



ISSUE 46

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In Costa Rica

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Google Classroom

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The idea of national parks is the conservation of wild nature’ for posterity and as a symbol of national pride. This month in which we celebrate National Parks Day in Costa Rica, we want to share with you this image that shows the splendour of an old tree. If you have an awesome picture you think could be the cover of one of The ILE Post editions, send it to eherrera@utn.ac.cr. So far several readers have sent amazing pictures that we will be sharing with you soon.

If you want to know what is happening in ILE, follow us in FACEBOOK.

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# EDITORIAL

## You're Fired! You're Hired

by Jose Soto (ILE Professor)



The elections for the main office in the United States are around the corner and the political campaign has gotten a little odd. There has been a lot of rhetoric on how it would affect the political interests and economy of our country one

way or another, if Republicans or Democrats win the elections—specially the Republicans. There has not been yet any debate on the positive or negative outcomes of Clinton and Trump at the UTN public forums of discussion. Here we can have some space to start out the topic; however, we first need to go over what is being at play at the moment.

To begin with, the Democrats have elected Hillary Clinton as their representative, and the Republicans have done so with Mr. Donald Trump—a mediatic, somehow absurd, suspicious character. And here we take a stand unless they both come up showing their true colors at any particular time, or haven't they yet? Can we be sure when it is about dealing with politicians? Let's see.

Hillary Rodham Clinton is a 68-year-old woman who has achieved important success in the US government arena. She is the former secretary of state, former first lady, and very important, the first female partner of her Arkansas Law firm. We know her as a first lady from Bill Clinton's administration, going through a shameful media circus scandal starred by his husband and a White House intern. But this did not diminish her running, albeit silent pursuit to the office. She became a Democrat senator in 2000 to promote health care reform plans. Here we can understand and make sense of Obama's support for her. She is well known advocating for American women, economic disparities and fighting against racism.

On the other side, literally, is Donald Trump. He is 69 years old, born in New York and a very famous billionaire. He has achieved success as a real estate tycoon-or magnate. He was also a popular reality TV star playing the role of himself as an entrepreneur recruiter with the power of

Midas touch unless he yelled: you're fired. He represents the most conservative Republican mainstream, white supremacy and middle class working US Americans. He has not been considered appropriate political material due to his doings, raging straightforwardness, insults and disdain for all the political class. He has created an utmost controversy so far about immigrants, Muslims and Mexicans specially and women.

With their backgrounds clearly defined for the two main runners to take over Obama's seat, we could point out a few things. Even when Clinton's political career looks so neat and successful, or Trumps extreme allegations, remarks and insults may seem so detestable, the political game is yet unclear. Why is this so? There have been accusations of corruption at Clinton's and Democrats party regarding some statements in a series of leaked emails, and also because Clinton represents mostly "more of the same" politics and government actions that conflict US Americans today. Similarly, Trump is addressing topics that catch people's attention as to say, he may have a point there. And here is where he has found breeding ground for his campaign. In the end, here is the never ending and boring competition in politics where the main arguments are each other's faults. It is clear that the voters in the end want to hear proposals, new ideas, and ultimately build up their hopes for a better future. Does this ring any bell for us Costa Ricans? We have earned some painful experience here during the last two years—this is a topic for another editorial.

Regarding how any of the elected parties may affect the international affairs of the US, the attention is at the moment on possible scenarios in favor and against Trump's winning. Hillary's administration is being taken for granted as she is thought to continue a line of action similar to Obama's, but the promises that Trump has made have raised eyebrows and created concern as to how an ill-minded person like him could lead to catastrophe in the world. More is yet to come.



## Arthur Lok Jack Authorities Visited UTN

On August 10th, people from Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business visited UTN to invite students and academics to pursue a postgraduate degree with them. Through a development cooperation instruments, UTN and Arthur Lok School offer the possibility to study a series of postgraduate programs in different areas of interest for UTN.

The Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business (Lok Jack GSB) was established in 1989, as collaboration between The University of the West Indies and the private sector. The Business School continues to be committed to providing the best leadership and management education available in the Caribbean by offering internationally recognized MBA programs, which are accredited by the Association of MBA's (AMBA) in the UK. The Business School had the honor in 2012 to be recognized for its MBA in Sustainable Energy Management by this accrediting body, for having one of the 4 most innovative programs in the world.

With some of the best faculty-drawn locally and internationally, world class facilities, di-



verse student population, impressive list of alumni, great networking opportunities and accreditation, the Lok Jack GSB MBA's, programs and conferences are in high demand, as they offer personal development, financial returns, increased competency, and the program content takes a practical approach to learning, has ample e-learning support, and contains locally relevant material.

These opportunities form part of the overall effort between Teaching Vice-Chancellor Department and External Cooperation department in order to inform the community about the study opportunities and training abroad, as well as, to promote the internationalization of the UTN.

## Innovative Products At UTN-Atenas

Food technology engineering degree students from UTN-Atenas presented their new products as part of the final project in one of their courses after a four months spent developing their innovative foods.

In groups, the students are given a brief at the beginning of the course to develop a food product. They must consider every aspect of the process

including market research, product development and manufacture.

Professor Ana Maria Barcenas says the project gives students a better understanding of what is required to take a new food from an idea to a marketable product. When you go into a supermarket and see a finished product, you do not appreciate the amount of

effort that goes into it.

Some of the products on show included cocoa wine, salami made with buffalo meat, a nutritional bar with grasshoppers, a craft beer, frozen fruit pulp, free gluten brownies made with chickpea flour, and hamburger soy patties with oyster mushrooms among the others.



## UTN-SYKES Academy Walks Successfully

The original idea was born as part of an initiative of several academic and economic sectors at the beginning of 2014. They were trying to implement training processes in Puntarenas to attract different kinds of service companies. It was there when we thought about SYKES to develop a pilot program. UTN and SYKES met, and we began to learn about the method SYKES uses to accelerate the acquisition of specific linguistic skills and competences.

