

THE NEW COURIER

Nº7 June 2004

Institut d'Estudis Nord-Americans

Monthly Publication

Study English this Summer July & September Intensive Courses

You still don't know what you're going to do this summer? Worry no more. We can organize your summer for you. Do you want to take advantage of your summer vacation to improve your English?

We offer various options:



FOR ADULTS

1*.Intensive English courses at the IEN in Barcelona
- 30-hour courses, 2 hours a day, Monday - Thursday in July and Monday - Friday in September

2.English course in various parts of the the United States and Canada - 20 or 30 hours a week.
Enjoy a new way to learn while visit new places, get to know other cultures, and meet new people. Come to the Academic Advising Office and we will advise you about the best course for you. Please make sure you make an appointment before coming.

Call 807317425

* For courses at the IEN you can register from June 21st to July 1st and from August 30th to September 3rd.



FOR JUNIORS

1*.Intensive English courses at the IEN in Barcelona
- 30 hours, 2 hours a day, Monday - Thursday in July and Monday - Friday in September

2.Summer camp in La Masella.
Register to the summer camp in the IEN (Junior Teen Department) Monday - Thursday, from 1 to 7 p.m.

* For courses at the IEN you can register from June 21st to July 1st and from August 30th to September 3rd.

THE NEW COURIER WILL
BE TAKING A SUMMER
BREAK.

SEE YOU IN
OCTOBER!

HAVE A GOOD
SUMMER!

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SUMMER INTENSIVE COURSES

DURATION OF COURSE	JULY July 1 - 27 Classes: Monday through Thursday	SEPTEMBER September 2 - 22 Classes: Monday through Friday
PLACEMENT TESTS		
Monday - Friday 10:00 - 11:30 AM / 4:00 - 6:30 PM	June 21 - July 1	AUG 30 - SEP 3
REGISTRATION		
Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM / 3:30 - 7:30 PM	June 21 - July 1	AUG 30 - SEP 3

SUMMER INTENSIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

JULY: 2-hour classes, Monday through Thursday

SEPTEMBER: 2-hour classes, Monday through Friday

JUNIOR/TEEN PROGRAM

JR/TEEN PROGRAMS

4-6 (age):

STORIES AND SONGS

The course 'Stories and Songs' uses these two learning tools around which to build a series of student-participation activities which give young students an introduction to learning and practicing English. They work with expression, aural comprehension and pronunciation. These stories and songs are focused on concepts in the world of children of this age, such as family, home, and food.

KIDS (age) 6-8

The students learn to communicate in English, by speaking about themselves and their environment. The course contents are divided into theme-based units. Thus, the students learn vocabulary on a particular theme such as school or vacation.

KIDS (age) 8-10

This course offers the students the chance to learn English through stories related to their world, while getting exposed to spoken and written English.

JUNIORS (age 10-12)

The objective of the Juniors (10 - 12) course is to introduce the students to basic English grammar structures and pronunciation appropriate for their level, through a series of activities that give them the practice skills to express themselves in day-to-day situations.

TEENS (age 13 - 17)

For students in this age group we offer courses structured by levels, where they will learn grammatical concepts and vocabulary through conversation and listening activities. The students will put into practice the knowledge

that for many of them has been theoretical up to now, participating in conversations, games, situations and other communicative activities targeted for their level and their interests. After the intermediate level 'Exploring English' course, the students will also work more on written English, in order to develop the skills necessary for them to be able to succeed in their respective studies. The summer courses are complementary, reinforcement courses, for the courses we offer our students during the academic year, or for students who come from other centers. Our own materials will be used, rather than a textbook.

Introducing English (basic level)

Developing English (pre-intermediate level)

Exploring English (intermediate level)

Expanding English (upper-intermediate level)

Teen Competency / Advanced (advanced level)

TRAVEL ABROAD

Group travel with monitors for students 7 to 18 years old; various countries and dates available. For more information, ask at the Information Desk.

SUMMER CAMP IN ENGLISH AT MASELLA

LA MOLINA:
Organized in two sessions:
July 4 - 15 and July 15 - 26

For more information about the content and organization of the courses we offer, please contact May Miralles, Junior/Teen Department.

Tel.: 93 240 51 12 (Mon - Thursday 1 - 7 PM, Sat. 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM)
e-mail: juniors@ien.es

PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH PROGRAM

BUSINESS CONVERSATION 2

Level required:
Intermediate +6 - 8 PM

From survival to success...

