

**Jane E. Evans**  
(September 2009)

**Education:**

**Ph.D., French Studies, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2001.**

Area of specialization: Algerian literature in French. Dissertation titled: "Tactical Silence in the Novels of Malika Mokeddem."  
Directed by Professor Walter Putnam

**Summary of Doctoral Coursework:**

I focused on 20th-century francophone literature from North Africa and the French Caribbean. My dissertation explores the portrayal of Algerian women in the novels of Algerian author Malika Mokeddem. I took additional courses in critical theory, translation, 18<sup>th</sup>-century novel, theater of Victor Hugo, figures of alterity in 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century French theater and short stories.

**MA, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, 1977.**

Field of study: French literature. Minor in French film.

**BA with distinction in all subjects, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 1975.**

Field of study: French literature. New York State Teaching Certification in French and German.

**Statement of Research Interests:**

I have researched francophone literature from North Africa, especially the depiction of colonial and post-colonial Algerian women in Malika Mokeddem's novels from the past fifteen years. I have focused on how the women in question are silenced by neo-patriarchal discourse, but find ways in which to re-appropriate this silence to demonstrate their empowerment and agency. I am also interested in the works of Algerian-born francophone authors Latifa Ben Mansour, Fatima Gallaire, and Leïla Marouane, whose "testimonial" writings capture the Algeria of the past two decades, when Islamic fundamentalism became visible. I have presented a paper on René-Nicolas Ehni's *Algérie roman* as well as written on the image of the French soldier in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century French fiction. French film and the application of computer-assisted instruction to French literature, civilization, and language are additional areas of interest. I would like to propose a new undergraduate course, "The History of the French Language," teach it in a classroom setting a few times, and then offer it through the UTEP Tele-campus.

**Work Experience:**

**Assistant Professor of French, University of Texas at El Paso, 2004-Present.**

Courses taught:

Advanced French Conversation through French Film (FREN 3355)  
Advanced Composition (FREN 3357)  
Prose: Francophone Novels Whose Theme is Immigration (FREN 4388)  
Survey of French Literature I (FREN 3301)  
Survey of French Literature II (FREN 3303)  
French Phonology and Phonetics (FREN 3305)  
French Theater: *Théâtre de l'avant-garde, 1920-1960* (FREN 4389)  
French Theater: *Théâtre engagé, 1950-2000* (FREN 4389)  
French One (FREN 1301)

French Two (FREN 1302)  
French Poetry (FREN 4387)  
French Civilization (FREN 3320)  
History of the French Language (FREN 4390)  
Influence of French Law in the World (FREN 4390)  
Observations of Teaching Writing in French (FREN 4390)  
Prose: Short Novels Written by Algerian and Beure Authors (FREN 4388)  
Prose: The Short Story in French (FREN 4388)  
French History through French Film (FREN 4390)  
Prose: Works by Fatima Gallaire (FREN 4390)  
Prose: Works by Camus, Sartre, and Beauvoir (FREN 4390)  
Prose: Works by Maryse Condé and Simone Schwarz-Bart (FREN 4390)

Copies of Student Evaluation Questionnaires will be furnished upon request.

**Undergraduate Advisor for French Majors, University of Texas at El Paso, January 2006-Present.**

I advise undergraduate students about career plans, study abroad, student visas, choice of majors and minors. I also write letters of recommendation and input data into the UTEP computer system as per students' needs. Although I officially stepped down as an advisor in May 2006, I continue to be available to current and former students when other departmental advisors are absent; I am there for students in a more informal capacity as well.

**Club Sponsorships:**

Advisor, Languages and Linguistics Club, 2007-2008.  
Co-sponsor of the Languages and Linguistics Club, spring 2004-06.  
Sponsor of the *Quartier Français* French Club, 2002-04  
Co-sponsor of the *Union Française* French Club, 2001-02.