It took about a year to draft the scope and limitations of the agreement, and in April 2015, the agreement was signed. Later on, at the end of 2015, the first training process began. Since it is a different and new opportunity, it has been hard to promote and convince people to give this initiative a chance. So far three groups (about 45 students) have graduated from UTN-SYKES Academy, and students are not only happy with the program but also have

immediately had the chance to get a job either in SYKES or in any other company.

Something very important to take into account is that the program does not only help students improve linguistic skills but also soft skills such as communication, teamwork and interaction.

The expectations for UTN-SYKES Academy are high. We are working in the improve-

called Pre-Academy; finally, we want to institutionalize so that all UTN campuses count with this tool in order to help students and attract more companies to basically all parts of the country, especially the population in marginal and rural areas.

For both parts, this agreement represents a great advance in the efforts made by the company and Government



ment of the current program; our goal is that 80% of the students can get a job once they finish the program; we generate a hand-in-hand program

sectors in the pursuit of more and better employment options for Costa Ricans.

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**2017**

**Del 1 de agosto al 9 de setiembre**

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**ADMISIÓN**



## Forum And Discussion Of "El Codo Del Diablo" Film



On August 10<sup>th</sup>, UTN Atenas Library, supported by the Research Vice-Chancellor Department, the Atenas Scientific Research and Transfer Department, the Humanities

Department and Automated Integrated Library and Resource Management System, organized a forum of film and discussion of the movie "El Codo del Diablo."

"El Codo del Diablo" tells the story of Setico, a 12-year-old boy who takes the train from Limón to San José to search for his father, one of six political prisoners executed at a notorious curve along the rail line that stretched from the capital to the Caribbean coast.

The documentary, directed

by brothers Antonio and Ernesto Jara, focuses on the human drama of the victims' family members, particularly their wives and children.

Atenas Scientific Research and Transfer Department Director expressed that learning about the history helps people appreciate and understand what they are today.

One of the participants in the discussion was Edwin Alpízar Vaglio, grandson of one of the characters in which this film is based.

## Conference Cycle On Mother Earth

Water Resource Management Program, Waste Management and Recycling Program and Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Protection Program organized a series of conferences on Mother Earth. This is part of the activities, focused on the CONARE declaration of 2016: Mother Earth Year. The conferences took place during the month of August at UTN Pacific Campus.

UTN objective is to promote a culture of environmental care. During the first conference, Mag. Andrés Araya talked about contamination problems and the mismanagement of water resources in Costa Rica. In addition, Biologist Luis Villalobos described the current situations of mangrove forest in the Central Pacific. Finally, presenter Daniel Rodríguez explained and advised on how to manage

waste in higher education spaces.



## Behind The Rio Games

The city of Rio de Janeiro is once again in the spotlight. Two years after World Cup finals that saw the German team victorious at Maracanã Stadium the city will now be hosting the 2016 Olympic Games.

In 2013 and 2014, Brazilian soccer enthusiasts surprised the world with their protests against the most expensive World Cup of all time. Since then, however, there have been dramatic changes in the situation. The Olympics, which should be a festival of joy, won't even touch the inhabitants of Rio de Janeiro, the host city of the event. The concerns are of another order. Brazil is experiencing a serious crisis: the economy is facing a recession, and unemployment grows. The Legacy of the Games - Who profits and who pays the bill?

In the context of the 2014 World Cup, the Heinrich Böll Foundation and its partners have published extensive information about the social, environmental and political effects linked to the hosting of such mega events. The World Cup and the Olympics are two major events that strongly transform a country like Brazil. We have to ask ourselves: What happens to society in events of this size? Who profits and who pays the bill? Where are the rights violated? For years, the Heinrich Böll Foundation's Regional Office in Brazil together with its partners followed the preparations and the consequences of the World Cup and the Olympics.

The 2016 Olympic Games has revealed several structural parallels with the World Cup, as well as particular interests. We note

that, while few people profit the community is hardly ever benefited. On the other hand, the social costs are huge. Although those in charge have learned from their mistakes with the World Cup, they have repeated other errors, such as in the removal of Vila Autódromo residents despite the considerable resistance put up by the residents, as well as national and international protests. The 2016 Olympics might not be more expensive than London 2012, but the costs are much higher than the World Cup. Currently the bill is officially at 40 billion Reais,



which is almost 10 billion Euros.

There are also hidden, but significant additional costs not included in the official tally. All in all, it is clear that it is not the private sector that is paying most of the Olympics, as officially announced by the Brazilian authorities; once again it is the taxpayers who will foot a huge part of the bill.

Not long ago international public opinion had its attention drawn to the Guanabara Bay. A UNESCO cultural heritage and

the sea gate to Rio de Janeiro the bay, which will host the sailing competitions is still heavily polluted. The scandal is an environmental and political one. A lot of money has been wasted in these contaminated waters, including fecal coliforms and other elements to build treatment plants that are not connected to sewage pipe networks and are currently deteriorating. When it comes to the Olympics the Brazilian government had promised to clean up the bay by 80% by 2016. This promise was postponed sine die.

The texts of our dossier show that the mega sport events are less concerned with the sport itself and not on the behalf of the majority of the population, but are more focused in commercial objectives. In countries like Brazil, where there is great social inequality and poverty it is particularly bitter that in the global competition of cities and companies for more capital investments the needs of free education and health and more space for housing keeps getting neglected.

## The Pokémon GO Craze

In 2014, as part of its traditional April Fool's pranks, Google released a video in which Google Maps VP Brian McClendon announced a job opening for a Pokémon Master.

The video showed candidates travelling around the world, from the tallest mountains to the middle of the ocean in their search for the rarest creatures. Instead of pokéballs, they used their phones to capture them.

Fast forward two years and the video that started as a tongue-in-cheek prank became reality with the release of Pokémon GO, a free-to-play mobile game that enables players to capture Pokémon through the magic of augmented reality.

