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International Day Of Peace

Latin American Forum At UTN

The Importance Of Intercultural Competence

Remind 101

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The dictionary defines peace as a stress-free state of security and calmness that comes when there's no fighting or war, everything coexisting in perfect harmony and freedom.. This month in which we celebrate Day of Peace, we want to share with you this image that shows one of the most famous peace symbols. 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.

Picture taken from: [Photo credit: steakpinball via Foter.com / CC BY](#)

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EDITORIAL

Strikes In The Heart Of Costa Rica

by Eric herrera (ILE Professor)



Cambridge dictionary defines a strike as: **to refuse to continue working because of an argument with an employer about working conditions, pay levels, or job losses.** However, this dictionary also gives this definition: **to**

cause a person or place to suffer severely from the effects of something very unpleasant that happens suddenly. Well, in Costa Rica it seems they two go together.

During 2016, Costa Rica has seemingly been in chaos. Strikes are disrupting vital public services, including transport and even health services. Major unions are constantly calling for protests this week, in a month and so on. All this threatens Costa Rica's image, its economy and its security.

In the past are the memories of the first national strike of 1934 when 10.000 workers went on strike to demand better pay and working conditions. The reasons for today's strikes are countless: illegality of UBER, new public employment policies, collective-bargaining laws, public service privatization threats, bad road condition, budget cuts; in brief, you name it, there is an organized group somewhere in Costa Rica that has it.

The particular strikes we have in Costa Rica raise a lot of questions about **how much power unions should have and the methods they use to achieve their objectives.**

Costa Rica's legislation depends on the public sector for health services, which means that if there is a strike, people can

die; in addition, ICE and RECOPE are in charge of electricity and oil through, which means they can easily stop businesses and daily life activities In the blink of an eye with a strike.

Moreover, the poor and limited road infrastructure of this country permits to paralyze a country with approximately 1.6 million cars with the participation of few taxi or bus drivers.

Labor union leaders forget that work is an input to the productive process just like any other; therefore, going on strike is an abuse of a service by a particular group. The community cannot tolerate the notion that it is defenseless at the hands of organized workers to whom it has entrusted responsibility for essential services.

Even though going on strike is a right workers have, there are previous measures to take before interrupting the social, economical and emotional life of Costa Ricans. It is not fair that nearly **195.00 people** (number of union members in Costa Rica) play, affect and manipulate the life of the rest of people who believe more in social dialogue, negotiation and judicial authorities to fight for what is right.

In brief, taken together, the intrinsic advantages that public-sector unions enjoy have given organized government laborers enormous power over the government to shape public finances and fiscal policy; and to influence the very spirit of our democracy. Let's be careful not to change the purpose of a strike and turn it into **a cultural habit.**

Latin American Forum At UTN

During September 8th and 9th, UTN was honored to host the third Latin American Forum of Technological and Polytechnic Universities. There were approximately 300 attendees, mostly chancellors and directors of various institutions from across Latin America, including Mexico, Panama, Costa Rica, Argentina, and Brazil, from about 30 different universities.

Since the first meeting in 2014, members of Latin America's leading universities have seen this activity as an opportunity for building and articulating initiatives around the challenges posed by the different development models in Latin America and their relation to those of higher education, especially the connection between universities and productive sectors, the workplace in general and business opportunities.

The forum's objective is to raise awareness about the need to learn and renew attitudes, values, skills, knowledge and competences that allow learners to face old and new challenges and opportunities successfully. Technical and vocational education and training (TVET) is an integral part of UNESCO's education mandate. TVET has always had a special role to play in preparing young people and adults for the world of



work – by providing them with knowledge, skills and competencies that assist in gaining a decent income, increasing productivity, raising standards of living and providing an improved quality of life.

Among the lecturers were: Claudio Rama (Uruguay) who pointed out that in the current context national public policies are being formulated towards a global space in which a higher education without boundaries emerges as a reality in a process overflowing with threats and opportunities; Celso Garrido Noguera (Argentina) who explained the importance of creating links between higher education institutions and the productive and economic sector; Roberto Escalante Semerena (México) who referred to the role of technical and vocational education in the development of Latin American and Caribbean higher education.

The expansion of higher edu-

cation and rapid changes in patterns of work, combined with a growing infusion of new technologies and innovation, has brought about an unprecedented shift in program design in higher learning. The type of training offered needs to be wide ranging. Basic skills training may be linked to the daily activities that occupy people, and skills to upgrade modest individual economic endeavors are important, expressed UTN Chancellor Marcelo Prieto.

Finally, during the event the participants discussed and approved an agreement for the establishment of Red de Universidades Tecnológicas y Politécnicas de América Latina (RUTPAL). The main purpose of this network is to strengthen the role of technological and polytechnic universities as a fundamental means to face the new challenges in regional sustainable development and meet the challenges of the future.

UTN Present At World Information Technology Forum

World Information Technology Forum (WITFOR) 2016 was held in San José, Costa Rica, in collaboration with the Costa Rican Public Universities, under the overarching theme of information and communication technology (ICT) for Promoting Human Development and Protecting the Environment.

The objective of this fifth event intended to bring together

members of the ICT community from governments, academia, industry and associations, to discuss recent proposals aimed to reach the sustainable development goals, promoted by the United Nations, to improve global conditions by reducing poverty and hunger; achieving universal education; promoting gender equality; ensuring environmental sustainability;

combating diseases and reducing mortality.