**Related Work Experience:**

**Visiting Assistant Professor of French, University of Texas at El Paso, 2001-2004.**

Courses taught:  
French One (FREN 1301)  
French Two (FREN 1302)  
French Three (FREN 2301)  
Survey of French Literature I (FREN 3301) and II (FREN 3303)  
Prose: Algerian and Beur Francophone Novels (FREN 4388)  
French Caribbean Novels (FREN 4390)  
French Phonetics (FREN 3305)  
Advanced French Conversation (FREN 3355)  
Advanced Composition (FREN 3357)  
Francophone African Novels (FREN 4390)  
The Theater of Corneille, Racine, and Molière (FREN 4389)  
Advanced French Conversation through French Film (FREN 3355)  
French Poetry (FREN 4387)  
French Civilization (FREN 3320)

**Part-time French Instructor, University of Texas at El Paso, 2000-01**

Taught French 1301, first-semester conversation.

**Chairperson, Foreign Language Department, El Paso High School, 1990-2000**

Coordinated teachers and administration. Handled scheduling and budget.

**French Teacher, El Paso High School, 1985-2000.**

Taught French I, II, III, IV and Advanced Placement Language and Literature. Also taught creative writing. Facilitated the Gifted Program. Headed the French Club and the National French Honor Society. Traveled with students to Quebec, Canada.

**French Teacher, Radford School, El Paso, Texas, 1981-85**

Taught French and English as a Second Language to students, grades 8-12.

**Part-time French Instructor, El Paso Community College, El Paso, Texas, 1981-85**

Taught French 4101 and 4102 according to communicative methodologies.

**Part-time English Instructor, BI Language Services, El Paso, TX, 1981-82**

Taught English to Spanish-speaking adults.

**Assistant English Teacher, Lycée Jules Ferry, Coulommiers, France, 1979-80**

Taught conversational English to French students, age 11-18.

**Associate instructor of French, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 1975-79**

Taught beginning and intermediate French conversation, reading and translation from French to English, and introduction to French film.

**Professional Grants, Awards and Fellowships:**

**Nomination:** University of Texas Regents Teaching Award, April 2009.

**Tournées French Film Grant:** October 2008.

**Nomination:** College of Liberal Arts Faculty Award, 2008

**Advance Grant Award, National Science Foundation,** summer 2006.

**Grant Award,** University of Texas at El Paso Academy in Technology, summer 2002.

**Fellowship Award,** University of New Mexico Francophone Summer School, 1998.

**Teacher of the Year,** El Paso High School, 1997-98.

**Council on Basic Education Fellowship** for Independent Study, summer 1995.

**National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar Fellowship,** 1993.

**American Association of Teachers of French Summer Study Fellowship,** 1989.

**Publications:**

*Tactical Silence in the Novels of Malika Mokeddem.* Book manuscript accepted for publication in September 2008 for the *Francopolyphonies* Series. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2008. 255 pages.

“A Memoir of Passage: *Mort d'un silence*, by Clémence Boulouque.” Accepted for publication in the *Women in French Studies Journal* Special Issue 2009. 18 pages.

“Reinscribing the Body: A Study of Leïla Marouane’s *Le Châtiment des hypocrites*.”

Published in *Aimer et mourir: Love, Death, and Women’s Lives in Texts of French Expression*. Eilene Hoft-March and Judith H. Sarnecki, eds. April 2009. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. 24 pages.

"Reconfiguring the Self: a Study of Latifa Ben Mansour's *L'Année de l'éclipse* through Political, Psychological, and Stylistic Lenses." *Women in French Studies Journal*. December 2008. 21 pages.

"Un écrivain en évolution: entretien avec Fatima Gallaire, avec la participation de Denise Brahimi." *Algérie Littérature / Action*. 115-116 (2007): 205-218. *Algérie Littérature / Action* is published monthly by Editions Marsa in Paris, France. It is dedicated to promoting critical works about Algerian authors as well as original works by Algerian writers.

"Immigrants from the North: Reconsidering the *Québécois* Settlement in Woonsocket, Rhode Island." Conference Proceedings from the *Lineae Terrarum* Conference, University of Texas at El Paso, March 27-30, 2006.

"Images de l'éducation post-coloniale dans trois romans de Malika Mokeddem," the *CELAAN Review* (of the Centre d'Etudes sur la Littérature et les Arts d'Afrique du Nord. December, 2002: Article accepted for publication in a future issue because of the "quality of [my] writing and the pertinence of topics treated."

