

School of Foreign Languages' Monthly Bulletin

February 2022



**What you
will read
in this
month's
issue:**

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Welcome back to campus



Welcome back SOFL students, faculty, and staff!

Hope your break was full of rest and relaxation, leaving you ready to begin the spring semester with enthusiasm and passion! We are extremely excited to see what the upcoming semester holds.

Our goal is to provide support and encouragement for each of you in your journey to improve the world. Have a GREAT start to the new semester and we're so glad you're here!

"You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think." –

Winnie the Pooh

SOFL Unit Interview

A member of our staff, Hamdi Jarada was interviewed. He explained his duties as the Head of Coordinators Office of SFOL and he gave us useful information about his duties in this unit.

Would you please introduce yourself to our readers?

I am Hamdi A. S. Jarada. I am the head of the Coordinators Office at the School of Foreign Languages. I am one of the three members of the unit, along with Sanaz Moazzezi F.M. and Yahya Kamal Mohamad Mostafa.

I want to ask you some questions about your unit .Let's start with: What are the duties of your unit?

Our duty is to provide support to the instructors with the issues that may rise during the semester as well as observe the classes held on-site and online to make sure that the students are provided with the necessary documents. Moreover, we make sure the teaching and learning processes go smoothly. We divide the duties among us as follows: Hamdi A. S. is the Main Course coordinator, Sanaz Mozzezi is the Reading and Writing coordinator, and Yahya Mostafa is the Listening and Speaking coordinator.

What other unit activities you are invoved in?

We also conduct meetings within the unit as well as with the whole academic staff to ensure that everyone is informed about the new changes (if there are any) and talk about the observed issues.

Furthermore, we double-check the pacing before the beginning of each track to make sure it matches the materials. Moreover, we check the weekly reports on a weekly basis to provide support and guidance to the instructors who may it need.

What are the other units that you usually work with and for which purposes exactly?

In addition, in cooperation with the Testing Unit, we proofread all of the exams that are prepared as well as the answer keys to make sure everything is on point.

Thank you so much Hamdi Hoca for sharing with us these pieces of valuable information. We wish you best of luck with your unit.

Our Staff's Academic Activities

Events and Seminars

In SFOL, we support our instructors' academic endeavors. Here is a list of our instructors who participated in academic events:

Name of the Lecturer	Academic Event	Date of the Event	Description of the Event	Type of Participation
Helin Gökteş	Advancing learning webinar	04.02.2022	Webinar	Certificate of Attendance
Sanaz Moazzezi	The Hybrid Transition	18.02.2022	Webinar	Certificate of Attendance



Webinars

Webinars and events take place on a regular basis because the need for being up to date when it comes to teaching in the 21st century, makes seminars an inseparable part of professional development. For a detailed list of webinars on English language teaching, you can visit the following website:

<https://webinars.eltngl.com>

Student Interview

Gubse

We conducted an interview with one of our students called Gubse who graduated last year and is studying in her department.

Q: Why did you choose to study in English. Why was it so important for you?

A: learning a language has a lot of advantages as well as challenges. Learning the English language provided me to be confident, learn different cultures and also in their life backgrounds. By learning English, I can learn other languages that are similar to English Which is the biggest advantage of learning English.

Q: What advantages have learning English brought you in your daily life?

A: learning a language most contributed to me being successful in my education. Especially, I am so lucky to be part of the erasmus+ program through learning English. What's more, I've had a lot of foreign friends.

Q: Do you think a foreign language like English can open doors for your Professional career / studies abroad?

A:Of course, if you are good at speaking English and understanding everything that you hear from native speakers, you can be successful in the field of your career. On other hand, learning a language also opens doors for you as a good opportunity to be a student abroad.



Q: What sort of advise would you give to freshers regarding learning and improving their foreign language?

A: First of all, everyone should learn a foreign language in their life because Learning a language allows us to change our horizons and perspective. So when did I start learning English, let's talk about it. When I was going to high-school, my parents insisted me to learn English. They enrolled me in an English course. That's when I started to get acquainted with English. Even though I took the course unintentionally every day, I never thought that learning English would change my future university department and my view of foreign people around the world. Learning English or other foreign languages contributes more to your life than you think.