The conference goals were pursued through technical sessions as well as keynote speeches on important topics. The technical ses-

sions referred to the following main areas:

- a) ICT and cross-cutting development issues, involving human, environmental and economic development problems
- b) ICT and human development problems
- c) ICT and environmental problems
- d) ICT and economic development problems

During the three day event there were 165 participants (134 from Costa Rica and 41 from abroad), 22 academic papers included in the proceedings, 6 keynote talks complemented papers, 8 demos, and 3 panels.

A UTN delegation of fifteen people had the chance to learn and share ideas with participants from many different countries.





UTN
Universidad
Técnica Nacional

CURSOS LIBRES

V Bimestre 2016

Matriculación ordinaria: Semana del 26 al 30 de setiembre
 Matriculación extraordinaria: Semana del 03 al 07 de octubre
 Periodo de lecciones: Semana del 10 octubre al 03 de diciembre

UTN Department Of Student Affairs In Action

The UTN Department of Student Affairs is in charge of providing leadership, social, extracurricular and academic counseling programs to all students. Some of the objectives of this department are:

- to facilitate harmonious student interaction with peers and the entire UTN community;
- to provide counseling services to students with academic and social problems;
- to raise awareness on all health issues;
- to provide advice and guidance to students with disabilities about study-related matters;
- to make recommendations about inclusive practice and individual reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities and collaborate with all parties to support implementation;
- to provide advice and information to staff working with individual disabled students, respecting appropriate confidentiality requirements;
- to provide free, specialist interventions through a professionally staffed confidential service to students who experience psychological distress to enable them to achieve their academic and personal goals.

Through all its manifold programs, the UTN Department of Student Affairs seeks to provide ample opportunities for the welfare of the students and involve them in its activities apart from their day-to-day studies.

The department is divided into programs like the Social Work Help Program, which is in charge of scholarships; the Sports and Culture Program, which is in charge of organizing extra curricular activities like workshops, concerts, conferences, tournaments, etc.; the Student Welfare Program, which is in charge



of vocational guidance, group counseling, peer counseling, stress reduction, test taking strategies, time management, study skills, psychological assistance.

One of the most important tasks of UTN Department of Student Affairs is to work with curricular adjustments for students with learning differences. These adjustments include:

- adapting assessment materials, e.g., in Braille
- providing assistance such as a sign language interpreter
- using assistive technology such as screen reading or voice activated software
- helping with tutoring programs
- making sure students with disabilities have adequate access to all facilities

UTN main campus in Alajuela has 52% of the entire student with learning differences population, approximately 50 people each term; however, the departments counts with only one person for this particular aspect (psychological assistance).

We invite you to learn a little bit more of this department and join efforts to continue offering UTN students the high quality education they deserve.

US And China Ratify Paris Climate Deal

The two largest contributors to global carbon emissions, China and the United States, have ratified the hallmark Paris agreement to battle climate change. The countries' ratification could help put the pact into force before the end of the year.

China and the US are responsible for about 40 percent of total global carbon emissions. Other countries are expected to follow China and the US and ratify the deal later this month during the UN Climate Change week. "Hopefully this will encourage other countries to take similar efforts," President Xi said after today's announcement.

The climate accord was signed last year in Paris. Its main goal is

to slash greenhouse gas emissions and keep global temperature increases to "well below" two degrees Celsius. In the Paris agreement China and the US have committed to cutting levels of emissions by 2030. "There's an American saying, You need to put your money where your mouth is. That's what we're doing," President Obama said.

To cross this legal threshold UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on he will hold a high-level event in New York to which he will invite country leaders to



formally ratify the Paris climate change agreement.

Experts have said that target is already in danger of being breached, with the UN weather agency saying that 2016 is on course to be the warmest since records began.

Information and image taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/americas/60785-paris-climate-deal.html>



Giant Pandas No Longer Endangered In China

Decades of conservation work in China have paid off for the giant panda, whose status has been upgraded from "endangered" to "vulnerable" owing to a population rebound, according to officials.

The improvement for the giant panda was announced on Sunday as part of an update to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, the world's most comprehensive inventory of plants and animals. The latest estimates show a population of 1,864 adult giant pandas. Although exact numbers are not available, adding cubs to the projection would mean about 2,060 pandas exist today, the IUCN said.

"Evidence from a series of range-

wide national surveys indicate that the previous population decline has been arrested, and the population has started to increase," the IUCN's updated report said.

The cornerstones of the Chinese government's effort to bring back its fuzzy, black-and-white national icon have included an intense effort to replant bamboo forests, which provide food and shelter for the bears.

Through its "rent-a-panda" captive breeding programme, China has also loaned some bears to zoos abroad in exchange for cash, and reinvested that money in conservation efforts.

According to Simon Stuart, chair of the IUCN Species Survival Commission, the improvement

came from the hard work of controlling poaching and replanting bamboo forests.

"This is something to celebrate because it is not a part of the world where we expect this to happen," Stuart told reporters at a news conference to unveil the updated Red List.



Information and image taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/asia-pacific/60818-giant-pandas.html>

'Is That Not Genocide?' Pipeline Co. Bulldozing Burial Sites Prompts Emergency Motion

by Lauren McCauley

In a last ditch attempt to protect burial and prayer sites, North Dakota's Standing Rock Sioux late Sunday filed for a temporary restraining order to halt construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline, which they say has already caused "irreparable harm" to the sacred plots.