Whether you're in the middle of an airport or the middle of an important meeting, you need to have the appropriate language skills not just to survive, but to succeed. This course, which provides you with oral English practice in a variety of business contexts, can help you acquire all the skills you need. Skills/topics include: traveling for business, participating in meetings, business ethics, reporting on progress and describing trends.

OTHER COURSES

Communication Reinforcement

These courses are designed to practice and reinforce oral communication in the areas of listening, speaking, and vocabulary within the grammatical structures corresponding to the different modules. They are aimed at students who want to perfect the skills worked on in the respective general program courses, either because they want to practice to gain agility in communication, or because they have failed a course or because they haven't attained adequate knowledge of the skills. Passing this course allows a student to avoid repeating a level he/she has failed.

The courses are 30 hours for Basic levels B3 and B4 and 15 hours from Pre-Intermediate levels on up.

GET A 10% DISCOUNT ON THE INTENSIVE SUMMER COURSES

Anyone who has taken a course at the IEN for a trimester or more, this academic year 2003-2004, will get a 10% discount on the intensive Summer Courses: July and/or September 2004

FILM CLUB

Come and see the last film in the American Independents Cycle

FILM: "THREE SEASONS"
Grand Jury Prize winner at the Sundance Festival 1999



The first American Film shot in Vietnam since the war, Three Seasons captures the chaotic beauty and brutality of a country caught between tradition and modernity, intricately weaving together the stories of four characters who must re-learn their way through a land that changes daily.

A young woman's mournful singing triggers both sorrow and inspiration for a poet secluded in a lotus-pond temple; a cyclo driver strives to earn enough money to please an ambitious prostitute; a tough street kid must find his stolen case of trinkets; and



an American war veteran searches desperately for the daughter he has never seen.

Brought to life through the remarkable acting of the indomitable Harvey Keitel and a cast of Vietnamese professionals, cyclo drivers, street kids, and Vietnamese Americans, Three Seasons applies a melodramatic Southeast Asian elegance to enrich its metaphorical tales of hope, melancholy and chaos. It's sweeping, intensely visual beauty and uncommon future for American independent film, in which diverse cinematic traditions combine.

Free! Wednesday, June 9th, at 7:00 PM, IEN Theater

Jubilee Jazz Club

June Calendar

June 3th

JAZZ SERIES:
STRAIGHT NO CASHIER
Projection of the film of Charlotte Zwerin about Thelonious Monk

June 17th

CONCERT OF THE SEASON
WITH THE JUBILEE JAZZ ORCHESTRA
*See page 4

Free! Thursday, June 3th and 17th at 8:00 PM, IEN Conference Room



Student Experience

ALOHA EXPERIENCE by Cristina Roldán

Cristina Roldán, an IEN student, takes us on a trip to Hawaii

*If you want to participate by contributing an article to The New Courier, you can write one or provide us with one related to things going on today, culture, traveling, or hobbies that you would like to share with your fellow students. Go for it! We'd like to get to know you better.



Where does your mind go when you hear the word aloha? Are you thinking about Hawaii? Maybe somewhere known as paradise? You're right, and I can confirm that this is a really great place to spend your holiday and maybe even your whole life...

Last September, my husband, Armand, and I went there. He had a dream; he wanted to run the Maui Marathon, so we decided to make it come true. The island of Maui, one of the biggest in Hawaii, seems destined to be the place you've always dreamed of. Each little corner is full of charm, and the people make you feel just like home. There, you can find a perfect mixture of Polynesian, American and Japanese cultures which respect each other and surround you in a magical atmosphere.

The "main reason" for our trip started in Kahului, the most important town, where the beginning of the 33rd Maui Marathon took place. In fact, it started the day Armand found its web page (www.maui-marathon.com) and we planned our Hawaiian adventure as a joke. It began to get real as weeks went by. Back to the race, there were many remarkable curiosities.

It usually starts at 5 AM, still dark, because of the extremely high temperature and humidity after sunrise. Before that, runners have breakfast together. Surprisingly, there were lots of sushi trays everywhere. It was a special gesture for the Japanese runners, who were almost a third of the participants.

... "you can find a perfect mixture of Polynesian, American and Japanese cultures..."

Recognized as one of the most scenic marathons in the world, the course runs along the picturesque Pacific Ocean and through the historic Whaling Village of Lahaina before finishing in Whalers Village in Kaanapali.

