

ELL Newsletter

New Way To Communicate

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

ELL Newsletter | Spring 2011



“You are going to be in for the time of your life!”

Elshad Yusif

Thankful Experience

To be an exchange student is an awesome thing! You are going to be in for the time of your life. That has been my experience, and I have just loved it!

I am Elshad Yusif from Azerbaijan. I am 20 years old. I finished my first year at Azerbaijan State Economic University in a Business Administration program, and then I applied for a student exchange program scholarship to come and study in the United States. After working hard, I got the scholarship. I was one of the 10 students who got it out of 500 students.

For my scholarship, I did not have any choice about which college or place I would end up in. I could only choose my program, and I decided on Economics. Then I found out that I was coming to Green Bay, Wisconsin.

To be honest, I did not know anything about this place. I had never heard of it! After I told my friends, they said, “You are going to the cheese state; the city of crazy Packer fans and famous beer!” Then I said, “Sounds like I am going to love it there!”

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Elshad Yusif...(continued)

So, here I am studying at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College in the Economics program. I am one of the 11 international exchange students. Besides my own classes, I also take some ELL (English Language Learners) classes which help me to improve my English. I would definitely recommend students to take the ELL classes because they can really help you improve your English.

I am always thankful to my all teachers. During my first semester of ELL classes, Cait Berth was my teacher. During my second semester, Monica Thao was my teacher. They are great people and great teachers. In general, I am thankful to all the teachers and staff members for their help! Thanks to all the people who help keep ELL classes running.

By: Elshad Yusif



)) Hibo Hassan

Level Three ELL Student

I am from Somalia. I came to the United States on September 23rd, 2010 and moved to Green Bay on November 1st, 2011. I am a level three ELL student and the most important thing to me at this moment is to improve my English, so I can get my GED (General Education Development).

I find joy in working with people and helping the sick. I would like to get into the Medical Assistant program one day. After that, I hope to study at a university, so I can become a doctor. I like my teacher, Monica Thao, because she is such a wonderful teacher. I will never forget how she has helped me and the other students.

By: Hibo Hassan



)) Chikae Matsumoto Roberts

Her journey from Japan to Sturgeon Bay, WI to U.S. Citizenship

Chikae Matsumoto was born Oct 20, 1935 in Sasebo, Japan by the

Harbor Navy Station. She has three brothers and 2 sisters that still live in Japan. This is where she met her husband, a US serviceman, Leaton C. Roberts. They were married July 29, 1954 in Japan by the Justice of the Peace.

They moved to the US in 1954, she now resides in Sturgeon Bay. She was a dressmaker and also worked at the Electric Company. She has three children Bob, who lives in Indiana, Mary, who lives in Washington and JoAnne, who lives in Palm Beach FL.

Chikae is studying to get her Citizenship. This has become a lifelong goal for Chikae and she hopes to accomplish this summer. Her main reason for becoming a citizen is to vote. She is a wealth of information and knows the US history so well. I am very proud of her and determination to obtain her citizenship!

By: Shawn Jensen



Before I introduce myself I would like to give the acknowledgements to the social forces that made possible for me not only to form part of the news letter, but also for have awarded me with the privilege that is to be called a student of this wonderful institution. First of all I would like to express my gratitude to all the teachers that form the ELL classes, their energy and academic ability was the first motivation that pushed me to go further and also for eliciting the unknown possibility of obtaining a college degree. In particular to Mrs. Sally La Luzerne Oi who was the back bone in my formation as a new English writer and speaker, to Mr. Tom Allen Bise for have helped me with the translation of very difficult English words into Spanish, my appreciation and gratitude to Mrs. Sharon Schneider for her kindness and intelligent guide that have helped me to become successful in one of the hardest subjects for me, math, but most of all to Mr. Tim Braunel who developed an special learning plan for me, his advice were essential indentifying goals and accomplishing them, finally, thanks to all my general studies' instructors, the concepts and theories learned in their classes were an intrinsic part in my current transformation.

