

## RATIONALE

- **Storytelling is a form of oral communication.** It is embodied in songs, drama and dance, by bards (poet-singers), oral historians, as well as grass-roots storytellers. This course investigates each of these contributions to storytelling.
- **Storytelling is a universal activity.** The greatest stories ever told were about the ministry of Jesus. These stories have been told orally in thousands of languages and are based on the written records in the Bible. This course promotes an oral approach.
- **Story telling is a natural precursor to literacy and translation.** It enables the hearer and the teller to visualize a story by means of mental pictures. This course focuses on the value of imagination and storytelling in a language project.
- **Storytelling is a skill used in all occupations.** This includes management, medicine, missiology, as well as other disciplines. This course broadens the scope of storytelling and models the power and attractiveness of storytelling.
- **Storytelling promotes communication.** By telling a story in another culture and in the language of the people, the outsider becomes aware of the metaphors and other oral strategies (the emic stratagem) used by the cultural insider.

### For more information contact:

GIAL – Telephone 972.708.7343  
7500 W. Camp Wisdom Road  
Dallas, Texas 75236

OR

**Dr. Karl Franklin**  
SIL International (at above address)  
email – karl\_franklin@sil.org  
telephone – 972.708.7400 x2373

## GIAL Fall 07 Oral Tradition & Literature (Storytelling)

**Course** (LD 5357: 3 hours)

August 20 to September 17.

*An evening course* (6:30-8:30pm)

### Oral Tradition and Communication

Upon completion of the course, students will better understand the role of oral traditions in cultures with both written and unwritten languages. Students will describe and practice the process of crafting stories and learn certain field methods for collecting oral traditions.

**Course Information.** Contact the GIAL Admissions Office (admissions@gial.edu). Course Tuition is \$310/graduate credit hour, \$180/under-graduate credit hour, or \$150/credit hour for audit. There is a one-time application fee of \$20. The cost of class books and materials are in addition to tuition. The course provides graduate credit that may be applied toward a linguistics degree at the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics .

Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics  
Dallas, Texas, U.S.A.  
<http://www.gial.edu>

*“When Nigel Barley set up home among the Dwayo people in Northern Cameroon, he knew how fieldwork should be conducted. Unfortunately, nobody had told the Dwayo.”*  
(from the cover of **The Innocent Anthropologist: Notes from a Mud Hut** by Nigel Barley, 1983).