That year, the absolute winner was Kalid

Abdalah, a Somali California-based student from Oakland, with a great time of 2 hours, 21 minutes, 00 seconds. It was his second-ever marathon, just like Armand. I was impressed when I suddenly heard my husband's name shouted through the speaker at the race: "Armand Rodriguez, from Barcelona, Spain." I couldn't believe what I was seeing right there. He was crossing the finish line in the fifth

overall position with his personal best time, 2 hrs., 51 min., 27 sec! That was a really good job, especially considering that the 3rd runner had arrived just a few seconds before. He was extremely happy, but more tired than ever. That was the result of a hard and worthwhile training program full of sacrifice for months.

In the afternoon, we attended the Awards Ce-

... "he went up to the podium and received a nice prize: a big colourful ceramic fish"...

emony in the Westin Maui Hotel, an incredibly beautiful place. I was really excited and felt so proud of what he had achieved. He went up to the podium and received a nice, original prize: a big colourful ceramic fish, a typical souvenir of Maui. I am sure it will be one of those moments that we will always remember.

From then on, lots of amazing and wonderful places to visit were waiting for us. I was worried about Armand's fatigue, but it was not a problem for him at all. After the Marathon, we went to the Haleakala National Park, a volcanic area. It looks as if you were in space - a martian landscape 3,000 mts. high, in the crater of a dormant volcano. We could barely breathe right, so we had to go down inside the volcano slowly not to feel sick.

It was one of the best decisions we made on our vacation but not the only one.

All the brochures we found to guide us define it as an "island paradise", an appropriate name for that gorgeous place where you can feel the spirit of aloha, a word born in the Island of Oahu, a bigger island near Maui. It is a special Hawaiian greeting used with the meaning of love. Aloha is the warmth and friendliness of all the people we met during our trip. Wherever you go, whatever you visit, you will always find a

beautiful smile and a nice face wishing you the best with a sincere aloha.

My second-favourite part of our holiday was the famous "Road to Hana". The Highway to

... "we felt like prisoners surrounded by thousands of huge Bamboo branches"...

Hana is a 53-mile one way scenic drive. It is the journey getting there, not the destination, that's the real reason for spending a bit more than 5 hours in your car. There are few places you can stop as you drive along the narrow road which has 54 one-lane bridges and 600 hairpin turns. Expect it to take a full day to see everything that Hana offers you. There aren't any restaurants, so I recommend that you pick up a styrofoam cooler, ice, beverages and some snacks (typically known as a "Hana Box") and a full tank of gas because you will not find many gas stations on this route.

The natural beauty of the Hana experience will take you back in time and give you an idea of what the rest of Maui was like 30 years ago. It's important to mention that nowadays, entry is barred in some places for reasons of environmental protection.

Someone told us not to miss the road to Waimoku Falls, which starts near Hana. There was a problem; it takes from 2 to 5 hours to get there and we were not sure if that would be good for Armand and his marathon-fatigued legs, but considering that we had "survived" the long road to Hana, we definitely decided

... "we were snorkeling face to face with those wonderful big sea turtles"...

to discover those famous Waterfalls. The path was easy, thanks to the wood boardwalks, but muddy in many parts. On this hiking adventure, we passed through tropical rain forests, several roadside waterfalls and beautiful scenic views, including a bamboo forest, at about the midway point, and believe me, we knew it when we got there, because suddenly, the daylight was gone and we felt like prisoners surrounded by

thousands of huge Bamboo branches, a really strange sensation full of mystery; we were totally alone.

The final destination was Waimoku Falls, falling 400-feet down a sheer lava rock wall. When we were there, hearing the sound of water falling down right at our feet, we realized that the big effort we had made, especially Armand, after the marathon, was fortunately worthwhile. There, we had the quiet feeling that Nature is really a studied conjunction of perfect elements. At that moment, at that place, it was.

After a short break, we managed to get to "The Seven Sacred Pools" the water of which comes from the waterfalls we had visited before, and which finally reached the sea in seven natural pools located at different levels, separated by only small waterfalls one after another. We had fun swimming in the dirty brown water. At first, I was worried because I couldn't see most of my submerged body, but seeing a lot of people getting out of it, safe and sound, I felt better and I was able to enjoy this "special" wild bath. Even Armand climbed to the next pool up, reaching the top of the rocks, to jump then to the first one again. It was really exciting and crazy.