I would like to start this lines telling the readers that I was born in Mexico City, raised in a low middle class Mexican family, I'm the only man after my father in a family of seven which led my father to put especial attention in my formation and behavior. As the only boy I received strong discipline from my father and a description of what a good man should be. Relaying in his own cultural background my father have the believe and the conviction that a men should nurture a combination of hard work and intelligence in order to accomplish dreams and goals, but with the knowledge that we have limits, and therefore, only through knowledge a man can overcome those limits. As a child I couldn't understand those concepts, however, I imitated my father's character as much as I could. Unfortunately, my family couldn't escape from the social and conflictive forces that rule a middle-income country like Mexico where inequality and the lack of opportunities pushes even a child to abandon those dreams and the pursue of knowledge in order to survive.

At the age of 8 I started to work forced by the need of money, my mother was suffering from a pulmonary disease that marked the beginning of very difficult times. As I entered into the adolescence my family's situation changed dramatically, my mother recovered from her hilliness enhancing our family's economic situation, but it

wasn't enough for me. As I have learned from my sociology class, "We are the product of our environment, and develop our personalities based in the everyday interactions with other people." I mention this because the six years spent as a child working out home, and interacting with others under the unforgiving nature of the streets I developed another personality in order to make it through those years; personality that insolated me from others for many years.

Recalling one of Freud's Theories I entered in an internal conflict between "Id" and "The superego" pushing on the side "The Ego", and the reason with it. With the economic situation improved in my home I found myself with more time and freedom which took me to spend that time with friends. Under the influence of these friends I had my first encounter with different ideologies and countercultures, but what it seems too had been the worse the use of alcohol and marihuana to fulfill the need of belonging. As a consequence of my new behavior I entered in conflict with my father who asked me to change my way or leave the house. The personality developed in the streets won over the one that my father tried to plant in me, which led me to decide to leave home perhaps to never more return.

Continued on next page



"I would like to express my gratitude..."

Rodrigo Garcia

Gracias *(continued)*

However, the social forces that once took me away from my family roots prepared a new road that led me to the most wonderful experiences. As an adult life took me to different places and ultimately to another country, for many years I have been living in the USA. I would like to say that my life in Wisconsin it has been great even though the up and downs that I have encountered due to my personality colliding with another society and culture. Right here in Wisconsin I have been given by God the greatest gift of life that is to be a father, and the opportunity to correct my life.

In 2009 I enrolled in ELL classes at NWTC with the particular idea that just learn English, something that changed as soon as I walked through the classroom's doors. I started in ELL classes' level 3, and then once I reached level 4, I was introduced to Mr. Tim Braunel who invited me to further my education by acquiring my GED diploma. Mr. Tim told me that by combining ELL classes with the Academic Skills Lab it was going to lead not only accomplish my GED, but also this process was going to enhance my English comprehension and critical skills, which it did. One year after I started with this plan I completed my GED diploma in addition I began to write and read in English reaching levels never imagined. All these accomplishments opened even greater possibilities presenting the opportunity of obtaining a college degree. For many months I continued working in the Academic Skills Lab waiting for the moment to start with my first core classes. In 2010 I finally began with the General Studies; the knowledge acquired in the Academic Skills Lab was essential in becoming successful in these classes, which I have until now.

Today, the dedication and support received by my instructors have allowed me to reach the branch marks of a program identified as Respiratory Therapy. I know that the challenges and barriers are many in order to achieve this goal, but the

desire, the knowledge gain in my every day interactions at NWTC would perhaps allow me to reach my dream. Finally, I would like to finish this lines with an anecdote occurred during my journey at the skills lab. One day working in my reading skills, overwhelmed by my problems I was having trouble concentrating, thinking about my family back in Mexico which were going through a difficult time. In addition the family that I intended to form in Wisconsin was falling apart which made me see my efforts for a better life worthless. Almost ready to give up I told Mr. Tim that I couldn't understand the figurative language that perhaps I wasn't going to be able to pass the test. He smiled and left coming back two minutes later with a book and a tape in his hands for me to watch. The video he brought was about some people that even though their physical des capacities were able to overcome the barriers becoming successful in their lives. He handed me the items and said something which exact words I can't remember, but I understand them this way, he said, "Rodrigo, one more thing for you to remember, the good things and the answers are out there, but only for those who know where to look." And right in that moment I finally understand that story of my life was to complain that I actually never did something to change my destiny, but that has changed. Therefore, since then I refuse not to believe even though the reason tells me different.