"On Saturday, Dakota Access Pipeline and Energy Transfer Partners brazenly used bulldozers to destroy our burial sites, prayer sites and culturally significant artifacts," said tribal chairman David Archambault II in a press statement.

"They did this on a holiday weekend, one day after we filed court papers identifying these sacred sites," Archambault added. "The desecration of these ancient places has already caused the Standing Rock Sioux irreparable harm. We're asking the court to halt this path of destruction."

The emergency motion came after security forces hired by the pipeline company attacked Indigenous demonstrators with dogs and pepper spray on Saturday, September 3rd.

The ongoing tribal protest against the Dakota Access pipeline has drawn thousands of supporters, including representatives from more than 200 tribes, and garnered increasing media attention. And a federal judge is currently weighing whether construction should be stopped altogether,

in response to a complaint filed by the tribe, which argues that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approved the project without their consent. That decision is expected by Sept. 9.

"The Tribe has been seeking to vindicate its rights peacefully through the courts. But Dakota Access Pipeline used evidence submitted to the Court as their roadmap for what to bulldoze. That's just wrong," said Jan Hasselman, attorney for the Standing Rock Sioux.

"Destroying the Tribe's sacred places over a holiday weekend, while the judge is considering whether to block the pipeline, shows a flagrant disregard for the legal process," Hasselman added.

LaDonna Bravebull Allard, historic preservation office for Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's Section 106, noted in a piece published at YES! Magazine that "Of the 380 archeological sites that face desecration along the entire pipeline route, from North Dakota to Illinois, 26 of them are right here at the confluence of these two rivers," the Cannonball and the Missouri. "It is a historic trading ground," Bravebull Allard wrote, "a place held sacred



not only by the Sioux Nations, but also the Arikara, the Mandan, and the Northern Cheyenne."

What's more, she highlighted how this latest affront is part of a legacy of the U.S. government erasing Indigenous culture through the destruction of their sacred sites.

"The U.S. government is wiping out our most important cultural and spiritual areas. And as it erases our footprint from the world, it erases us as a people," she continued. "These sites must be protected, or our world will end, it is that simple. Our young people have a right to know who they are. They have a right to language, to culture, to tradition. The way they learn these things is through connection to our lands and our history."

Finally, she posed the question: "If we allow an oil company to dig through and destroy our histories, our ancestors, our hearts and souls as a people, is that not genocide?"



Mexico Calls For President Enrique Peña Nieto To Quit

As Mexico gears up for its Independence Day celebrations, protesters took the streets of the capital to demand the president's resignation.

Thousands of people gathered in Mexico City on Thursday, September 15th, demanding that Enrique Peña Nieto resign over his handling of drug violence, corruption and his recent meeting with Republican White House hopeful Donald Trump.

Demonstrators waving blackened flags of Mexico marched across the capital towards the Zocalo Square, where the president traditionally stands on a balcony of the National Palace the night before the holiday to replicate the "grito", or shout of independence, made in 1810.

Riot police stood near the Zocalo to block access to protesters, who marched under the rallying cry "resign now". Parents of 43 students missing since September 26, 2014 joined the protest, with people angry at the government's failure to solve the case, almost two years after they were abducted by police and allegedly killed by a drug cartel.

Trump has angered Mexicans for demanding that the country pay for a border wall and describing migrants as rapists. Other protests unfolded elsewhere, with hundreds demonstrating peacefully in the western city of Guadalajara.

But in the southern city of Oaxaca police used tear gas to repel teachers from a radical union opposed to Pena Nieto's education reform.

They responded by throwing rocks and launching fireworks at the officers. One person was injured.

Peña Nieto, who took office in December 2012, has seen

In recent days, Mexican authorities have been investigating a bus driver's allegations that armed men abducted 15 passengers this week in the violence-plagued northern state of Tamaulipas.

An official in the federal attorney general's office, who requested anonymity because he was not authorised to



his approval rating sink to 23 percent in a recent survey by Reforma newspaper.

He has been haunted by older scandals, notably the disappearance of the 43 students. Pena Nieto has also come under fire over his wife's purchase of a mansion from a government contractor, prompting him to issue a rare apology although the couple denied any wrongdoing.

speaking publicly, told AFP news agency on Thursday the investigation was opened after "multiple media reports" and that "there was an order to investigate the list of passengers who travelled on the bus".

More than 28,000 people have been reported missing in Mexico in the past decade, including 5,700 in Tamaulipas alone.



Teachings From A Puritan

By Aarón Torres (ILE Professor)



The puritan doctrine and its didactic purpose in the North American literature of the XVII century are clearly represented in the poem *The Vanity of All Worldly Things* by Anne Bradstreet. The eternal battle between the good represented by spiritual manners and evil portrait by the secular ways has a huge relevance in the development of the tone in this poem. Puritanism tends to distance all what's considered sacred and supernatural to the secular things such as vanity, wisdom, and beauty. It is obvious that puritans undermine all that is not coming from their precepts and teachings. Therefore, the tone is to be considered subjective and somehow radical by considering everything from this world as unproductive as it is affirmed by the Bible itself when saying, "Vanity of vanities, said the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity" (Ecclesiastes 12:8) Even though the poem was written in the XVII century its moralistic purpose is still relevant and ironically it still appeals to the same strategies to bring people to repent. Puritans at that time and contemporaneous religious leaders share to use the basics of fear, misinterpretation, and wrong hopes to manipulate the people's thoughts. In addition the poem does not lose those traits to hopefully gain more followers in the puritan world. The poem somehow wants to make humanity aware of the emptiness of heart in which we - as human beings - are born with, and the banality of people's nature. In other words, the poem in its puritan teaching style reminds people of their lack of God and the uncertain search in other things above spiritual deeds.

