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Second Languages in the U.S. the Subject of UNH International Seminar

By [Erika Mantz](#)
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DURHAM, N.H. -- The evolution of the teaching and learning of foreign/second languages will be explored in the New Hampshire International Seminar Series at the University of New Hampshire Friday, April 6. This lecture will be in the last in the series for the academic year.

Research into the acquisition of non-native languages has expanded to include the disciplines of psychology, linguistics, education, neurobiology, sociology and anthropology, a move that contributes significantly to our understanding of language learning. Ali Moeller, a professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, will discuss this move, as well as the theories that impact our understanding of how language is learned and taught.

Her lecture, "Second Language Learning and Teaching in the U.S.: Retrospect and Prospect," is free and open to the public. It will take place in the UNH Memorial Union Building room 330 at 4 p.m. Refreshments begin at 3:30 p.m.

Moeller is the Edith S. Greer Professor of Second Language Acquisition/Foreign Language Education in the Center for Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is currently an A.C.E. fellow in the office of UNH President Joan Leitzel. Moeller has widely published in professional journals and authored a book on nobel prize winning author, Heinrich Boell. She is a past president of the American Association of Teachers of German.

"A shift in language pedagogy from methodology to measurement and a focus on learner outcomes has

resulted in an emphasis on performance," Moeller says. "I'll talk about that shift as well as the role of computer technology in creating an environment to teach language."

Moeller is particularly interested in the interface of technology and teacher education, and was director of the GOLDEN (German On-line Distance Education Network) project, designed to offer professional development opportunities for teachers of German internationally.

The New Hampshire International Seminar Series is sponsored by the UNH Center for International Education and the UNH Center for the Humanities, in association with the Saul O Sidore Memorial Lecture Series, "Education for the New Millennium," with support from the Alumni Enrichment Fund, Yale-Maria Fund, UNH Canadian Studies Minor, and the Class of 1957. For more information, call 603-862-2398.

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