



HAGGERTY  
ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE  
PROGRAM



Interview  
PAGE 1- 2



Essays  
PAGE 3 - 5



Experiences  
PAGE 5-6

# THE ESLTIMES



*1Professor Jingwen Wang (left) and Yali Dai (right) in New Paltz*

## **Interview: Boston and Beyond w/ Professor Yali Dai and Professor Jingwen Wang**

*Interview conducted by Basilio Cajigas*

### **China**

**BASILIO:** What was your favorite thing about the Boston Trip?

**YALI:** My favorite thing about the Boston trip was the buildings. The buildings are different from New Paltz and China. Boston has historic buildings and is a historic city. The buildings are older...

*(Continued on next page.)*

**YALI (Cont'd):** I heard some stories about the buildings. The tour guide told me different stories about the buildings, such as a school, a church, and the police department building.

**JINGWEN:** I think Boston is famous for its universities such as Harvard and MIT. We had the chance to enter most of the buildings. It's almost like you can still feel the famous atmosphere and the students there.

**BASILIO:** Have you been on any other trips this semester?

**JINGWEN:** We have been to other places. We have been to New York and FDR Mansion. We have been to New York twice.

**YALI:** [New York] was very exciting. This was my first time coming to New York. I've been to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. It's wonderful. I have not seen so many art pieces in one place! I saw art from Asia [and other places]. I am very interested in art.

**BASILIO:** Would you like to visit another place in the U.S.?

**YALI:** Yeah! I would like to visit Washington, the White House. I want to visit different places during my study here.

**JINGWEN:** We've decided to go to Washington and Buffalo in November.

**YALI:** America is very different from China, so I want to see more places, meet different people, see more countries, to know different cultures, to see different things. I think I am very fortunate to stay here in America. The International Program at SUNY New Paltz is very good. It organizes so many activities for international students so I can do something with other students. We have been to the FDR Mansion, and it was wonderful.

**JINGWEN:** We also would like to go to Colombia, and places we have not seen before!



## How to Learn a New Language

By Kiichi Shiraiwa

Japan

There are many ways to learn a language and there is no exact answer for everyone who wants to study one. This is because everyone has a different situation such as what they study and where they study. For example, generally speaking, the multilingual people can add a new language more efficiently than a second language learner because people who have already studied a language know how to learn. Also, the process of learning depends on each person, so there is no single correct answer. However, I suggest three steps how to learn a language the mindset, the basic skill, and the practical opportunities based on my experiences how I learn my third language Spanish.

First of all, choosing a language with your motivation is the most important factor to learn a new language. If you have less or temporal passion for the language, you will not be able to complete the whole process because the process will take more than one year. Also, it is difficult for learners to set a goal of the language because the vocabulary and the verbal expression are usually unlimited. Therefore, without certain motivation, achieving the goal is tougher and longer like a full marathon. A recommendation for making motivation is being interested in the culture such as music and history. In my case, listening to reggaeton, which is a genre of a Latin pop music, is a hobby, so the habitual action makes me learn more and more.

The next step of learning a new language is studying a basic part of the language, especially grammar, which is essential for all reading, listening, writing, and speaking. When you read and listen to the language, grammar helps you to understand the context accurately. Additionally, if you output your idea like writing and speaking, correct grammar is the most important factor. Studying grammar tends to be a boring and complicated part of the process if the language has a completely different style, but once you feel a confidence with grammar, the skill always helps you to input and output.

The final process for completing your new language is seeking more practical opportunities to speak, write, read, and listen to the language. In this level, you should join in activities or take a high-level class to push up your skill. For instance, the conversational table of the language is a great chance to speak and listen to the conversation. Usually, at the table, you can meet a person who is a native speaker or an advanced learner. Also, the best option to improve your language skill is to stay in the nation. In my case, I have stayed in Costa Rica for five weeks, and the experience in Costa Rica made me love Spanish and Latin culture. The life that you stayed in the country gives you a confidence little by little.