The Puritanism historical background is the core of the teachings in the poem. This puritan poem obviously contrasts good and

evil; the eternal melodramatic fight even found in light literature in these days. Hence, the persona states that humankind's destiny is a fate of suffering and pain if it is not a devoted life to God's expectation as what people are expected to do while they live as staying away from sin; otherwise, they would not get heaven. This poem is a representation of the beliefs of colonizers, where religious accounts were the trend of that time. Besides, the puritan thoughts try to demonstrate that people are meant to be closer to God to carry the burden of guilt and sin that stains human's nature. The paper also tries to place a position to unmask the impotence of men to be happy; thus, people start to look for other sources of happiness that are attacked by the persona when saying, "While man is man, he shall have ease or pain." (30). Then humans by themselves cannot achieve happiness, but try to disguise that need of joy, but at the end all that is waiting for them is hurting due to their lack of fear towards God. The metaphors in the poem clearly show the obscure beliefs held by the Puritans, which intend to say that the more men enjoy worldly pleasures, the farther they are from God and its plan to gain eternal life. The image of a jealous God in puritan literature is undeniably present throughout this poem. Hence, the teachings of Biblicism from puritans believe that salvation is gained through deed while one is still alive as it is put in the following declaration by the persona, "But vanity, vexation of the mind" (29). To sum up, men have to take the other road (the road of goodness) not following their human nature, which is the road of vanity, pain, and suffering.

The symbolism in the lexicon found in the poem teaches the main heart of the puritans at the time it was written. Puritanism looks as a very exclusive religious group being obvious

through this poem, and intrinsically noticeable in the use of metaphorical and symbolic words. The words vanity and vain seem to share a similar interpretation for the persona in the paper. The figurative language is present since the very first line, "As he said vanity, so vain I say, / Oh! Vanity, O vain all under sky" (1-2). The persona identifies the fact that humans tend to be attached to material and worthless things for puritans, but applauds the idea to be a better life in the search of the eternal life, which is promised by God. Life is only a mirror of our own wishes and morals when he/she says, "What then? Content in pleasures canst thou find?" (13). It is accepting the thought that all generations have fallen into a wrong group of values where most individuals do not care for anything but themselves. Retaking the words from the first two lines, the persona emphasizes the description of the words vanity said by the preacher in the Bible, and the persona takes that word to a different level saying, ", so vain say I" (2). The persona is meaning that the description given by the prophet is insubstantial in a way, whereas the real narrative for the word vanity has to be vain and futile. Then the concept is inherently joined to what humans want, but it is worthless to live and get access to heaven.

The set of questions written in the poem from line three to line 34 illustrates the idea of accepting the good coming from God over the secular and vain possessions of this world. There is a clear statement of comparison between the spiritualism and materialism. The persona draws attention to the importance of spiritual issues when asking, "What isn't in honor to be set on high? / No, they like beasts and sons of men shall die," (6-7). The questions that the persona asks from line three to line thirteen exposes the puritan heart, where God is the adequate path to seek eternal life. Furthermore, the poem develops the idea that individuals are meant to suffer, to live in pain, but to obtain the "living crystal fount"

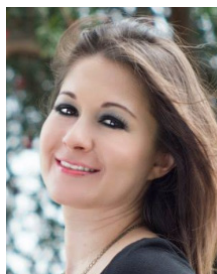
(37) and the cultivation of the soul is more imperative. The persona does not deny the nature of all people, but wants to convey a message of salvation and repentance, which has always been the ideology between Puritanism, because of their fear of what is going to happen after death. Another question found in the poem declares that "Where is it then, in wisdom, learning, arts?" (21). Once again, the persona considers that being an academic or perseverant in the use of knowledge and arts is irrelevant. In summary all pleasurable things are not convenient for humans.

The persona wants to show the weak side coming from men's minds in comparison to what God really wants for everybody. However, all what earthly is such as possessions, knowledge, and vanity are denigrated by puritans. There is a need for balance in every matter around human existence, and spiritual issues need to be balanced as well.

The position taken in the poem is a rough one; the idea of condemning everything that is not religious considering it vain is dangerous. On the other hand, libertinage shows no balance whatsoever. When it comes to religious matters the controversy rises as high as the highest eruption from a volcano. That is why the persona has a radical position that illustrates the religious ideas of puritans. Perhaps they did not mean to cause any harm or controversy, but several of the arguments used in the poem are meant to be downsized, as the persona puts in the last two lines of the poem, "This satiates the soul, this stays the mind, / And all the rest, but vanity we find" (55-56). People are not only spirit; they can find pleasure and satisfaction in material things. Therefore the main message conveyed in the whole poem where all is considered vanity and vain lacks credibility and is fallacious. People should not suffer, or look for suffering to obtain God's favor, they can trust their senses and nature.

The Importance Of Intercultural Competence

By Melissa González (ILE Professor)



When people travel to other countries, they get excited about the places they will visit and the opportunity of being in contact with new customs and traditions. In other words, they are eager to learn about different cultures. It is true that those features represent a fundamental part of a population's identity. Nevertheless, the word culture is extremely wide and encloses much more.