But the most fun of all those days was the one we spent in Molokini in a boat. It is a small half-moon volcanic island, an old crater, near Maui. It was just when we had stopped in a place called "Turtle Sanctuary". It is an area full of those beautiful animals. We weren't allowed to touch them and I really think they're conscious of that because they came so close to us. Though it's hard to imagine, we were snorkeling face to face with those wonderful big sea

turtles, which looked like they were smiling at us. Maybe that was the greatest experience I've ever had. I'll never forget those friendly faces staring at me.

To sum up, I would never have imagined I could feel so sad about leaving that paradise behind, but remembering all those great days will help me to keep that time alive in my mind. I promise myself to go back there as soon as possible.

So, if you want to spend a few unforgettable days, don't think twice - let Maui show you the "aloha experience".

(Cristina Roldán Rivero).



Past Events

Jordi Pujol at the IEN

LECTURE: "LES RELACIONS DE CATALUNYA I ESPANYA RESPECTE EUROPA I NORD AMÈRICA"



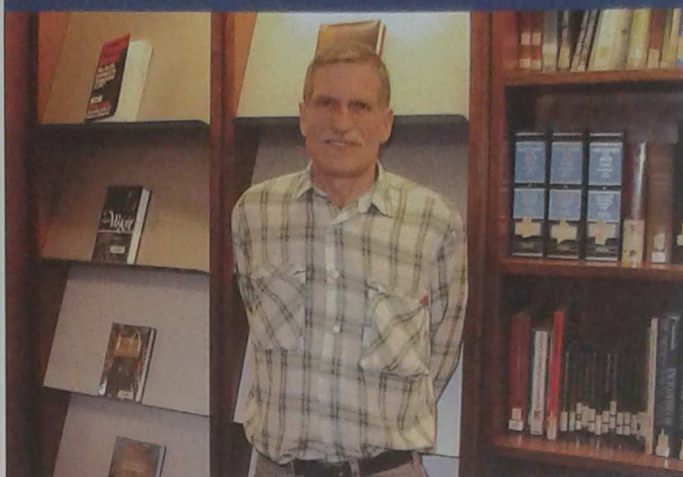
*COME AND DANCE WITH THE JUBILEE JAZZ CLUB ON THE IEN TERRACE



**WE WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU
THURSDAY 17TH 8:00 PM**

TEACHER'S PROFILE

This month we've talked with Jim Plaia



Where were you born?

I was born in Brooklyn, after a baby shower given to celebrate my arrival. However, I've never lived there; my family lived about an hour outside of New York City at the time.

What is New York like?

For me, it's the greatest city in the world. What I love the most about it is its ethnic diversity. One culture is boring. One color is boring. The people are very friendly, and if you're lucky, you might find someone who speaks English. And when I was younger, I couldn't get enough of the night life.

If you were to prepare a trip to New York for someone, what would you recommend visiting that is different from the most touristic and famous places?

There are a number of great museums that are a must for the first time visitor. A stroll along the East River, or a walk through the village is also part of a tourist's itinerary. But once you've done all that, just watch the people, and talk to whoever talks to you.

Why did you decide to leave the US and move to Barcelona?

Well, I didn't come to Barcelona from New York. I had been living in Italy on and off since I was 17 before I came here. It's a long story, but I actually didn't decide to come here on my own; I was sent here because of my job.

Have you always been a teacher?

No. I've had lots of different jobs in my life. I worked for a tourist agency for almost fifteen years, which gave me the opportunity to visit, live and work in over twenty countries throughout the world. I also taught for the Italian Ministry of Agriculture for a number of years.

What do you like best and least about Barcelona?

My friends! Buildings and culture can be found in every country, all peoples are creative and productive. But friends are the greatest asset of any city.

What about your hobbies and interests?

I like to read, write, and ride horses. I also love arguing politics.

June Activities

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY OR EVENT	PLACE
3 Thursday	8:00 PM	JUBILEE JAZZ CLUB "Straight no Cashier" Projection of the film of Charlotte Zwerin about Thelonious Monk	Conference Room
9 Wednesday	7:00 PM	FILM CLUB "Three Seasons" Directed by Tony Bui	Theater
17 Thursday	8:00 PM	JUBILEE JAZZ CLUB Concert of the season with the Jubilee Jazz Orchestra	Theater

SOURCES

www.naatanet.org, www.weeklywire.com, www.movie-reviews.colossus.net,
www.imdb.com/name/nm0959020/#director