#### **Books and Articles under Review:**

*Tactical Silence in the Novels of Malika Mokeddem*: book manuscript submitted to Rodopi Publishers, July 2003. Resubmitted to Rodopi, April 2007. **Contract for publication signed in September 2008.**

"The Image of the Soldier in French Novels of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century." Article submitted to the *Journal of Culture and War Studies*, February 2009. 22 pages. Accepted for publication pending revision.

#### **Works in Progress:**

"Reading as Poaching" in Malika Mokeddem's Novels: Article in progress.

#### **Book Reviews:**

*Dans la nuit Mozambique et autres récits*, by Laurent Gaudé, Book Review, *The French Review*, February 2009.

*Selected Poems and Translations: a Bilingual Edition*, by Madeleine de l'Aubespine. Trans. Anna Koslowska, Book Review, *Women in French Studies*, Volume 16, 2008.

*Bel-Avenir*, by Akli Tadjer, Book Review, *The French Review*, May 2008.

*Le Diamantaire*, by Yasmine Khlaf, Book Review, *The French Review*, March 2008.

*Trois désobéissances*, by Florence Delay, Book Review, *The French Review*, April 2007.

*Ouregano*, by Paule Constant, Book Review, *Women in French Studies Journal*, December 2006.

*La Jeune Fille et la mère*, by Leïla Marouane, Book Review, *The French Review*, October 2006.

*Sujets libres*, by Clémence Boulouque, Book Review, *The French Review*, October 2005.

*Cousine K*, by Yasmina Khadra, Book Review, *The French Review*, February 2005.

*Sucre et secret*, by Paule Constant, Book Review, *The French Review*. October 2004.

*Algérie roman*, by René-Nicolas Ehni, Book Review, *The French Review*. May 2004.

*Haras des femmes*, by Amin Zaoui, Book Review, *The French Review*. December 2003.

*Le Châtiment des hypocrites*, by Leïla Marouane, Book Review, *The French Review*, May 2003.

*N'zid*, by Malika Mokeddem, Book Review, *World Literature Today*, Autumn-Winter 2001.

### Scholarly Presentations:

“Les Frontières? Des maladies culturellement transmissibles”/“What are borders? Culturally-transmissible illnesses.” I volunteered to be Fatima Gallaire’s interpreter at The Association for Border Studies Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 16-19, 2009. At short notice, I also interpreted for a Moroccan professor, Dr. Saïda Latmani, who only spoke French. The title of her speech was: “Frontières ouvertes, frontières fermées: L’immigration maghrébine et les contraintes de la législation européenne”/ “Open Borders, Closed Borders: Immigration from the *Maghreb* and the Constraints of European Legislation.”

“Les Frontières? Des maladies culturellement transmissibles »/ « What are borders? Culturally-transmitted illnesses.” I served as the interpreter for Fatima Gallaire, Parisian writer and guest speaker sponsored by the Departments of Political Science and Languages and Linguistics, and the Osher Center for Lifelong Learning. April 14, 2009. 7 PM. Union Cinema East.

“Writing the Masculinities of War: René-Nicolas Ehni’s *Algérie roman*.” February 26-28, 2009, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts: Northeast Modern Language Association Convention presenter on the panel, “Masculinities in Recent Francophone Literature, 1950 - Present.”

Chair and speaker for the panel, “Women’s Self-Perception: between Truth and Invention. Women in French Studies Conference, April 10-13, 2008, American Airlines Training Center, Dallas, Texas. I presented the paper titled, “The Quasi-Confessional Autobiography: *Mort d’un silence*, by Clémence Boulouque.

“Widowhood, Motherhood, Selfhood in Latifa Ben Mansour’s *L’Année de l’éclipse*.” April 4-6, 2006, University of New Hampshire at Durham: Women in French Studies Conference. Presenter, “Widowhood” panel.

“Immigrants from the North: Reconsidering the Québécois Settlement in Woonsocket, Rhode Island.” March 27-30, 2006, University of Texas at El Paso: Lineae Terrarum Conference. Presenter on panel, “Colonial Heritages.”