The Pokémon franchise started in 1996 as titles for the Nintendo Game Boy and has since expanded into seven generations of successful games, films, toys, and trading cards.

In these games, players explore a fictional world capturing wild Pokémon – Po-c-ke-t Mon-sters with special powers – which they can use to battle and trade with other players.

Pokémon GO adapts many of the mechanics of its predecessors into a new medium. Similarly to previous games, players control an avatar and must find, capture and battle Pokémon.

But in the new game, the creatures are hiding in the real world around us and must be discovered by physically walking to specific spots in the city.

The game uses an augmented reality interface that overlays the 3D digital content of the game onto the phone's camera feed. This way, the smart-

phone acts as a magic lens through which players can see their Pokémon as if they were in physical space.

Exciting features planned for the future include the capability to trade Pokémon with other players and the Pokémon GO Plus, a Bluetooth low-energy wearable device that notifies players when there are creatures nearby.

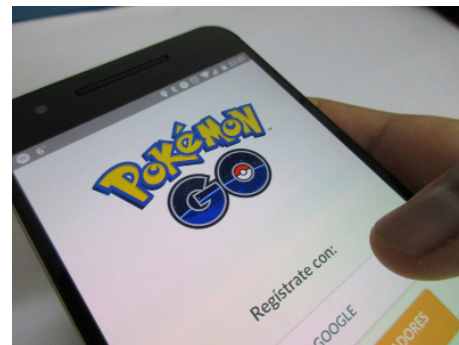
As with any piece of software, the game did ship with its own technical issues, such as bugs, glitches and server connection problems, but these are likely to be solved as updates and patches are rolled out.

Other problems are inherent to the technologies it uses. Due to the long time the screen has to be on, combined with intense use of the camera, 3D rendering and GPS, a Pokémon hunt can quickly drain your phone's battery.

But because it is an inherently social and outdoors game, it also presents a whole new category of problems. The game requires players to walk around while dividing their attention between the phone and their surroundings, so it increases the risk of injury.

Several features of the app are location-dependent, requiring players to be physically present at that location to trigger a game event. Whereas most of the time, this offers players an opportunity to explore and discover new spots in their cities, it also creates awkward situations.

A police station in Darwin was tagged as a PokéStop (a landmark where players can get resources to capture more



Pokémon), causing officers to publish a warning on their Facebook page that it was not necessary to actually enter the building to obtain in-game benefits.

The way in which the game tags important locations has also caused problems for the unlucky owners of properties inadvertently designated as in-game "gyms", causing players to trespass and loiter.

In its choice of city landmarks, the game's algorithm often chooses delicate or inappropriate locations. We compiled the Tumblr page PokéMorbid with a series of examples, including war memorials and mausoleums tagged as "gyms", and Pokémon suddenly appearing at funerals and hospitals.

Despite the hiccups along the way, Pokémon GO has successfully brought pervasive gaming into the mainstream.

Upcoming augmented reality headsets such as the Microsoft HoloLens have the potential to make such games even more immersive.

In the meantime, we can enjoy rediscovering our cities while we "catch'em all". Just be careful not to bump into trees as you try to capture that Pikachu.



## Rights Group To Take Action After Cannes Burkini Ban

A French human rights group has said it will oppose a ban on burkinis in courts after the seaside city of Cannes barred the full-body, head-covering swimsuits worn by some Muslim women.

"Ten women have asked us to sue the town of Cannes," Marwan Muhammad, the executive director of the Collective Against Islamophobia in France, said in a statement posted on the group's Facebook page on Friday.

"We are currently conducting interlocutory action against Cannes."

Citing security concerns, Cannes Mayor David Lisnard issued an ordinance forbidding beachwear that did not respect "good morals and secularism", the AP news agency reported.

Swimwear "manifesting religious affiliation in an ostentatious way, while France and

its religious sites are currently the target of terrorist attacks, could create risks of trouble to public order", added Lisnard, who has called the burkini "the uniform of extremist Islamism".

The burkini prohibition is in effect until August 31<sup>st</sup>, officials said. Those who violate the new rule risk a \$42 fine.

The ban was also criticised by anti-racism group SOS Racisme, which attacked what it said was the mayor's "strategy of tension".

Proponents say the laws preserve France's secular values and protect women from reli-

gious oppression.

However, critics argue such laws deepen the religious divide.

"Not a day goes by without the target of Muslims, especially Muslim women in France," Yasser Louati, a human rights and civil liberties activist, said from Paris on Friday.

"There is a feeling now that France is at war with its own citizens. Today they are Muslims, and yesterday they were Jews," said Louati. "French elites cannot live in peace with minorities."



Information taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/europe/60413-cannes-burkini-ban.html>  
Image taken from: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/topicagnostic/2802117596/in/photostream/>



## Cuba Celebrates Fidel Castro's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

On August 14<sup>th</sup>, friends and allies of Fidel Castro, the founding leader of communist Cuba and its former president, are celebrating his 90th birthday.

The revolutionary leader looked frail as he attended the celebrations on Saturday in the capital Havana with his brother, Raul Castro, and the Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro.

"I want to express my deepest gratitude for the shows of respect, greetings and praise that I've received in recent

days, which give me strength to reciprocate with ideas that I will send to party militants and relevant organisations," Castro wrote in a letter about his birthday.

"Modern medical techniques have allowed me to scrutinise the universe," added Castro, who stepped down as Cuba's president 10 years ago after suffering a severe gastrointestinal illness.

The country has a month of festivities planned to honour the former president, includ-

ing photography exhibitions and documentaries - as well as a Guinness World Record breaking 90-metre long cigar to represent each year of his life.