According to Kim Ann Zimmermann (2015), culture is the characteristics and knowledge of a particular group of people, defined by everything from language, religion, cuisine, social habits, music and arts. When studying a different culture, these are the aspects people find more interesting and want to see or experiment, especially if they are completely different from their own. This fact is kind of ironic because those differences, that most of us find extremely fascinating, have been the main causes of biggest misunderstandings and even wars in history. For instance, the Crusades, the French Revolution, terrorism attacks, just to mention some.

All these conflicts and many others are the result of poor tolerance and communication between different cultures. For that reason, the words diversity and intercultural have taken an important role in the education programs these days. The big question is the following: Are those topics being taught appropriately? "Culture is fundamentally related to language" (Language, Culture and Learning, n.d). Therefore, linguistic teachers have had the responsibility to help students develop that interculturality; however, it is not an easy task at all. Many professors treat students as knowledge recipients, but

learning to be intercultural involves much more than just knowing about another culture: it involves learning to understand how one's own culture shapes perceptions of oneself, of the world, and of our relationship with others. Learners need to become familiar with how they can personally engage with linguistic and cultural diversity. (Language, Culture and Learning, n.d).

As it was mentioned before, becoming an intercultural citizen requires not only knowledge, but also a deep and honest understanding of other cultures (MacDonald&O'Regan,2012). In an ideal world, the best option to achieve this is giving students the opportunity to experiment what has been taught. Unfortunately, not everybody has the economic conditions for doing it. Therefore, what should teachers do to accomplish this objective? The UNESCO (2013) proposes some ideas to promote that intercultural competence:

- Help to construct a widespread sense of common community across disparate groups living near one another through community dialogues. For example creating opportunities for storytelling across gender, ethnic, class, and generational lines takes advantage of the opportunities provided by cultural diversity.
- Recognize the current importance of the various forms of new media, co-productions fostering dialogue between media professionals from different cultures, particularly on sensitive issues combining intercultural dialogue, media information and literacy. For example, bringing journalists of different countries together to participate in trainings.

- Support recognition of and respect for knowledge (including traditional knowledge and the knowledge of indigenous peoples) that contributes to safeguarding biodiversity and promoting sustainable development as another vehicle through which intercultural competences can be developed.
- Elaborate a roadmap for global consciousness as one way to put the frequent expression “global village” into deliberate practice (in order to) encourage (students) to think not only about local contexts but also about the larger world.

In the course of human history, thousands of people have been victims of ideological, racial and religious conflicts. For that reason, in the last decades many countries and international organizations have been trying to encourage intercultural competence within schools, universities and work environments in order to promote tolerance, understanding and communication among individuals who belong to different cultural groups. This is especially important nowadays that we are living in a globalized world where boundaries have disappeared among nations and we can easily be in contact with people from all over the world.

When talking about culture people usually think about memorizing facts such as history, body language characteristics, and celebrations. They also believe that just by learning vocabulary and grammar rules they would be able to understand the target language. Knowledge is important, of course, but being intercultural is much more than that. It is getting involved with a different set of values and beliefs, but most importantly it is about putting yourself into a person’s shoes to try to understand his behavior.

Being an intercultural person is not an easy task. However, it can possible and that was demonstrated by Pope Francisco when he decided to meet the other religious leaders of the world. I will always remember his quote : “ We have different beliefs. We have different names for God, but at the end we have the same dream. We want peace for our people” and that is at the end what the world needs and wants.

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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:

What do you recommend to people who think about studying at UTN?

Be careful when you do your registration online. If you have not much experience, it is easy to make mistakes that then you cannot correct.

José Pablo Seguita

You should focus on your classes and do not miss classes. To attend classes is very important.

Andrea Coviéz

Enjoy while learning, there are many new and interesting things and topics to discover.

Silvia Fallas

Even if it looks difficult, keep a positive attitude. Attitude makes a difference.

Eduardo Castro

Once you become a university student, you need to have an idea about the kind of job you would like to have in the future.

Fernando

Do not let any teacher frighten you. As long as you give your best effort, it is possible to achieve your goals and prove yourself you can do it.

Denisse Picado

Pay attention in class, do your homework, and study hard.

Tiffany



If you study English at ILE, take advantage of everything to practice: music, videos with subtitles, internet articles. Everything works.

Carlos Najera



Paseo León Cortéz Castro



The beautiful province of Puntarenas is home to over 100,000 Costa Ricans, and its proximity to the ocean makes it a popular destination for locals and tourists. However, one of the most popular places is Paseo León Cortéz Castro.

Popularly known as the Paseo de los Turistas, this is a boulevard for people and vehicles, located along the main beach in Puntarenas. In this boulevard you can find numerous shops, restaurants, bars, hotels, souvenir shops, ice cream parlors, and areas for skating and walking. Here you can enjoy very friendly people, and you can also appreciate many typical dishes, such as "The Vigorón" and "Churchill". These are two important typical dishes of the area; if you are seafood lover, in this area you can always find fresh seafood.

One of the best times to visit Paseo de los Turistas when there is a cruise ship in port. The beauty, size and magnificence of cruises attracts people who dream about being on them or just taking pictures. In addition, you can walk to the end of the beach where you can see the beautiful and colorful lighthouse.

If you want to visit the beautiful city of Puntarenas, you need to visit the seafront Paseo de los Turistas (Tourist Walk) has a string of restaurants and souvenir stands,



Assertiveness At The Workplace

An important personal aspect each person should pay attention to is the importance protecting our planet. This month of September, we want to share some information about being assertive.