In conclusion, learning a new language is like cooking a food that you have never made before. There are various languages and processes to learn the language as same as the menus and recipes. If you used to cook other food, you may feel that some menus are easy and simple like a multilingual person. The steps that this essay presented are just like the model of showcase how I learned Spanish as my third language, so the process can be different for other learners. Nevertheless, when you finish learning the learning process, you can have great experiences with the language as same as eating delicious food that you cooked.



## How to Fry Eggplant

By Junlin Li (Vicky)

China



The most impressive experience in my memory is to cook fried eggplant by myself. I have really liked eggplant since I first ate the fried eggplant my mother made for me when I was three years old. I don't remember this, but my mother said she was surprised that I was so excited, I used chopsticks to eat all the eggplant quickly by myself without them feeding me. After that, she often cooked fried eggplant for me to eat. One day, I told my mother as usual that I wanted to eat fried eggplant. Yet, she said I should try to cook fried eggplant by myself. At first, I was surprised and timid, but I felt that I could not depend on my mother forever, so that was when I started cooking for myself. To cook fried eggplant you should prepare an eggplant, meat, seasonings and follow several important steps.

An initial step in this process is to prepare the ingredients for later use. First, cut eggplant into strips and put them in a container. Then, adding a teaspoon of salt and leave them to marinate for about 10 minutes. This step will keep eggplant from oxidizing and discoloring. After that, you need to cut a small piece of meat into mince as marinate the eggplant. Another very important step in this process is to add white pepper, light soy sauce, rice wine and raw powder to the meat filling. Then, you should mix them together and let it marinate for 10 minutes. The effect of this step is to make the meat taste more delicious. Meanwhile, you need to fill a small bowl half-way with water. Add some raw powder, little vinegar, a little salt, a teaspoon of sugar, a little soy sauce and stir them together in a bowl to make a sauce. After this, you also need to cut ginger, garlic, chilli and scallion for subsequent use. Put a little bit of oil in the pan and prepare to fry the eggplant. Then, you should use your hands to squeeze out excess water from the marinated eggplant.



2 Image courtesy of cocobk.me



3 Image courtesy of dianping.com

The succeeding step in this process is to fry the eggplant. When the oil temperature rises, you should begin to fry the eggplant. Fry for less than a minute until eggplant becomes soft, so it can be picked up. If it's fried too long, the eggplant is too soft and it doesn't taste good. Finally, you need to scoop up the eggplant and set it aside.

The final step in this process is to mix and fry all the ingredients together. At first, you should saute ginger and garlic with oil in a wok and add some bean paste. After that, stir-fry the bean paste and then add the minced meat. When the minced meat turns white, you need to put the eggplant into the pot again and stir it. Pour the sauce into the pan and mix well. Lastly, you should sprinkle scallions into the fried eggplant.

(Continued on next page.)

To complete the process of frying eggplant, you should prepare the ingredients, fry the eggplant and mix and fry all the ingredients together. In particular, marinate the meat filling and strictly control the time of frying eggplant, so that you can get a plate of good tasty fried eggplant. It's really good to eat the fried eggplant for lunch or dinner. It's delicious to mix it with rice and eat. When you are eating the fried egg plant, you can eat it with seaweed soup, vegetable soup or bone soup. That will make it taste less salty and more tasty.

## Experiences

By Izabella Silva do Nascimento

**Brazil**

Being an ESL student is an amazing experience. I came to America to learn English, but now I found myself learning about the world. Every single student brings with them a world and they share it with each of us.

I feel like every day I discover something new. Also, I learn English through their experiences, which is awesome, because we bring real life to our classes.

I believe that ESL program is an anthropological experience. I feel that I am filled with new knowledge from meeting other international students. Also, all the new discoveries make me more sensitive to our differences. Sometimes is difficult to understand why people act in different ways, however when you meet someone from another country and they share their real experiences, it is easy to understand different behaviors.

In this program I made friends for a lifetime and it's priceless. It's something that makes me better as a person. I am pretty sure that Xu, my Chinese friend, and Gloria, my Italian friend, will stay with me for a lifetime. We are already making plans to visit one another's countries, and I feel better to have their support now in America and when I travel to their countries.

