided video series, activities, games...there's only so much space here. Just go.

events

Nebraska International Languages Association
Fall Conference 2017

October 27-28

Millard North High School
1010 S 144th St.
Omaha, NE 68154

See [NILA website](#) for more details!



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