When you are assertive, you express your feelings, thoughts, and wishes clearly and directly. You stand up for your own rights without infringing on the rights of other people. You disagree when you think it is necessary. You are willing to modify your own behaviour in order to allow others to meet their needs. When you are treated badly by others, you are willing to set limits on the behaviour you will permit. An assertive person is cooperative and believes that compromise and communication will help all to reach their goals. Being assertive does not mean being aggressive.

Assertive behaviour is based on a set of rights and responsibilities that is a little different from what you might have learned within your family. For example, many people believe that it is selfish to put your needs before someone else's. They may believe that it is shameful to make mistakes or admit to them. In contrast, assertive behaviour is based on a belief that you are an adult with these alternatives and legitimate rights:

- To act in your own interest
- To respect and stand up for yourself
- To express ideas, beliefs, and honest emotions
- To ask for what you want
- To be treated with respect and dignity
- To make mistakes

Of course, rights are also balanced with responsibilities. Assertive individuals:

- Respect and honour these rights for others
- Take responsibility for their own behaviour
- Take responsibility for their own mistakes

No one is consistently assertive. You may be assertive with your co-workers, passive or non-assertive with your boss, and aggressive with your youngest brother or sister. Often people find it very difficult to be assertive when they are dealing with a stranger or someone in a position of authority. By learning and practising assertive behaviour, you can expand the number of situations in which you respond assertively. You can choose when to act assertively and when not to.



SITUATION	FORMAL	RELAXED	INFORMAL
You have terrible pain in your arm.	There is an excruciating pain in my arm that is producing extreme discomfort.	My arm really hurts.	My arm hurts like hell.
You are babysitting for your 12-year-old nephew when he tells you that he is going out to an all-night party. You tell him he can't.	I forbid you to attend this social gathering.	You cannot go.	Like hell you are going! There is no way you are going to the party.
A friend eats a lot of fast food.	She has an obsession for pre-fabricated items of food that are prepared for consumption in an extremely short space of time.	She is addicted to fast food.	She is a fast food junkie.

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

“ENGLISH FOR YOU CR” PRESENTS, MUST, MUSTN'T, NEEDN'T



If we want to express obligation, prohibition or lack of obligation in the present tense, we can use the modals **must**, **mustn't** and **needn't**. For example:

- I **must** be on time to class (obligation).
- I **mustn't** be late to class (prohibition).
- I **needn't** be on time to class, because the teacher is not punctual (lack of obligation or need).

For the past or future tenses, **must** becomes **have to**:

- I **had to** be on time to class. / I **will have to** be on time to class.

On the other hand, **mustn't** becomes **not allowed to**:

- I **wasn't allowed to** be late to class. / I **won't be allowed to** be late.

Finally, **needn't** is used as a normal verb:

- I **didn't need to** be on time. / I **will not need to** be on time.

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:

Ismael Arroyo Arroyo, recreational swimmer, beach fan and Financial Management Director.

Where do you live?

I am originally from Vueltas de La Guacima, Alajuela. Currently, I live in Carrillos Alto, Poás, Alajuela.

Best childhood memory?

My most loved memory was to go to Ciruelas River and swim and dive jumping from the trees. When I was a child this river was clean, now it is too contaminated. I really miss those days.

Favorite food

I love pastas in general. Every time I have the chance I eat them. I also love fruits, but I cannot stand noni fruit.

What is always in your fridge?

In my refrigerator, you will always find dairy products, especially cheese and yoghurt.

Favorite Music?

Romantic music like boleros and one of my favorite singers is José Luis Perales.



90 SECONDS WITH...

Would you class yourself as a day or night person?

I consider myself a day person. I like to go to bed early. I take care of my health.

First job

When I was sixteen years old, I remember that I worked dusting ceilings. That job helped me save money to buy things I needed at school.

A good book

There is a book called *El Poder de Escuchar* by Ismael Cala. It is a very emotional book, but very interesting and easy to comprehend, full of knowledge, very helpful, it teaches how to know yourself better, and it helps to learn how to grow emotionally, and to look for at life from a happiness and peace view. It narrates the story of how a child grows up in a life full of obstacles.

One of your favorite places

In Costa Rica I love to enjoy the cool breeze and winds of Tilarán, and also the hot spring waters of La Fortuna. Out of the country, a place I love is Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in México. There is something there, a sacred atmosphere that impact everyone.

What is your greatest fear?

My greatest fear is heights. The first time I travelled by plane was terrible, and then once I took a panoramic trip on an aerial tram, and I almost died.

Tell me a joke or proverb you remember right now.

I am not a person who thinks about proverbs or jokes very often; however, I am used to calling people by nicknames, of course, if they do not offend people.



THE ATTIC OF BERTHA MASON

My Worst Vacation

By Jacsiry Montero (Composition II-ILE Student)

When you think of vacation, you have the idea of relaxing and having a great time; however, that was not exactly the case in my last vacation. My best friend invited me to go with her parents to Guanacaste because they own a house there; besides, they were planning to go to different beaches every day. They were going for a week, so I said yes; I had nothing else to do, and I love Guanacaste beaches. The best part of the trip was that I did not pay anything, but when you do not pay for something like this, you have to deal with everything that happens without complaining. Hence, I had to deal with some situations during the time we spent in the car, at my friend's house and at the beach.