This experience is a kind of seed that is growing inside of me, I want to share it with people from my country and I want to discover the world.



## Thanks to the ESL Program

By Gloria Timpano

*Italy*

**M**aking the decision to leave my country, my family and all my friends I think it was the hardest thing I ever did but the sacrifice has paid off.

Travel opens the mind and I was lucky to find people so different but similar at the same time, with the same fears, the same dreams and ambitions. These are things that change your life forever.

Thanks to the ESL program I'm having the chance to test myself every day and step by step my English becomes more and more my ally and no longer my enemy.

Having the opportunity to enjoy this experience is a fantastic feeling, especially if you have teachers who love what they do and commit as much as they can to helping us build our future brick by brick, while always keeping in mind that dreams are important and worth following them every single moment.

The ESL program is amazing and I will never stop saying thank you to my family for allowing me to come here because with this experience I had the opportunity to meet and find friends that I hope to have forever. I hope that in the future we will keep all the promises we've made because I will gladly open the doors of my sweet Italy and I'm sure they will do it same! Like Izabelle, she is from Brazil and we are good friends now and we've had and we still have such a good time together this semester. Usually we study, eat, go everywhere together and I love it!

These are the kinds of relationships that every single person should have in your life... thank you ESL!





# Facebook This Fall

**Thien Tran**  
November 6 at 8:31 PM

Hi everyone, my name is Thien Tran, I come from Vietnam, and I used to be a ESL student at ESL Suny New Paltz in 2015- 2016. I came from the U.S with zero in English. Remember the day I tried to write an email to director Connie Perdreau to ask for an enrollment to the school ( I used Google translate to do it, be honestly) and I had to say sorry to her alot of time for my funny English, after that I was enrolled to school, and I was so happy for that even though with level one ( entry level). I told my wife... "at least I have I seat at the school...". Remember the day Sarah Elia brought us to the Fire Department, where near by the school to show us how much respectful we should show to Firefighters who sacrificed themselves to save thousands of people on 09/11/2001. I almost cried at that moment...Remember those day Prof. Jame's trying to teach us every single words, every single Grammar lessons with really be carefully and professional ways. I missed some his homeworks, so he was a bit disappointed about me. I guess, and today if he read this " my essay" he may still disappoint ed about my Grammar and gives me C- for this too. LOL. Actually, beside lessons that he taught us, I learned alot from him about how to treat people around us by polite and respectful way. Remember those days Warren's trying to teach us how to pronounce every single words in Speaking class, and I won alot of " KISS" ( chocolate) on his games in class. Remember those day Pablo del OlmoPablo was teaching us know how to write an essay by watching films, that was a really interesting way and I loved it... Beside that, there were some more my lovely teachers such as Aiko Pk ( now even though I left the school but I still continue to read the Vocabulary book that she suggested us to study), Melissa Feldmann, etc who used to teach us so many great lessons.

Today whenever I closed my eyes, and think about ESL Suny NP, so many sweet things, valuable things and beautiful moments still in my heard, and I know for sure that those never be faint in my mind for whole my life. Today as a real estate guy at Michigan and Florida, beside nice houses that I have done with remodeling, I have been trying to do nice things and creating more good jobs for people who is working for me, so that I can show the respect to people, to do nice thing to people as I learned from ESL Suny NP. LOVE YOU ALL, LOVE YOU SO MUCH ESL SUNY NP and I never forget you!!



You, Sarah Elia, Pablo del Olmo and 17 others  
5 Comments

**Love** Comment

View 3 more comments

**Sarah Elia** We miss you, Thien!!  
Like Reply · 2w

**Thien Tran** replied · 1 Reply

**Jason Farina** Thien Tran, this is a great post. I am still waiting for you to come back here to Saigon for a visit.  
Like Reply · 1w

**Thien Tran** replied · 1 Reply

Write a comment...