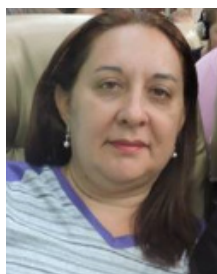


Information and image taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/americas/60434-fidel-castros-90th-birthday.html>



## Moodle As A Virtual Tool To Enhance Students' Skills

By Eugenia González (ILE Professor)



The internet has revolutionized the way people learn. Today students have no idea how difficult it was to get information in the past since nowadays they have just to click any electronic device to obtain what they want. When I tell my students about my university experience as a pupil, they laugh. They can't imagine themselves sitting long hours in a library checking magazines, books and newspapers to do a specific assignment. This sounds like science fiction for them. Similarly, if someone had told me in that time about the technology we have now, I would smile thinking this would be something impossible to happen as my students do today with my experience. When analyzing our reality and the influence technology has in our lifestyles, we can see how professionals in education look for different strategies to reinforce the performance of the students. Definitely, one way to do it is by using different educational platforms. They help participants to develop the teaching and learning process. Moodle is an example of a helpful platform that can support the learning process in different ways. Moodle allows the teachers to upload links of selected sites for students to practice. The teacher is the professional who masters the different subjects, so he knows the level of the students and their needs. In this way, he has the knowledge to choose the appropriate material not only for the class but also for the extra assignments to support the class work. These tasks allow students to practice at home and in many cases they can do online exercises and check their answers. Moreover, they can get explanations without having the teacher next to them. This is a benefit especially for students who really want to improve their competences outside the class. Besides, Moodle allows the teacher to control how much work the student has done and

the tasks he has completed. The platform has a variety of options, so the teacher can design different evaluations such as quizzes, questionnaires and short tests. He can also assign the homework and immediately the students get the information and the task due date. Moreover, in some cases a grade is registered automatically by the system when students have finished a task. This is very useful for the teacher who most of the time has to spend a lot of hours checking evaluations. In this way, he can invest this time looking for appropriate materials for the students. Finally, this platform allows teachers to upload information in an organized way. The professor can organize the information by week, month etc. In this way students and teachers can have the information divided by dates. For instance, students who miss classes can get the materials on the platform and check what topics were developed in the classroom easily. Also, for those attending classes the extra resources allow them to do a variety of exercises. On the other hand, this is a versatile way of keeping materials on line because teachers can removed the ones that are not necessary or update them to have a bank of different resources that can share with other teachers and use in different courses. In summary, platforms are tools that help the participants in the teaching and learning process. Hence, it is a priority for the educational institutions to have an official platform that strengthens the face to face courses. This is a useful way for teachers to save time in the classroom, assign and check evaluations and have access to the materials any time is needed. The idea of providing students with a great variety of resources is to make them feel more comfortable developing their competences. Therefore, educational authorities should not doubt to incorporate these types of platforms to enhance the profile of the students.



## Today's Students: Who Are They?

By Gabriela Calvo (ILE Professor)



Who are today's students? How can instructors cope with the challenges of teaching the new generations? In order to get a few answers to these questions, it is necessary to first understand who the 21st Century students are. Let's take a closer look:

### 1. Tech savvy:

It is no surprise to any one that today's students are constantly surrounded by technology. Do not be afraid to try new technology, and even what you might consider "silly" games, as part of your lesson plans. Do your students like Pokémon Go? No problem! Use that game to teach them how to give directions, to describe the most powerful creature they have captured, to interact with their classmates using the target language while they take a tour around campus activating PokéStops and catching Pokémons. They will love it! Since technology is a part of life these days, we just cannot forget to make it part of our classrooms, too.

What about social media sites? This is another useful resource that comes handy when teaching postmodern students. Just to mention one of the many advantages to using this kind of technology in our classrooms is that social media sites help to increase student collaboration. Through this means, students can easily contact one another in order to work on collaborative projects or assignments. Moreover, if they need help with homework, they can just post or send a message using Facebook or Whatsapp asking if anyone can help. Many professors like to create Whatsapp groups in which students can address a specific question to the teacher and the whole class can have access to the teacher's feedback.

### 2. Less traditional:

Many 21st Century students lead busy lives often with work and family responsibilities aside from school. Due to this, university classrooms should be enjoyable and entertaining. Not long ago, the teacher's role was to stand at the front of the room lecturing their students. Nowadays, the ideal classroom should be student centered. Rows and columns of desks do not go well with this concept of student oriented classrooms. Try to rearrange student desks in a circle or small circles, get them to work more in groups rather than individually. Getting students out of their desks and moving is a must!

Afraid of getting rid of books? Books will always be a very useful resource when planning lessons and looking for extra practices for reinforcement. However, today's students need more practical materials to work with. They like visuals and dislike having only written words on worksheets or slide shows. Therefore, if you want your classes to be less traditional and more attractive for students, try avoiding the use of textbooks. On the other hand, focus on incorporating pictures, graphs, drawings, and any other characteristic that will make your handouts and other resources more appealing for students.

"If we teach today  
as we taught yesterday,  
then we rob our children  
of tomorrow"

-John Dewey

The UTN community includes professors, administrative staff and students. Each individual has something to say about everything. In this section, we give the university community the opportunity to express what they feel about different school, country and world issues that in one or another way affect or impact our lives, feelings and opinions. This month in which we enjoy a week off, we asked students:

*Do you agree with the implementation of the law against animal cruelty?*

*Lately, news programs have shown how many people hurt animals and give them a miserable life. Animal aggressors should be punished as any other criminal.*

*Ricardo Soto*

*I agree because it is unfair that people take advantage of animals that cannot protect themselves.*

*Natalia Sánchez*

*I agree because animals can also feel, so they deserve rights and protection.*

*Daniela Jiménez*

*I totally agree because it is so unfair. If you do not like animals, do not have them but respect them.*

*Marisol Rojas*

*I agree because animal abuse and mistreatment has dramatically increased in the last years.*

*Warren Trejos*

*I strongly agree. Animals, as well as humans and plants, should live in harmony. We all are part of God's creation and share and live the same place.*

*Jonathan Quesada*

*I agree because they are just like humans. They need food, shelter and love.*

*Andrea López*



*The moment a person understand animals are part of God's creation, it is the moment when animal abuse will stop.*

*Daniel Rodríguez*





## Parque de Diversiones



The Parque Diversiones Dr. Roberto Ortiz Brenes also known as Parque Diversiones) is an amusement park located in la Uruca, 2 km West from Hospital México, San José.