Since we started hitting the road, I knew it not going to be as I imagined. It was unbelievable the amount of cars that there were going to Guanacaste, so we had to stand the terrible traffic all the way. Even when there is no traffic, the ride from Zarcero to Guanacaste takes a lot of time, between four or five hours, so that day because of the traffic, it took us 7 hours. It was really exhausting being in the car for all that time, I tried to sleep, but I could not. The reason was that my friend's father turned the radio on with incredibly high volume. I thought that maybe he was a little deaf or something, so I asked my friend, but she told me that he does that to stay awake when he is driving. I could not say a word because the last thing I wanted was to have an accident.

When we finally made it to the house, I was so happy get out of that car to move my legs because I did not feel them; however, my happiness did not last long. I tried to use my cell phone to call my mom but there was no signal. I thought to myself "this must be a joke, my friend should have told me about this". Later, she told me that she did not mention it because I would not have gone if I knew it. To make things worse, they did not have a TV, so what were we supposed to do to have fun? I really did not know what they wanted. After going through all these feelings of disappointment, it was finally time to eat; we were starving. My friend's mom prepared dinner really fast, but when I started eating I almost threw up; it was awful. She made spaghetti, but it tasted like if she had used rotten tomatoes, yet I had to eat it because it was that or nothing until the next day.

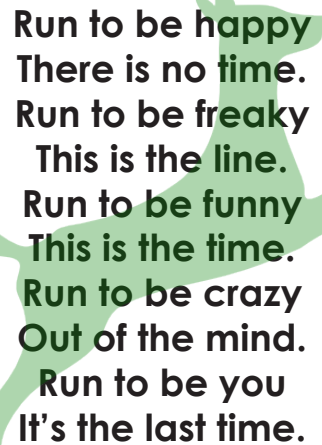
During the week, everything went pretty normal, compared to the things that happened on the first day, of course. In fact, the food never got any better, but I had a chance to buy some cookies and cereal one time when we went to the supermarket and that saved me many times. Furthermore, I remember the last day of the trip as I remember that hideous food. What happened was that we went to Conchal beach, and I forgot to bring my favorite bathing suit; once at the beach, I remembered that I left it in my house in Zarcero because my mom was fixing it; I was so angry with myself for that. Maybe my mind was distracted by that, so I forgot to put on sunscreen. At the end of the day, I was as red as a tomato with horrible marks of my bathing suit. Just when I thought that nothing else could happen, I saw a bunch of mosquitoes around me, I started yelling and running away from them.

Finally we were back in the car, heading home. I am sure that I will never forget that week; even though I am thankful with my friend for everything, if one day she invites me to go there again, I will say no without hesitating. Maybe I will make up an excuse not to hurt her feelings, but that trip is not something I want to go through twice.

THE ATTIC OF BERTHA MASON

Run


By Grethel Sotomayor



Run to be happy
There is no time.
Run to be freaky
This is the line.
Run to be funny
This is the time.
Run to be crazy
Out of the mind.
Run to be you
It's the last time.

Love

By Grethel Sotomayor



Flowers in the air,
Sun shining in the sky.
Maybe it's unfair,
Maybe it's a lie,
People feel afraid.
Love hugs them.
And makes them fly.
Love hurts them.
And makes them cry.

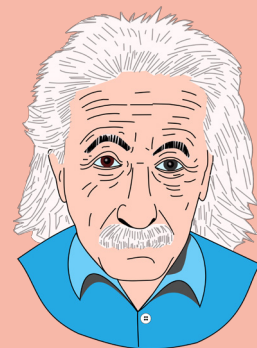
QUOTE OR JOKES

*I found there was only one way to look thin:
hang out with fat people.*

-Rodney Dangerfield

*When you are courting a
nice girl an hour seems
like a second. When
you sit on a red-hot cin-
der a second seems like
an hour. That's relativity.*

-Albert Einstein

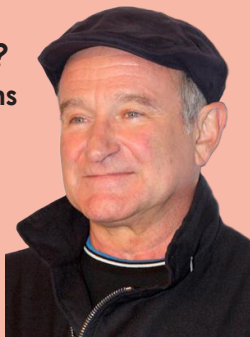


*A successful man is one who makes more
money than his wife can spend. A successful
woman is one who can find such a man.*

-Lana Turner

*Why do they call it rush
hour when nothing moves?*

-Robin Williams



*Wine is constant proof that
God loves us and loves to
see us happy.*

-Benjamin Franklin



*I am not afraid of death, I
just don't want to be there
when it happens.*

-Woody Allen

*Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys
them so much.*

-Oscar Wilde

*Happiness is having a large, loving, caring,
close-knit family in another city.*

-George Burns

*I feel sorry for people who
don't drink. When they
wake up in the morning,
that's as good as they're
going to feel all day.*

-Frank Sinatra



*A vegetarian is a person who won't eat
anything that can have children.*

-David Brenner



Remind 101 APP

Remind is a safe, classroom-friendly communication tool to help teachers send messages, en masse or targeted, to students and parents.

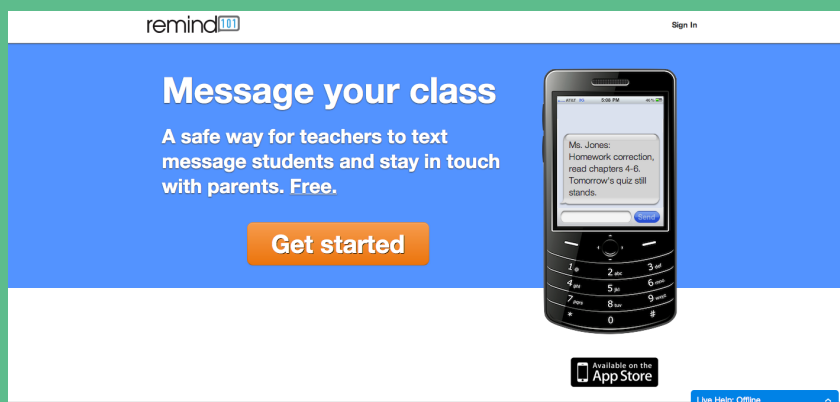
Teachers can send frequent messages to their students such as daily assignments (page # and problems assigned), reminders of upcoming tests, pictures of textbook page. They can also message individual students, an entire class of students, or multiple classes at the same time.