After all, I have learned something very valuable from my turbulent life, that home doesn't reside in some distant land, but in us and that the thoughts and actions of today have real consequences tomorrow. As I'm finishing these lines it is hard not to feel a little melancholy for the family that I left behind in Mexico, but also I could say that in this small city by Lake Michigan, in the pretty girl that I haven't met yet, and in the beautiful English sound of my daughter's voice I have found my home.

By: Rodrigo Garcia

Come RISE to new careers for ELL students!

NWTC offers program classes in Welding and Medical Assistance

If interested in a new exciting career call Multicultural Center for more information

498-6894

You must be an ELL level 4 and have a current TABE score on file.



I biscotti di Paola

This is the recipe that I make for classmates and teachers during Christmas and Easter. They are really easy to make, taste great, and you can decorate them however you want to fit any occasion!

For the frosting:

125 grams or 1 cup of powdered sugar
1 egg white
1 teaspoon of lemon juice
1 tablespoon of boiling water

Ingredients:

250 grams or 2 cups of white flour
9 grams or 2 tablespoon of baking powder
60 grams or 1/2 cup of powdered sugar
A pinch of salt
1 egg yolk
3 tablespoons of milk
100 grams of unsalted butter
(a little less than a stick of butter)



Directions:

1. Sift the flour, and in the middle, add a pinch of salt, the baking powder, egg yolk and cold milk
2. Mix one part flour, and then add the diced butter in the middle, and gently combine all other ingredients to form the dough

Note: If too hard, add a little milk; if too soft, refrigerate for a few minutes

3. On a lightly floured surface, roll the dough with a rolling pin to a thickness of about half a centimeter (0.2 inches)
4. Cut out the shape you desire for the cookies
5. Arrange cookies slightly apart from each other on a baking tray lined with parchment paper and bake in a preheated oven at 400F for about 10 minutes
6. When the cookies brown on the ends, they are ready
7. Cool them on a rack
8. When they are completely cooled, use icing to create imaginative decorations!

Icing preparation: Vigorously stir the powdered sugar with lemon juice, the egg white, and boiling water until it results in a thick, glossy cream. If you want, you can color it as you like. Allow the icing to dry.

9. Put the completed cookie in a pastry bag
10. Enjoy!



Paola Di Pasquale

Paola's New Experience

I am 50 years old and Italian. The city where I came from is called la Spezia. It is on the sea, and my region, despite being in the north of my country which is usually colder, has a mild climate and is full of flowers, olive trees, and vineyards. I followed my husband to Green Bay because of his work. I left my two children, my parents, and all my dear friends in Italy. I was very sad and worried, but at the same time, excited about this new experience.

I arrived in Green Bay from Italy on a Saturday in July of 2009. It was the first time for me in the U.S., the first time that I have experienced such a time zone change, and the first time that I had to live in a country where people spoke a language different from mine! Green Bay appeared very different to me, but I had no time to miss my country.

Even though I was still confused from jet lag and the whole experience, on that following Monday after I arrived, my husband gave me the car keys, and greeted me by saying, "Go find the furniture." There were a few problems with his request. First of all, I had never driven a car with automatic transmission. Secondly, "Where should I go?" And finally, the biggest problem of all, I hardly understood English! Regardless, I pursued his request and traveled on unfamiliar streets, was unable to understand people, and found myself lost in the parking lot of a mall. With a piece of paper in my hand, which included the address of the furniture store, I built up the courage to ask a lady who had just parked if she could help me. She quickly realized that I did not understand a word of her explanation. She then returned to her car and escorted me to the store I was looking for. When we arrived, she wrote her cell phone number on a piece of paper and told me, "If you get lost again, call me." What an angel! How could I not love Green Bay!

