

# **Magda Novelli Pearson**

## **Modern Languages**

### **Coil Project Fall 2018**

COIL stands for: Collaborative Online International Learning. I first found out about COIL thanks to the GL office at FIU. After I attended their seminar and I decided to coil one of my language and culture courses. I found a University partner in Central Italy and I started with my ITA2200 students in Fall 2018.

My Italian colleague and I had several synchronous meetings via Skype for business where the Students of Italian from both Universities worked in small groups researching and sharing information regarding specific topics on Central Italy traditions, customs and cultural events.

Students mostly focused on the Eurochocolate Festival, an internationally renowned annual event that takes place in Perugia, and celebrates, and educates chocolate lovers on the making and the benefits of this food.

During this Festival we scheduled a synchronous meeting where the students presented a video project based on a specific thematic (previously assigned to them) inspired by the 25th anniversary of Eurochocolate Festival.

During our last meeting there was a live ceremony organized by Eurochocolate where the best videos were rewarded. We opened this competition also to high schools' students taking Italian languages classes in Miami. We had 5 schools and both their students and teachers attended the ceremony at FIU.

Participating in a COIL project and the making of the video helped students from both universities to engage their language skills and their creativity in making a product that motivated them to practice the Italian language. In addition, working together in groups, prepared them for teamwork with international partner and created new friendships.