The park's motto is "healthy children helping healing children". The park was named for Dr. Brenes because it was his proposal which resulted in it being established. His idea was that the profits from the amusement park would assist to support the National Children's Hospital "Dr. Carlos Saénz Herrera", which was established in 1964. The National Amusement Park began operating at the end of 1981.

Among other attractions, the amusement park has four roller coasters:

- Bocaraca (completed 2005) a Vekoma Whirlwind roller coaster.
- Teletren (2002) a kiddie roller coaster.
- Cíclon (1987) closed and removed at 2006, replaced by Disko at 2007.
- Ghibli (1984) another kiddie roller coaster.
- Bumerán (2012) a Vekoma Boomerang roller coaster.

In addition, there is a section called Pueblo Antiguo, Pueblo Antiguo, which has elements of the old Costa Rica, with plays and presentations during the day, the old 'Pulperías' where you can get products produced and sold a very long time ago and restaurants that sell Costa Rican traditional food

The park is nice and easy to get around. The lines are not very long. It is open Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 7 pm.

The entrance is free. You can buy individual tickets for each

attraction for ₡750 or the one-day ticket, which gives you access to all attractions for ₡7.850. There are several fast food restaurants and an arcade for the ones who love videogames.



## *Laudato Si*

**An important personal aspect each person should pay attention to is the importance protecting our planet. This month of August in which we celebrate National Parks Day in Costa Rica, we want to share some information about the new papal encyclical on the environment: *Laudato Si*.**



The climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all. At the global level, it is a complex system linked to many of the essential conditions for human life.

A very solid scientific consensus indicates that we are presently witnessing a disturbing warming of the climatic system. In recent decades this warming has been accompanied by a constant rise in the sea level and, it would appear, by an increase of extreme weather events, even if a scientifically determinable cause cannot be assigned to each particular phenomenon.

Humanity is called to recognise the need for changes of lifestyle, production and consumption, in order to combat this warming or at least the human causes which produce or aggravate it. It is true that there are other factors (such as volcanic activity, variations in the Earth's orbit and axis, the solar cycle), yet a number of scientific studies indicate that most global warming in recent decades is due to the great concentration of greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxides and others) released mainly as a result of human activity.

Concentrated in the atmosphere, these gases do not allow the warmth of the sun's rays reflected by the Earth to be dispersed in space. The problem is aggravated by a model of development based on the intensive use of fossil fuels, which is at the heart of the worldwide energy system. Another determining factor has been an increase in changed uses of the soil, principally deforestation for agricultural purposes.

Many of those who possess more resources and economic or political power seem mostly to be concerned with masking the problems or concealing their symptoms, simply making efforts to reduce some of the negative impacts of climate change. However, many of these symptoms indicate that such effects will continue to worsen if we continue with current models of production and consumption.

There is an urgent need to develop policies so that, in the next few years, the emission of carbon dioxide and other highly polluting gases can be drastically reduced, for example, substituting for fossil fuels and developing sources of renewable energy. Worldwide there is minimal access to clean and renewable energy.

There is still a need to develop adequate storage technologies. Some countries have made considerable progress, although it is far from constituting a significant proportion. Investments have also been made in means of production and transportation which consume less energy and require fewer raw materials, as well as in methods of construction and renovating buildings which improve their energy efficiency. But these good practices are still far from widespread.



SITUATION	FORMAL	RELAXED	INFORMAL
You have just eaten at a restaurant. The service was terrible.	The service was of a substandard nature.	The service was really bad.	The service was a joke.
You were on a flight that was delayed for 72 hours. It was not a pleasant experience.	It was a most frightful experience.	It was terrible.	It was a nightmare.
A friend was very angry and shouted at you a lot.	She communicated her sentiments to me in a most aggressive manner.	She really shouted at me.	She gave me hell.

Information taken from: Hot English Online Magazine #113 p.36

## “ENGLISH FOR YOU CR” PRESENTS, MODALS OF POSSIBILITY AND PREDICTION



When we are talking about the future, and the possibilities of something to happen, we can use the modals *may*, *might* and *could*.

Although many teachers do not agree on this, we can use each modal in a different way *according to the probabilities of each event*. So:

*May* refers to a **50%** of probabilities: I may go to the beach next month.

*Could* and *might* refer to **less than 50%**: I might go to the beach if I don't have to work.

In addition, when we are *pretty sure* that something is going or not going to happen, we use *will* and *won't for prediction*:

You will like that movie (prediction, because *I'm 100%* sure you will like it).

She won't cook tonight because she is very tired (negative prediction, there is a **0% of probabilities** that she will cook tonight).

Keep in mind that the negatives are *won't*, *may not*, and *might not*. In this context ***could not is never used***.

# 90 SECONDS WITH...

We see them walking around the UTN campus. They are always willing to help us when we need information, advice and guidance. UTN academic and administrative staff is an important element of the university. However, people hardly have the chance to meet them. In this section, we will try give you a glance of the other side of all those people who are behind UTN organization and functioning. In this issue, let's meet:

## ***Melania Chaverri Sánchez, bookworm, recreational cyclist, occasional dancer and Extension and Student Welfare Department Psychologist.***

### ***Where do you live?***

I am originally from the southern suburbs of San José, specifically from Desamparados, and now I live in Tibás.

### ***Best childhood memory?***

I have three sisters; I am the youngest. My family on my father's side had a farm near Térraba River in the South. During our vacations, we used to go there and swim in the clean rivers, ride our bikes and horses. We enjoyed doing different things that were difficult to do in San José.



### ***Favorite food***

My favorite food is chicken in all its presentations: fried, roast, with potatoes, etc. On the contrary and different from many people, something that I cannot eat is ceviche. I have tried eating ceviche, but I cannot do it.