In my country, we are used to saying, "Start with the right foot." This is exactly what happened to me. Just two days later, my husband's colleague's wife brought me to NWTC to look for a course to learn the English language. I found the ELL program, and I was really surprised that it was free. I was greeted with great kindness, and

can you believe that the first person I spoke with told me that she loved Roberto Benigni, an Italian actor whom I love too!

My experience at NWTC has been fantastic! My English has improved despite my age, and now I am able to understand and speak definitely better than two years ago. I have had fun learning, and I have been surrounded by affectionate, interesting, and dedicated people.

I have met many people from different countries. They are all dear friends who share with me the difficulty of speaking in another language that is so different from theirs. They are all dedicated and try daily to improve themselves, so they can have better opportunities for themselves and their families in this country. I love my friends. Most of them sacrifice every day to come to school, despite other hard work they have to do. I admire them with all my heart.

Also, I love this school because it gives us all the opportunity to improve ourselves and helps us better able to assimilate into the American society, learn the language, and learn about various diplomas and work opportunities.

From firsthand experience, I have learned what it means to feel alone and to be far from home, away from loved ones and from familiar things. It is so hard, but at the same time, I understand better how tough times really open new opportunities.

Despite the language differences, customs and traditions really make us all the same. We have the same emotions, the same difficulties, and the same heart. It is really important to overcome language barriers because that knowledge helps us better understand those around us and can be a bridge to help all of us live peacefully together.

By: Paola Di Pasquale



)) Pilar Hornik Colombia to the United States

For me, it is an honor to share with you the joy I feel for my successful English achievements at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. This wonderful program has really helped me reach many of my goals and achieve great accomplishments.

About five months ago, I traveled from my country Colombia to this new country, the United States of America. I arrived in this new world to explore. I was excited yet sad because I had to say good-bye to my family, friends, and my daily personal life and work.

I was a dentist which is a beautiful profession where I received great fulfillment both personally and professionally; I worked at the clinic of the National Police and other health care companies.

It is obvious that I have left many people behind in my life, but many past events still mark my life and stay in my



heart; now, I have new experiences here. I have a new family and new friends in which I will share my future dreams and memories.

When I started my course in English here on January 13th in level three, my language skills were very poor. I just knew very basic English, but now thanks to God and the efforts of administrators, teachers, and members of this college with their educational methodology, I have greatly improved my English and have achieved a successful outcome.

I would like to thank all of the teachers who all do a wonderful job and especially a couple in particular, one would be Monica Thao; she has the greatest attitude and the friendliest personality. She is truly a joy to work with, and I hope to see her for a long time to come. Also, Lynn Mullins, thank you for teaching me pronunciation and conversation. I appreciate both of your patience.

Here is a little about my country, Colombia. It has an emerging economy. It is where the world has put its sights. Traditional problems such as drugs and illegal armed groups are diminishing. Our main agricultural export products are coffee, bananas, flowers, and sugar. We are very grateful for our production of emeralds and flowers.



Finally, I would like to share with you these simple phrases that will lead to better ways:

1. Have a purpose each day
2. Find pleasure in the basics: eating, breathing, walking, tasting, seeing, and sleeping
3. Enjoy rest
4. Earn respect and be honest
5. Read more books than last year
6. Dream more while you are awake
7. Make at least three people laugh every day
8. Don't waste your precious time with negative thoughts
9. Don't miss the chance to hug a friend
10. Life is very short, so don't waste time hating anyone
11. Nobody is responsible for your happiness except yourself
12. Learn something new every day

By: Pilar Hornik

Junon Safoula

Wondering...

Sometimes I wonder...
What is life and what is it all about?
Is life the greatest gift of all?

I think about life
and its ups and downs
but still can't figure out why
things happen

Why do some people live happy
and some, unhappy?
Why is there so much evil and
suffering in life?

Sometimes I wonder...
Is life the sum of experiences
that we encounter as we go
through life?

Sometimes I wonder...
Are we all under the influence of
destiny?
Are all of our successes and failures
destiny?

Does life have a purpose for us or
must we make a purpose of it?

Sometimes I wonder...
How would life be
if we all thought, acted, and looked
alike?

Sometimes I wonder...
Is everything for the best
of the best in all possible?
Does evil really bring out the
best aspect of humanity?