International Mother Language Day

21 February



Hello

Ciao

Привет

こんにちは

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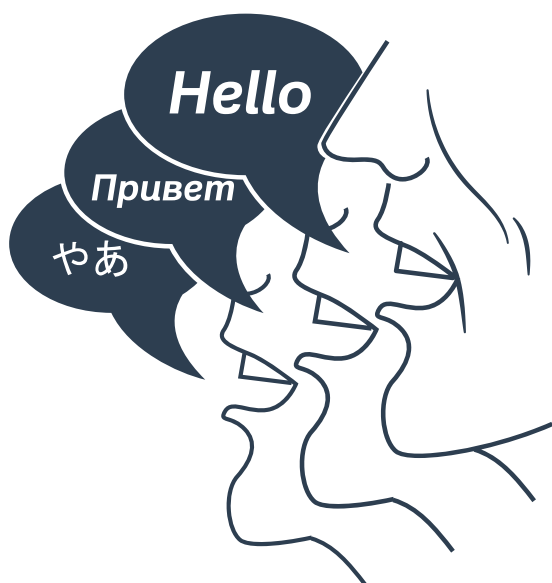
Hujambo

Hola!

International Mother Language Day

International Mother Language Day, on **21 February**, is a day to celebrate and protect all the languages of the world. A language is much more than just a way of communicating. Language, and particularly our mother tongue, is an important part of our culture. Some people even think that our language can change how we see the world.

In 1999, a special day to promote mother languages was created: International Mother Language Day. The day was also intended to raise awareness of just how many languages we have on this planet (around 6,500) and to protect them. The idea for this special day came from the country of Bangladesh, and 21 February is also the day when Bangladeshis mark the day that the Bangla language was officially accepted. Bangladeshis celebrate both days by holding literary competitions and singing songs.



The importance of the mother tongue in education

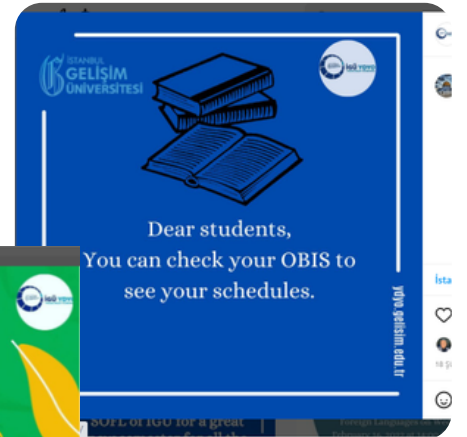
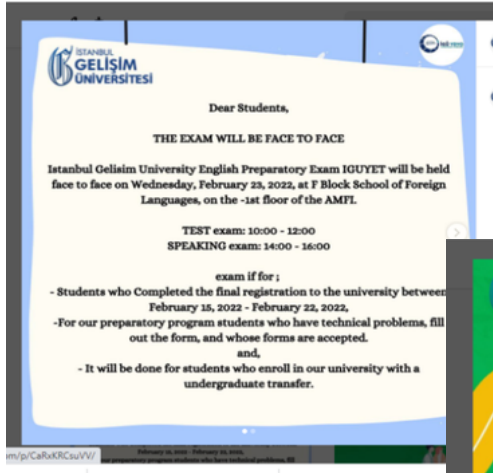
The Director General of UNESCO, Audrey Azouley, pointed out in a recent speech on International Mother Language Day that mother languages 'shape millions of developing young minds'. She believes that children learn best in their mother tongue, and that it is important that children should have this opportunity. Around the world, 40 per cent of the population does not have access to education in a language they can understand or speak. Using certain languages can make it easier, or much harder, to do well in life.

Language goes to the heart

Nelson Mandela once said, 'If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.' At least 43 per cent of all languages are endangered, and fewer than 100 of the world's languages are used in the digital world. Most internet communication is in one of the following languages: English, Chinese Mandarin, Spanish, Arabic, Portuguese, Indonesian, Malayan, Japanese, Russian and German. But everyone has the right to use their own mother language, and to keep the memories, traditions and ways of thinking that their language represents. And this is what International Mother Language Day is all about.

Our School On Social Media

As always, our school was very active on social media to announce important events or celebrate public or national and international holidays. Here, we will take a look at some of them without any explanation because sometimes a picture is worth a thousand words!



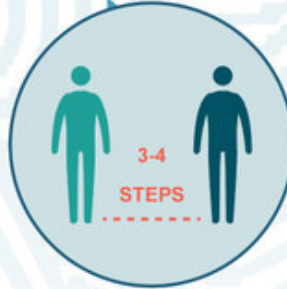
COVID-19 IS STILL OUT THERE...



PROTECTING FROM THE VIRUS IN OUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE WITH DISPOSABLE PAPER TISSUES DURING COUGHING AND SNEEZING. IF THERE IS NO TISSUE, USE THE INNER SIDE OF YOUR ELBOW.



AVOID CLOSE CONTACT SUCH AS HANDSHAKING AND HUGGING.



AVOID CROWDED PLACES AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.



DO NOT TOUCH YOUR MOUTH, NOSE AND EYES WITH DIRTY HANDS.



WASH YOUR HANDS WITH WATER AND REGULAR SOAP FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS.



USE HAND SANITIZER IF THERE IS NO WATER AND SOAP.