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04. Foreign and Modern Language

Northeastern State University

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Abstracts from the 2015 Oklahoma Research Day

Held at Northeastern State University

04. Liberal Arts

04. Foreign and Modern Language

04.04.01 Native American Language Education Policy in Oklahoma: The Need for Native Language and Culture Education in Public Schools

Martyne,Chanslor *Northeastern State University*

With 38 federally-recognized tribes, Oklahoma is home to 40 Native American languages, all of which are endangered. There have been many positive language revitalization programs throughout communities in the state, but these languages are still quickly losing ground among the most important speakers: children. Though many revitalization projects are focused on improving the fluency of children, such as the Cherokee Immersion School in Tahlequah, a relatively small percentage of Native children are reached by these programs. This paper proposes an addition to the current language revitalization programs in Oklahoma by creating partnerships with Native American Nations and public school systems to teach Native languages and cultures in all schools within the respective tribal jurisdictions. This paper shows the benefits of such a partnership for both Native and non-Native, including enhanced cognitive skills, better understanding of history and culture, and opportunities to connect with heritage. Methodology includes examining relevant research in the field, current language policy in Oklahoma, and the successes and problems of other school-based language education programs.

04.04.02 Language Policy and Usage in Inner Mongolia

Xiao,Xiao *University of Central Oklahoma*

While China is growing into a more open economy in the recent decade, Inner Mongolia, an minority autonomous region located in north China, has been exposing itself in a more diversified environment. Therefore, language policy and usage are also changing to help young people to face upcoming challenges. The research will explore such changes to illustrate how the whole society respond to this situation in Hohhot, Capital city of Inner Mongolia, China.

04.04.03 Traditional Chinese Medicine and its Importance in Chinese Culture

Lisangela, Arroyo *Cameron University*

Traditional Chinese medicine is the use of herbal medicine and different physical and mental techniques that are used to help rid a person of different ailments that may affect them. Traditional Chinese medicine has been an important aspect of Chinese culture throughout China's history. In order to understand the roles TCM plays in Chinese people's lives, this research explores TCM's health function, essential components, and its fundamental medical theories that are behind its use. Using research through internet sources, and university library database, the author found that first, TCM's health functions are to cure a wide range of ailments from headaches to skin disorders and anxiety by restoring balance in a person's chi with herbal, mineral, and sometimes animal medicine. Second, the essential components that make up traditional Chinese medicine are Yin and Yang, herbal medicine, and physical techniques such as acupuncture and Tai Chi. Thirdly, the fundamental medical theory as to TCM's potency in healing is due to many of the herbs and physical techniques such as Tai Chi do provide health benefits to the body in alleviating some ailments. Gradually people are becoming more interested in the use of TCM for their health outside of China.