### ***What is always in your fridge?***

In my refrigerator, you will always find fruits: mangoes, oranges, watermelon, and pineapple.

### ***Favorite Music?***

In terms of music I enjoy Latin music like salsa and merengue; also, nationally I love Mal País music, and one of my favorite singers is Rosana from Spain.

# 90 SECONDS WITH...

## **Would you class yourself as a day or night person?**

I definitely consider myself a night person. If I have to do it, I do it, but it is a little bit difficult to wake up early in the morning.

## **First job**

I was finishing my psychology degree at UCR, and I had the chance to be part of a team in charge to develop a HIV-prevention project. We had to give conferences in different parts of Quepos, Jacó, and Puntarenas. This has been one of the best rewarding jobs I have had.

## **A good book**

There is a book called *Te llevaré en mis ojos* by Costa Rican author Rodolfo Arias. The story takes place during the 1970's; there was war in some Central American countries and in Costa Rica there was an ideological struggle, especially in the universities with the rise of the so-called 'nueva izquierda' (New Left) or Socialist Party. The main characters are some UCR students with those revolutionary ideas that really inspire new students like me, who was just beginning my studies at UCR. In fact, some of the topics prevail even today.

## **One of your favorite places**

Nationally, I love Uvita Beach, specifically the part of the beach where you can admire the famous whale's tail. Internationally, I was impressed with the story, ideology, mystery and beauty of Chichen Itza pyramid and surroundings.

## **What is your greatest fear?**

Since I am the youngest member of my family, I think my greatest fear is to lose one of my sisters or my parents. It would be very difficult for me to accept that situation.

## **Tell me a joke or proverb you remember right now.**

An expression that I constantly use is "que rajado". This would be something similar to be jaw drop, to show total amazement. I am one of those people who are easily to surprise by life and people.





# THE ATTIC OF BERTHA MASON

## School Life

*By Natalia Rodríguez (Composition II-ILE Student)*

Starting school is usually a nightmare for young kids. They are forced to start school even if they are not ready to do so. On the other hand, this is the time when kids are finally developing their personality and self-confidence. Later in life, those kids will become responsible grown-ups with stable jobs; likewise, they not only will be respectful towards people in challenging situations, but also, they will be persistent people when achieving new goals.

Becoming a responsible grown up is part of life and all of us have to go through that in one way or another; usually we start this process in our school years. We learn to be responsible by improving our knowledge; this teaches us how the process of life actually is. Moreover, learning important values along the way has a lot to do with responsibility too. Values enable us to decide whether to do something or not. Should I be doing the right thing here? Is this the right way to proceed with something? The values we learn since our childhood will become our friends for the rest of our lives. In the same way, being out of our comfort zone really pushes us to overcome potential barriers and again, being responsible when we have to make an important decision; even though, it means to do a totally new activity.

Likewise, being respectful towards people is quite an important rule we learn during our school life. We will be thought how to have good manners with people around us and this will facilitate boosting a great social life. Also, if we learn to respect others, we will know we have to think before doing something or taking actions. In this way, people can feel that you are someone easy to approach. In the meantime, your school life will also teach you how to be more open minded, a perfect way to understand, and respect what other people have to say or what are their beliefs.

Being persistent to achieve new goals is not only, a quality you learn while you attend school, but also an excellent tool to reach anything you put your mind in to. Committing to a specific target will help you to achieve goals really fast, as well as, teaming up with people among you. Equally, seeking short-term goals enhance your self-esteem, and all of these qualities are learned during your school life. Now, you have learned how important it is to embrace this stage!

Having said that, in the long run, children will succeed and will be able to achieve their dreams and conquer their fears, just exactly what parents really want and expect from their kids. It's not as bad as it sounds!

## *The Legend Of San Isidro Stone*

by Elieth Porras (ILE Student)

People from San Isidro de San Ramón always tell about a famous big stone. This story has been present in the minds since ancient times.

The story says that Huetar native people believed in a Sun God. Native people said this God was a symbol of sacrifice, so they found a huge stone to build an altar for these sacrifices. People born in March were the ones chosen for the religious sacrifice once they became fifteen years old.

The story tells that the native Cacique had a beautiful princess daughter called Yumbaruti, and the problem was, that this girl was born in March; for this reason, she would be sacrificed.

According to the tradition, the day that the princess celebrated her fifteenth birthday, she had to dance around a circle, whose center had an arc with a vessel full of essences, resins, and leaves. If at the end of the dance, the content of the vessel was burned and the sun was not hidden, the sacrifice was forgiven. Yumbaruti fifteenth birthday was near, and a handsome Chorotega man called Turichique came to the town of San Ramón, and he fell in love with Yumbaruti as soon as he saw her.

Yumbaruti had to do something to help Yumbaruti, so he decided to kidnap her and run away to the mountains.

However, the day of the dance, Yumbaruti returned and danced. The day was cloudy; the sun had refused to show up. Inside of the vessel essences, resins, and leaves never burned. The princess was exhausted and felt down. The shaman of the tribe said that the princess was not a virgin, and that was why the sun had acted that way. There was no way out for Yumbaruti; she had to be sacrificed.

All native people agreed that she was sacrificed, but when the girl was taken to the stone, rain began to fall, and lightning hit Yumbaruti.

Since that day, every year when there is rain and lightening, people say it is Turichique's spirit who is still wandering in search of his love.

## LET'S THINK ABOUT IT

These are entries to a competition asking for a rhyme with the most romantic first line but least romantic second line:

- 1) I love your smile, your face, and your eyes  
Damn, I'm good at telling lies!
- 2) I see your face when I am dreaming  
That's why I always wake up screaming.
- 3) My love, you take my breath away  
What have you stepped in to smell this way?
- 4) I thought that I could love no other  
Until, that is, I met your brother.
- 5) Kind, intelligent, loving and hot  
This describes everything that you are not.

Breaking up with my diet:

Dear Diet:

Things are just not going to work between us. It is not me. It is you. You are tasteless, boring, and I cannot stop cheating on you.