I walk around, look around,
and realize that
most of the innovative inventions
were made during wars

Sometimes I wonder...
Is seeing believing, or
is believing achieving?

Sometimes I wonder...
Why do we die?
Why can't we overcome death?
Is death the end of existence?

Is there another existence after death?
Is death just a transition to another life?

Sometimes I wonder ...
Why are people so different from one
another?
Is it because of the circumstances that
have happened to us?

Sometimes I wonder...
and wonder and wonder about life
but don't get any answers

The only thing I get is more questions...

By: Junon Safoula



Birthdays

JANUARY

Abdinasir Barre	1/1
Abdinasir Yahie	1/1
Ardo Ahmed	1/1
Balqees Yousif	1/1
Faduma Ciedi	1/1
Faduma Sharif Hassan	1/1
Guled Ahmed	1/1
Halima Abdulle	1/1
Hibo Hassan	1/1
Maryan Mohamed	1/1
Ubah Magan	1/1
Vane Xiong	1/1
Walio Ashkir	1/1
Ziad Bulle	1/1
Geraldo Perez	1/2
Daniel Padilla	1/5
Miriam Ramirez	1/12
Jose Martinez	1/29

FEBRUARY

Jetzabel Guerrero	2/1
Rogelio Montoya	2/1
Nim Musse	2/5
Gaudercio Ramos	2/11
Vitali Cortes	2/13
Homar Gomez	2/15
Mario Vazquez	2/22

MARCH

Reyneria	3/3
Martha Bishop	3/9
Raquel Guzmon	3/13
Violeta Gutierrez	3/13
Jose Morales	3/14
Lue Vang	3/22
Gloria Margarita Ruiz	3/25
Jaime Santos	3/26
Ram Aharor	3/30

APRIL

Juan Jose Gomez Cardenas	4/15
Jose Montoya	4/17
Salat Dirye	4/20
Bee Chanthalay	4/22
See Xiong	4/22
Fidel Sanchez	4/24

MAY

Ibrahim Afrah	5/3
Zoraida Silva	5/3
Heidy Erazo	5/8
Ricardo Rangel	5/9
Soua Xiong	5/15
Juan Martinez	5/21
Rita Marin	5/22
Neng Yang	5/26

JUNE

Thongsly Chanthalay	6/8
Juan Padilla	6/17
Miguel Tirado	6/22
Teerapan Klinpratun	6/25
Maria Sanchez	6/28

JULY

Maria Patino	7/3
Masoud Ali	7/4
Adrian Montoya	7/8
Judith Morales	7/9
Khou Lor	7/20
Juana Torres	7/22
Mercedes Nieto	7/25
Ana Gonzalez	7/26

AUGUST

Dilobar Ahmedova	8/2
Luis Gaglianti	8/5
Adalberto Cisneros	8/8
Gilberto Perez	8/9
See Yang	8/12
Manivanh Thammavong	8/14
Diana Perea	8/24
Paola Di Pasquale	8/24

SEPTEMBER

Boun Mee Xiong	9/2
Maria Magana	9/2
Aryany Castillo	9/5
Teerachote Pakornchote	9/6
Juana Fraiac	9/7
Eunjoo Lee	9/8
Pao Xiong	9/10
Juan Zamora	9/20
Nicolle Luquis	9/26

OCTOBER

Mayra Aranda	10/4
Hugo Avila	10/11
Hyojoo Jeon	10/11
Pilar Hornik	10/15
Zhu Wang	10/17
Edith Santos	10/24
Yessica Rodriguez	10/29

NOVEMBER

Monica Thao	11/11
Dalavong Jang	11/12
Nathaphong Tawansaeng	11/19
Claudee Gillis	11/20
Sally LaLuzerne-Oi	11/21
Janer Maffini	11/23
Blanca Olaz	11/24
Manuel Fernando Bacelis	11/26
Pedro Gutierrez	11/26

DECEMBER

Marcos Marchizan	12/2
Marina Bogdanova	12/9
Youa Yang	12/9
Nimo Barre	12/10
Houa Wa Xiong	12/18
Joana D'Arc Rodrigues	12/20
Graciela Soto Garcia	12/27
Lizeth Jimenez	12/27

COUNTRIES

Azerbaijan
Brazil
China
Congo
Colombia
Cuba
Honduras
Israel
Italy
Laos
Mexico
Puerto Rico
Russia
Somalia
South Korea



NWTC ELL CLASSES

STEP 1: Have you completed an ELL orientation?
 You must attend an ELL orientation before you can begin classes.