**SUNY New Paltz ESL**  
Published by newpaltzeshl [?] · October 23 at 10:12 AM · 🌐

These photos came from our CQUE students, Stephanie and Sukey. When James was in Chongqing, they didn't attend his class but they went to see him and took selfies. This is in front of the International College! 😊

#npsocial #npsinternational #youarewelcomehere




**SUNY New Paltz ESL** shared a photo.  
Published by Basilio Cajigas [?] · September 13 · 🌐

As our students went around campus for a selfie scavenger hunt, they found themselves at University Police Department!



# Facebook This Fall

**SUNY New Paltz ESL**  
November 15 at 9:23 AM

#Repost @npsinternational

Student Spotlight

Meet Gloria Timpano. She's a student from Milano, Italy. Her major is Fashion and style. The reason why Gloria chose New Paltz is 'because it's the best University that offers this program for International student like me! This program it be very helpful for me and I'm very glad I had choose N.P!'

#npsinternational #npsocial #youarewelcomere #studyingintheusa #studynyork #studentspotlight



**Oscar Trujillo Acevedo** is 😊 feeling grateful.  
October 10

Hello everyone!, My name is Oscar Trujillo Acevedo from Puebla, Mexico and I was at SUNY New Paltz in 2015. This was a wonderful experience for me!

Because I learned a lot of things with this trip, I returned at home with new methods about the english language, the practice, the knowledge of new advances of teaching and with a real approach of life in the US. the experience about this course was the best thing of my life, because every day, I try to use every thing in my wo... See More



**Chanyang Seo**  
October 7

안녕하세요!(Hi)

I'm Chanyang from Republic of Korea(South Korea). I had studied in Haggerty English Language Program of SUNY New Paltz in 2010-2011. I'm a public elementary school teacher since 2008. After 2 years, I decided to take a year off to study abroad. Between many schools, SUNY NP was one of the best choices of my life ever.

I loved the beautiful campus and the cute town, I always enjoyed the scenery of nature in every season of New Paltz. I had used to live in Duboi ... See More

**Bethi Pino** is with Yu Kun Bi and Ricardo Sacheri.  
October 13

I am Bethi Velasco and I'm from Ecuador in South America. Currently I'm living in New York and was in Haggerty English Language Program of New Paltz in 2015-2016. It was an incredible experience and I enjoyed all the activities we did to keep practicing English. We had lunches together along with parties for Halloween, Thanksgiving. I had a great time with classmates and staff workers from the facility. I feelled like I was at home and with family. I was sad that the classes had came to an end. I miss the professors and the Director Conne, who was aware of all the students and made sure that they are well.

I am working as a Teacher assistant in a school. Where I benefit from the ESL New Paltz program and get to use both languages English and Spanish.



You, Lisa Rost Lewis, Sarah Ella and 8 others  
2 Comments

Like Comment

**Connie Perdreau** Thank you, Bethi, for your moving testimonial about what studying in the HELP meant to you. Your pictures say thousands of words! Our faculty and staff are all so pleased you were enrolled in our classes and made such great progress. Please come back and visit when you have a chance, and good luck to you and your family. 😊

Like Reply 5w

Facebook (Public): facebook.com/newpaltzesl  
Facebook (Private): facebook.com/groups/30591323166



## The ESL Times

The Haggerty English Language Program delivers high-quality English language instruction to speakers of other languages. Our student-centered curriculum is designed to educate international students and other non-native English speakers both linguistically and culturally to be successful in an American university. By promoting cross-cultural encounters, outreach, and participation, we contribute to the diverse multicultural character of the campus community.

## Write for the Times

The ESL Times is almost exclusively written by students of the Haggerty English Language Program. We welcome submissions of any kind, be it academic, creative, or artistic.

If you would like to contribute to a future issue, please send an e-mail to [esl@newpaltz.edu](mailto:esl@newpaltz.edu).

## Upcoming Dates

- Dec 7**  
End-of-Semester Ceremony
- Dec 10**  
Last Day of Classes
- Dec 12**  
TOEFL Exam
- Dec 13**  
Accuplacer Exam



**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There will be no end-of-semester shuttle to JFK this Fall. Please make sure you have made proper travel arrangements if you are leaving the country.