



Masterclasses from the School of Languages, 2008/9

The School of Languages offers a range of Masterclasses, delivered to schools and colleges in the North West of England. Many are delivered outside of the School of Languages but some need the specialist equipment provided in the School's Language Resource Centre. Please note that most are available throughout the academic year but some are only available for limited periods owing to staff commitments.

ARABIC

Shakespeare goes to Egypt

Dr. Sameh Hanna

This masterclass explores the different changes that were introduced into Shakespeare's dramatic work in order to make it both 'accessible' and 'enjoyable' for an Egyptian audience who have a different understanding of what theatre should be like. Examples from the early translations of Hamlet and Othello will be provided and changes in the translations will be discussed. This will be delivered in a power point presentation and followed by a discussion.

The session is only suitable for students with knowledge of Arabic.

N.B. This session is only available during the second semester due to teaching commitments.

ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Knowledge; Skills; Attitude: What do I need to become a successful teacher of English as a foreign language?

Ms Sue Bromby

In this 35/45 minute (negotiable), interactive session, students will work on a series of discussion and awareness- raising tasks designed to highlight some of the important aspects of an English language teacher's professional expertise. The session will draw on students' own experiences of learning – both positive and negative - and also demolish a few myths about English language teaching.

FRENCH

Français

Dr Paul Rowlett

The 50-minute-long class has two parts. The first addresses the nature of français itself. This concentrates on français as a lexical phenomenon, but considers the possibility that English has influenced French grammatically, too. The second part of the class analyses responses to français. The most well known (and most negative) response to the phenomenon is associated with the late Sorbonne philosopher professor René Etiemble. Other, more measured responses suggest there is ultimately nothing to worry about. Attitudes to français within France are, finally, contextualised within the geopolitical role of the country in the second half of the twentieth century, and compared with attitudes in another major French-speaking area of the world, Quebec.

This Masterclass is delivered in English.

GERMAN

Contemporary German pop music

Dr Ian Foster

This Masterclass involve an introductory brief presentation on the history of German language pop music (in German for A level, in English for GCSE) with examples, followed by interactive exercises on individual artists and their music using the CAN8 virtual language lab. For technical reasons this Masterclass must be delivered in the School of Languages' Language Resource Centre.

Close relations: German and English

Ms Juliet Wigmore

German and English are related languages and have many things in common. This talk will look at how and why the two languages are said to be related, showing some regular patterns and similarities. It will present some examples of borrowings from English in German and show what happens when words and phrases move between languages, taking some examples both from earlier times and some very recent ones.

This talk will be given in English with a lot of examples from German.

INTERPRETING

Introduction to Interpreting

Ms Rebecca Tipton

This Master Class will introduce students to the role of interpreters in contemporary society, with particular emphasis on Conference Interpreting, Public Service Interpreting and Military Interpreting. It will outline the nature of the work undertaken in the various domains, the general issues underpinning cross-cultural communication and also provide students with a short, practical insight into the cognitive complexities involved in working orally between two languages through short exercises.

The practical activities will focus on the skills of paraphrasing, developing split attention and meaning management.

ITALIAN

Italian Contemporary History and Society: 1990s to the present.

Dr Gillian Ania

This Masterclass explores the main developments, political and social, that have taken place in Italy since the 1990s, including the *Tangentopoli* (corruption) scandals, Mafia killings, Electoral reform, the growth of new political parties and the fluctuating fortunes of Berlusconi. It can be given in English or Italian, lasts 50 minutes, including questions, and is suitable for A2/AS level students.

The Italian Novel: Primo Levi, Leonardo Sciascia, Paola Capriolo

Dr Gillian Ania

What defines a novel? Should it reflect reality, define it, or attempt to change it? This Masterclass will address these issues with particular relation to Levi, Sciascia and Capriolo, but could be tailored to other contemporary authors on request. It can be given in English or Italian, lasts 50 minutes, including questions, and is suitable for A2/AS level students.

Thinking Italian Cinema

Dr William Hope

How do film directors draw us, the viewers, emotionally into their work? Then, how do they distance viewers from narrative events, in order to encourage us to reflect on the 'message' that is being put across in the film? Using examples from Italian cinema over the past fifty years, this Masterclass will examine how directors use elements such as camera distance, angles, and movement, music, montage and lighting to create specific emotional moods, and also how directors sometimes interrupt the narrative illusion to compel viewers to survey the importance of the filmic events in a more detached, analytical way. This Masterclass is suited to AS/A2 learners.

TRANSLATION

The Power of Translation

Dr Severine Hubscher-Davidson

This Masterclass will introduce students to the field of Translation Studies by discussing some famous translators. It will help them begin to understand the role of the professional translator and his place in today's society. The class will also include a practical activity in which students will engage in intra-lingual translation in order to develop an awareness of some basic techniques of translation, the readership and purpose of translated texts, as well as the power translators can wield when transferring ideas.