Real Diet Meaning

Did  
I  
Eat  
That

*I am on a seafood diet.  
I see food and I eat it.*

*I try to avoid things that make me fat like scales, mirrors and photographs.*

**Q:** What does the Loch Ness monster eat?  
**A:** Fish and ships

**Q:** What is Black and white and read (red) all over?  
**A:** A newspaper

**Q:** "What letter of the alphabet has got lots of water?"  
**A:** "The C"







## GOOGLE CLASSROOM RESOURCES

Google Classroom is a blended learning platform for schools that aim to simplify creating, distributing and grading assignments in a paperless way. Its aim is to be a paperless educational system. Google Classroom is simple to use and accessible from all devices.

Google Classroom ties Google's many products together

to help educational institutions go to a paperless system. Assignment creation and distribution is accomplished through Google Drive while Gmail is used to provide classroom communication. Students can be invited to classrooms through the institution's database, through a private code that can then be added in the student interface or automatically imported from a School Information Management System. Google Classroom integrates with students and teachers Google Calendar. Each class created with Google Classroom creates a separate folder in the respective Google product where the student can submit work to be graded by a teacher. Communication through Gmail allows teachers to make announcements and ask questions to their students in each of their classes.

Teachers can add students directly from the Google Apps directory or can provide a code that can be entered for access to the class by students.

To know more about the different tools google classroom offers, go to:

<http://www.coolcatteacher.com/google-classroom-resources/>










# THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

## IT HAPPENED IN AUGUST

August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1838	Slavery was abolished in Jamaica. It had been introduced by Spanish settlers 300 years earlier in 1509.
August 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 1492	Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain, with three ships, Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria. Seeking a westerly route to the Far East, he instead landed on October 12 <sup>th</sup> in the Bahamas, thinking it was an outlying Japanese island.
August 6 <sup>th</sup> , 1945	The first Atomic Bomb was dropped over the center of Hiroshima at 8:15 a.m., by the American B-29 bomber Enola Gay. The bomb detonated about 1,800 ft. above ground, killing over 105,000 persons and destroying the city. Another estimated 100,000 persons later died as a result of radiation effects.
August 8 <sup>th</sup> , 1945	Soviet Russia declared war on Japan and sent troops into Japanese-held Manchuria.
August 16 <sup>th</sup> , 1896	Gold was discovered in Rabbit Creek, a tributary of the Klondike River in Alaska, resulting in the Great Klondike Gold Rush.
August 18 <sup>th</sup> , 1920	The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, granting women the right to vote.
August 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 1986	Deadly fumes from a volcanic eruption under Lake Nios in Cameroon killed more than 1,500 persons.
August 29 <sup>th</sup> , 1991	Following the unsuccessful coup of August 19-21, the Soviet Communist Party was suspended, thus ending the institution that ruled Soviet Russia for nearly 75 years.

## FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN THIS MONTH

PERSON	JOB	BIRTHDAY
	TV Actor (X-Files)	August 8 <sup>th</sup> , 1960
	TV Actress (X-Files)	August 9 <sup>th</sup> , 1968
	Movie Actor	August 15 <sup>th</sup> , 1972
	TV Actor (Friends)	August 19 <sup>th</sup> , 1969
	Led Zeppelin Singer	August 20 <sup>th</sup> , 1948
	Comedian	August 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 1978
	KISS Singer	August 25 <sup>th</sup> , 1949



# THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

## National Parks Day In Costa Rica

August 24<sup>th</sup> was National Parks Day in Costa Rica, and numerous protected areas celebrated significant anniversaries. Manuel Antonio National Park, on the central Pacific coast, and Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve, in the Tilarán Mountains in north-central Costa Rica, marked their 44<sup>th</sup> birthdays, while La Amistad International Park, in southern Costa Rica, turned 34.

A National Park in Costa Rica is defined as a protected area that has been legally declared a National Treasure in order to protect and conserve the biodiversity it contains.

The Wildlife of Costa Rica comprises all naturally occurring animals, fungi and plants that reside in this Central American country. Costa Rica supports an enormous variety of wildlife, due in large part to its geographic position between the North and South American continents, its neotropical climate, and its wide variety of habitats. Costa Rica is home to more than **500,000 species**, which represents nearly 4% of the total species estimated worldwide, making Costa Rica one of the 20 countries with the highest biodiversity in the world. Of these



500,000 species, a little more than 300,000 are insects.

Costa Rica's system of Protected Areas consists of an impressive 9 different categories: 1) **National Parks** 2) **Biological Reserves** 3) **Natural Reserves** 4) **National Monuments** 5) **Protected Zones** 6) **Forest Reserves** 7) **Wildlife Refuges** 8) **Wetlands** & 9) **Indigenous Territories**. These wildlife and rainforest areas have been declared as such due to their unique eco-systems, the existence of endangered species and for their significant historical and cultural value as well. The total of

these diverse 169 Protected Areas equals approximately 26% of Costa Rica's territory.

There are an impressive 28 National Parks in Costa Rica, with each park having its own unique features, making each and every one of them worth an in-depth visit.

The protected areas of Costa Rica generate extensive economic resources to support its dynamic eco-systems, as well as building centers for further ecological studies, stimulating scientific investigation to learn the proper handling of these delicate zones.



# PROVERB OF THE MONTH

A proverb is a short saying or sentence that is generally known by many people. The saying usually contains words of wisdom, truth or morality that are based on common sense or practical experience. It is often a description of a basic rule of conduct that all people generally follow or should follow. In this month, in which we celebrate National Parks Day in Costa Rica, we want to share this proverb about people's relation to nature :

*“Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.. ”*

*-Chief Seattle*

## Discovering Pura Vida

Remember if you want to read authentic stories made in UTN-ILE, you can find them in Discovering Pura Vida. The books are series of language learning and culture immersion original stories in English with an interesting way of learning Spanish. They are for kindle readers at the moment, but any PC or tablet can display them, too. Each book is \$3.99.