For more information, please call the ELL Lab at (920) 498-7593

STEP 2: Attend classes.

MAY/JUNE SESSION 2011 – Term 2112 • May 23, 2011 – June 24, 2011

Morning Orientation

May 24-May 31

Instructor: TBA
 Time: 9:00 am-1:00 pm
 Day: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
 Room: SC330

Evening Orientation

May 24-May 31

Time: 5:00 pm-9:00 pm
 Day: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
 Room: SC330

MORNING CLASSES

Class	Day	Time	Room
ELL Computer Basics	Tuesday, Thursday	9:30 am – 12:00 pm	SC336

EVENING CLASSES

Class	Day	Time	Room
ELL Computer Basics	Tuesday, Thursday	6:30 pm – 9:00 pm	SC336
ELL US Citizenship	Tuesday	5:30 pm – 8:30 pm	SC307

FAST TRACK CLASSES

Class	Day	Time	Room
ELL STAR Reading Academy	Monday, Wednesday	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	BI321
ELL Just In Time Writing 2	Tuesday, Thursday	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	BI321

Summer 2011 – Term 2115 • June 1, 2011 – August 3, 2011

Morning Orientation

Time: 9:00 am-1:00 pm
 Day: Thursday
 Room: SC324

Evening Orientation

Time: 5:00 pm-9:00 pm
 Day: Monday
 Room: SC327

MORNING CLASSES

Class	Day	Time	Room
ELL Level 1&2	Monday, Wednesday	9:00 am – 11:30 am	SC324
ELL Levels 3&4	Tuesday, Thursday	9:00 am – 11:30 am	SC323
ELL Levels 5&6	Tuesday, Thursday	9:00 am – 11:30 am	SC327
Conversation	Monday	9:00 am – 11:30 am	SC323
Pronunciation	Wednesday	9:00 am – 11:30 am	SC327
ELL Levels 3-6	Saturday	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	SC324

EVENING CLASSES

Class	Day	Time	Room
ELL Levels 1&2	Tuesday, Thursday	5:30 pm – 8:00 pm	SC324
ELL Levels 3&4	Monday, Wednesday	5:30 pm – 8:00 pm	SC324
ELL Levels 5&6	Tuesday, Thursday	5:30 pm – 8:00 pm	SC323
Conversation	Tuesday	5:30 pm – 8:00 pm	SC327
Pronunciation	Wednesday	5:30 pm – 8:00 pm	SC323



ELL staff— front row: Bernadine Vigue, Rose Krutzik. Back row: Monica Thao, Marilyn Lenz, Shawn Jensen.



The ELL lab aide staff—front row: Destiny Thao, Beverlyn Vasquez. Back row: Kim Casson, Erika Sanchez-Mora, Kristina Hazen.

The **ELL Program** at NWTC began off-campus in the early 1970's with an influx of Vietnamese refugees. More Southeast Asians came to the Green Bay community in the 1970's and 1980's. The Hmong and Laotians arrived as refugees, and the ELL population grew rapidly. Hispanics began settling in the area in the early 1990's. The ELL Program continues to expand and welcomes language learners from around

the world. ELL classes are offered at several sites: United Hmong Community Center, Howe Community Resource Center, as well as the NWTC campus. We welcome new students year round and look forward to offering the right classes for our students and their lives.

Welcome!!!

**If you would like to add an event, celebration,
or ELL interest piece, please email:**

ELLinfo@nwtc.edu

Phone: (920)498-7953

E-mail: marilyn.lenz@nwtc.edu (ELL contact)
or ELLinfo@nwtc.edu (for newsletter)



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future makers**

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