

THE WEEKEND IMMERSION PROGRAMS (WIPs)

Featured languages: Arabic, French, Italian and Spanish

For other languages, see below. A group is forming in Chinese—let us know if you're interested!

Tentative date for next program: October, 2011

Registration deadline: early Oct. 2011

Greetings to all our [ALPs](#) and WIPs alumni and other friends! As a professor at Fairfield University and Director of the Assistant Teacher/Oral Practice Session Program, I am happy to welcome you to this program in partnership with the Rassias Center for World Languages and Cultures at Dartmouth College. Professor John Rassias, President of the Rassias Center, joins me in wishing you every success here at the Fairfield University WIP, which bases its approach on the Rassias Method[®]. The Method was developed for training Peace Corps volunteers in the early 1960's and adapted to college-level instruction in 1967. This approach is a combination of dramatic techniques, rhythmic drills, and energetic reinforcement strategies that make learning an engaging experience significantly reducing the learner's self-consciousness and fear of making mistakes.



Participants enjoying a meal “in the language”



Small-group practice

Your language learning will thrive on the good humor and energy of the Rassias Method. If you are looking to reinforce and improve your language skills but have limited time, the WIP is the perfect program for you! In just three days you will learn more and noticeably improve your ability to speak the language.

Additional information about the Rassias Method as well as testimonials from many former students of programs that use it are available in a new book, *Breakthrough: Essays and Vignettes in Honor of John A. Rassias*, ed. Mel B. Yoken (New York: Peter Lang, 2007).

WIPs in other languages

While our current WIPs focus on Arabic, French, Italian and Spanish, please feel free to inquire about programs in other languages as we may also offer Brazilian Portuguese, German, Hebrew, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese and Russian. We can be particularly responsive to group requests involving at least five participants, including for off-campus learning. In a special arrangement for this WIP, Arabic offers a group for rank (true) beginners as well as advanced beginners.

To see the PDF or Word version of a recent brochure, please click here: [WIPs](#). **Please inquire** if you are interested in other languages.

Placement

Because of the short, intense nature of the WIPs, participants with some experience in the language will notice more progress than do rank beginners, those just beginning a language. For the latter, the true beginners, we recommend the ten-day Accelerated Language Programs ([ALPs](#)) at the Rassias Center at Dartmouth College in late June and early July. For those who have some experience in the language, please click on the following link for [self-placement information](#). This self-placement guide will help you estimate your level. However, once you have registered for a WIP, one of our instructors will contact you by telephone for an exact determination.

Faculty

Dedicated Fairfield University faculty who have been trained in the Rassias Method teach in the WIPs and/or help organize the Assistant Teacher component of the program. The current faculty are: Professors Marilisa Beccalli (Italian), Zoe Erotopoulos (French), Joel Goldfield (French; WIPs director), Yasir Hamed (Arabic), Xuehan Liu (Chinese), Gabriela Pavon (Spanish), and Christopher Poulos (Spanish).

Tuition and fees

The cost of the program is approximately \$550, payable upon registration. However, the amount will be refunded in its entirety if a program is cancelled by us and the Rassias Center. More information on discounts and partial refunds will be available several months prior to our next WIPs.

Contact us:

Please contact us after May 2011 regarding the tentative Fall 2011 WIPs. For more information on the WIPs class day structure, please click here: [WIPs schedule](#).

Sincerely,

Dr. Joel Goldfield, Associate Professor
Director, Assistant Teacher/Oral Practice Program
Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
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<http://www.faculty.fairfield.edu/jgoldfield/WIPs11.pdf> updated 2/21/11
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Weekend Immersion Programs (WIPs): A Souvenir from Fairfield University
A Collaborative Effort with the Rassias Foundation at Dartmouth College

Oct. 1-3, 2004



Some of the WIPs team of teachers and administrators at the graduation ceremony, Fairfield University