To buy the books and learn more about Discovering Pura Vida go to: [PURA VIDA](#)

# PROGRAMA DE IDIOMAS



## Description

Our language open courses have been designed to provide students an environment in which they can participate and role play everyday situations.

Experienced teachers and small groups complement a process applying appropriate foreign language learning strategies. Phonetic concepts are included to reinforce oral abilities in a way students can integrate other language skills, such as reading comprehension, listening, and grammar structures.

Besides, students are able to discuss and express their opinions on several topics regarding a variety of common interest issues such as sports, culture, pollution, social problems, and the like, by using proper grammar structures and pronunciation.

At the end of the program, students achieve an intermediate level of language production (B1 according to the Common European Framework) intended as satisfactory to fulfill their academic and professional requirements with native speakers.

## Academic program

Our program consists of the following academic offerings:

### English Introductory Level

(INGLES NIVELATORIO)



A basic two-month course designed to provide students elementary language tools.

### Regular English Program

(INGLES REGULAR)



A two-year program in which students attend classes twice a week, morning or evening schedule, or only on Saturday mornings.

### Intensive English Program

(INGLES INTENSIVO)



A twelve-month program in which students attend three times a week, morning or evening schedule.

### English For Children and Teenagers

(INGLES PARA NIÑOS Y ADOLESCENTES)



A two-year program designed for children and teenagers up to 14 years old. Students attend classes on Saturday evenings.

### Portuguese



A fourteen-month program in which students attend classes twice a week, morning or evening schedule, or only on Saturday mornings.

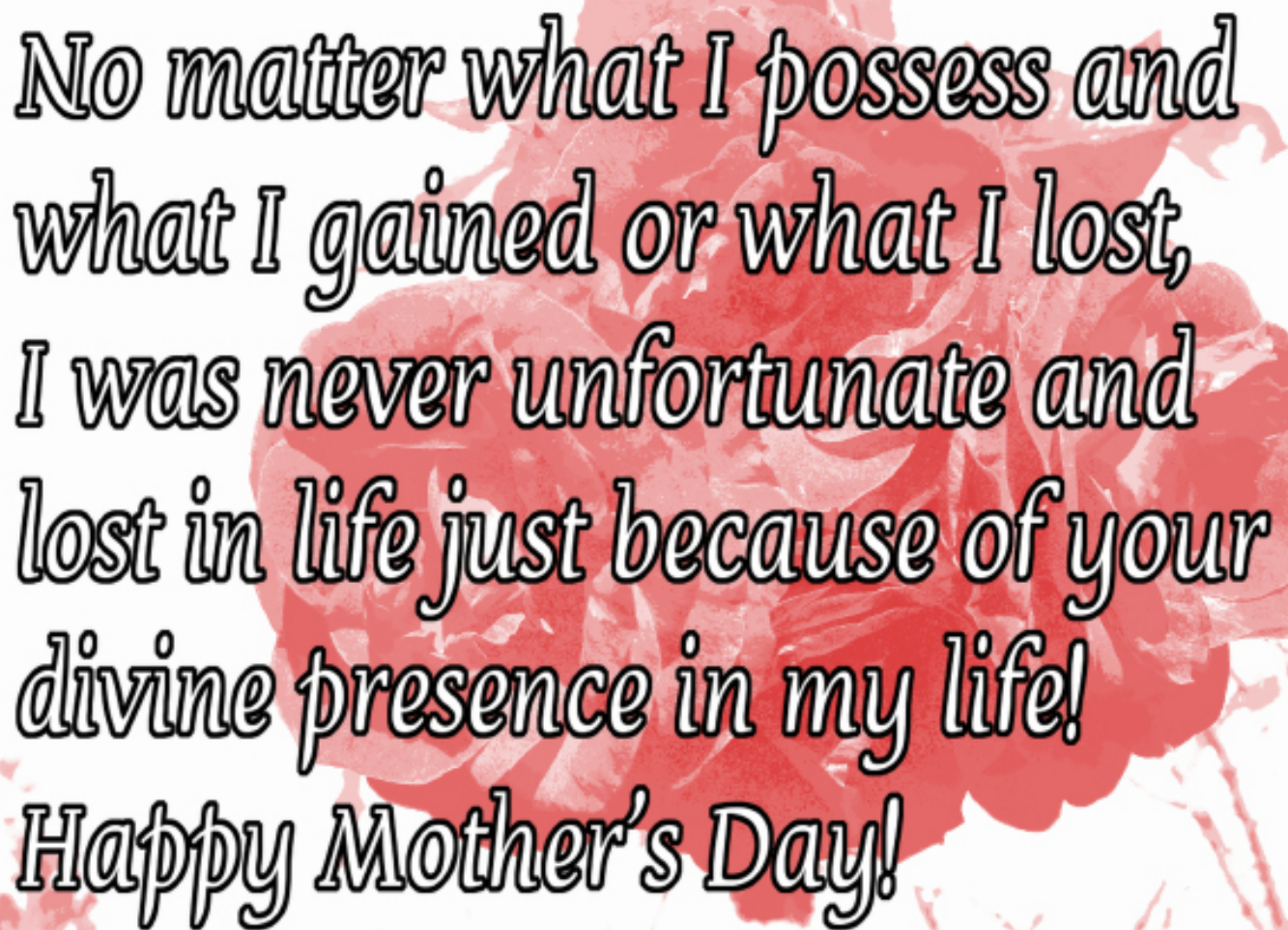
## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Registration fee is not charged.
- Placement test (Optional).
- Age requirement: 15 years old minimum. (does not include the Children Program)

Further information: Tel. 2435-5000 ext: 1192-1193 or through e-mail [programaidiomas@utn.ac.cr](mailto:programaidiomas@utn.ac.cr)







No matter what I possess and  
what I gained or what I lost,  
I was never unfortunate and  
lost in life just because of your  
divine presence in my life!  
Happy Mother's Day!