Lenguas Madres de Mesoamérica

The LatinX Programs from the Office of Student Diversity & Social Justice brings you the Native Language Resource Guide for the Lenguas Madres de Mesoamérica workshop created in Fall of 2019 at UNLV.

This guide was created to help students with 3 objectives:

* Learn about the importance of endangered languages
* Help revitalize native languages that were erased through the colonization of the Western Hemisphere
* Reconnect with their native roots and ancestry by learning about indigeneity in what was known as Mesoamérica or known today as “Latinoamérica”
As our office is centered in justice and diversity, we would like to acknowledge the indigenous territory we stand on today. We acknowledge that we are on the ancestral, occupied lands of the **NUWUVI Southern Paiute and the Moapa Band of Paiutes Peoples**, land that we now call Las Vegas, Nevada. We acknowledge the Indigenous People of the lands where UNLV now stands – and recognize that these have always been places of teaching, learning, and connection. We wish to pay respect to their Elders – past, present and emerging – and acknowledge the important role the elders and youth continue to play within the community. Please, take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that place us together on this land today. Reflect on what your responsibility is to tell historical truths and how you and your organizations, communities, and families support indigenous people of whose land we work, live, and learn.

More information on [Land Acknowledgement](#)
Recognize the traditional territories across [North, Central, and South America](#)

Land acknowledgments honor and respect contemporary Indigenous peoples and their connections to their traditional territories. As some of us carry ancestral connections to the lands on the Americas (as Indigenous), it’s important to know about the deep histories of the lands on which we reside, work, and come from. By building awareness on the ongoing structures of colonialism and how colonization dispossessed Indigenous peoples of their lands, we can start the process of decolonization of our groups and peoples as natives for the purpose of reconnecting back to our roots and original stories.
A guide to start exploring native languages and your heritage...

Lenguas Madres de Mesoamérica Workshop Presentation by Mayra Arzate

Self-Education on Language Revitalization and Community Resources

Books

Websites/Groups

Indigenidad/Importance of Endangered Languages

Accessible Book- “Mexico Profundo: Reclaiming a Civilization” by Guillermo Bonfil Batalla

Manuscript- “Being and Speaking Kichwa in Otavalo, Ecuador: Language Ideologies and Language Vitality” by Raul A. Martinez

Article- “Don’t Be Fooled: Latino = Indigenous” by Indian Country Today

Article- “Exploring Indigeneity” by Fujifilm (Featuring Xiuhtezcatl Martinez)

Learn Maya Languages

English-K’iche’ Dictionary

K’iche’-English Dictionary

Proto-Mayan Language Family

Writing in Maya Glyphs: Names, Places, and Simple Sentences
Maya Languages Map 1 / Map 2
The K'iche’ Maya Language Short Guide
Yucatec Maya

Learn Nahuatl Language
“An Analytical Dictionary of Nahuatl” by Frances Karttunen

The colors in Nahuatl

Nahuatl Languages Map 1 / Map 2
Nahuatl/Nahua Dialects

“Vocabulario basico: Nahuatl-Espanol” by Biblioteca Escolar Indigena y Migrante

Some words in Nahuatl

This guide is shared through a Google Drive accessible to those who attended the workshop. The links here however are open to view for anyone if you would like to share...

Thank you for attending our workshop and for showing interest and excitement to revive our native languages/mother tongues (lenguas madres)!

D'yos B'o'tik (Mopan Maya) | Tlazocamati (Nahuatl)

For questions on access to this guide please contact the LatinX Programs Coordinator:
Alex Romero at alex.romero@unlv.edu | 702-895-4053