Students can also use it to contact teachers by asking questions about missing homework or content questions as well. Parents can sign up as well so they can stay informed. Even parents of high school students appreciate knowing their child's assignments, upcoming tests, etc.

Remind (formerly Remind101) offers teachers a free, safe and simple way to instantly text students and parents. Teachers can send or schedule reminders, assignments, homework, assessments, or motivational messages directly to students' and parents' phones. Interactions are safe because phone numbers are kept private, and messages are sent with no open replies. Teachers, students and parents see mobile messages from all their classes in one place. For students and parents, Remind provides an easier way to stay informed outside of the classroom. They can now download the app and opt-in to receive messages faster with push notifications! -

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

<https://www.remind.com>



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

IT HAPPENED IN SEPTEMBER

September 1 st , 1939	At 5.30 a.m., Hitler's armies invaded Poland starting World War II in Europe.
September 2 nd , 1962	Soviet Russia agreed to send arms to Cuba, leading to the October Missile Crisis after the shipments were discovered by the U.S.
September 4 th , 1781	Los Angeles was founded by the Spanish Governor of California, Felipe de Neve, near the site of the Native American village of Yang-na. The original name was El Pueblo de la Reina de Los Angeles (The Town of the Queen of the Angels).
September 6 th , 1991	Leningrad was renamed Saint Petersburg by Russian legislators following the collapse of the Soviet Union. Russia's second largest city had been known as Leningrad for 67 years in honor of Vladimir Lenin, founder of the Soviet Union.
September 14 th , 1741	Composer George Frederick Handel finished Messiah after working on it non-stop for 23 days.
September 16 th , 1810	Mexico's break from Spain began in the town of Dolores Hidalgo as Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla rang his church's bells and exhorted local Indians to "recover from the hated Spaniards the land stolen from your forefathers..."
September 21 st , 1949	The People's Republic of China was proclaimed by its Communist leaders.
September 26 th , 1687	The Acropolis in Athens was attacked by the Venetian army attempting to oust the Turks, resulting in heavy damage to the Parthenon.
September 29 th , 1941	Nazis killed 33,771 Jews during the Babi Yar massacre near Kiev.

FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN THIS MONTH

PERSON	JOB	BIRTHDAY
Elizabeth I of England	Royalty	September 7 th , 1533
Joe Perry	Aerosmith Guitarist	September 10 th , 1950
Robert Herjavec	Shark Tank	September 14 th , 1963
Hank Williams Sr.	Country Singer	September 17 th , 1923
Adam West	Actor (Batman)	September 19 th , 1928
Anthony Mackie	Actor (Falcon)	September 23 rd , 1978
Ed Sullivan	TV Show Host	September 28 th , 1901

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

International Day Of Peace

The International Day of Peace, sometimes unofficially known as World Peace Day, is observed annually on **21st September**. It is dedicated to world peace, and specifically the absence of war and violence, such as might be occasioned by a temporary ceasefire in a combat zone for humanitarian aid access. The day was first celebrated in **1982**, and is kept by many nations, political groups, military groups, and peoples. In 2013, for the first time, the Day was dedicated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to peace education, the key preventive means to reduce war sustainably.

To inaugurate the day, the United Nations Peace Bell is rung at UN Headquarters (in New York City). The bell is cast from coins donated by children from all continents except Africa, and was a gift from the United Nations Association of Japan, as “**a reminder of the human cost of war**”; the inscription on its side reads, “Long live absolute world peace”

The Day's theme for 2016 is “**The Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks**



for Peace.”

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals were unanimously adopted by the 193 Member States of the United Nations at an historic summit of the world's leaders in New York in September 2015. The new ambitious 2030 agenda calls on countries to begin efforts to achieve these goals over the next 15 years. It aims to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all.

The Sustainable Development Goals are integral to achieving peace in our time, as development and peace

are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.

Every single one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals is a building block in the global architecture of peace. It is critical that we mobilise means of implementation, including financial resources, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building, as well as the role of partnerships. Everyone has a stake and everyone has a contribution to make.

People in cities, communities and villages worldwide have engaged

in the International Day of Peace in diverse and meaningful ways such as: Minute of silence at 12 noon (all timezones), peace education events, collaborative intercultural and interfaith dialogues, workshops on the UN sustainable development goals, meditation and prayer, planting peace poles, community gatherings and vigils.

Engaging in Peace Day can take place privately, as part of a group and/or as a participant in an event or program. We invite you to join the activities and initiatives during this day.

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 International Day of Peace, we want to share this old Chinese proverb about the origin of peace :

“If there is beauty in character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world. ”

-Chinese Proverb

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





*Happy
Independence
Day!*



**We are free because we can
move and decide on our own.
We can live a peaceful life
without any intrusion.
Just always remember
that this freedom entails
responsibility that we will
pass on to our children.**