“The Fairy Tale Revisited in Malika Mokeddem’s *Le siècle des sauterelles*.” December 27-30, 2005, Washington, D. C. Washington Hilton Hotel: Modern Languages Association Convention presenter.

“‘Violence et féminité’ in *Le Châtiment des hypocrites*,” by Leïla Marouane. March 31- April 2, 2005. Hilton Hotel and Conference Center, Gainesville. University of Florida 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> 2006. Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium. Presenter on panel, “Violence and Femininity.”

“Accommodating Arabic: A Look at Malika Mokeddem’s Fiction”: March 11-13, 2005, State College, Pennsylvania: American Comparative Literature Association Conference. Presenter and moderator for the panel: Multilingual Arabic Authors.

“Using Technology in the French Literature Classroom”: March 7-9, 2003, El Paso, Texas: Sun Conference: University of Texas at El Paso.

“Tactical Silence and the Reader’s Tactics”: February 20, 2003, El Paso, Texas: presentation to students and faculty of the Department of Languages and Linguistics, University of Texas at El Paso.

“Tactical Silence: an Approach to Malika Mokeddem’s First Five Novels”: October 10-12, 2002, Scottsdale, Arizona: Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Convention. Session Chair for *Le Conseil international d’études francophones*.

### **Presentations/Demonstrations:**

“You mean someone’s going to *read* this?” Developing Student Writers’ Awareness of Audience.” I presented this topic as a member of the Teachers for a New Era (TNE), February 16 and 19, 2009.

“From Assignment to Assessment: Prompting Students to Write Well.” Presentation that I gave as a member of Teachers for a New Era (TNE), September 22 and 25, 2008.

“Writing Conferences/ Writing Conferences: a Matter of Perspective.” I gave a short presentation on the role of colloquia/conferences at the undergraduate level for the TNE, January 2008.

“From Assignment to Assessment: Prompting Students to Write Well.” A presentation on writing rubrics that I gave for the Teachers for a New Era (TNE), September 2007.

“Developing Listening Comprehension.” For the department’s preparatory course for teaching assistants. February 16 and 18, 2009. I introduced the students to jazz chants, listening exercises using video clips, recorded dialogues, and excerpts from American literature. We discussed the kinds of accompanying exercises to incorporate. We brainstormed the placement of these elements at various levels of English to Speakers of Other Languages instruction. We also related the use of listening exercises to the “Five Cs” promulgated by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

“Developing Reading Proficiency.” For the department’s preparatory course for teaching assistants. October 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007. I showed a film clip and discussed the visual effects with

students. The latter than read "The Tell-tale Heart" by Poe and described the literary techniques used to create horror. During the second class, I conducted a mini-lesson in spoken German. Then, students read a short story in German and discussed the importance of using cognates with early language learners.

"Games and Icebreakers." For the department's preparatory course for teaching assistants. November 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007. we discussed the role of both "fun" and "instructional" games in the communicatively-oriented language classroom.

"Teaching Reading: A Communicative Approach." For the department's preparatory course for teaching assistants. September 11, 2006, 3:00-4:20 PM, Liberal Arts 102. I used a segment of the film *The Shining* as the point of departure for a discussion of "The Tell-tale Heart," by Edgar Allan Poe.

"Alternative Methods of Assessing Students." For the department's preparatory course for teaching assistants. October 11, 2006, 3:00-4:20 PM, Liberal Arts 102. I introduced the idea of using games and group assessment as alternative means to evaluating students' progress.

"A Master Class in Proficiency-Based Foreign Language Instruction." November 18, 2005, 2:00-3:00 PM, Liberal Arts 108. At Chair Dr. Kirsten Nigro's request, I taught a bookless lesson on the French family to teaching assistants and instructors with no previous training in French in order to demonstrate the oral proficiency approach. Dr. Nigro's verbal assessment afterwards was that I had "natural ability as a teacher" and that I had "a dramatic sense of timing."

#### **Professional Development Seminars Attended:**

1. April 3, 2009: "Using Cooperative Activities and Classroom Assessment Techniques (CATs) to Foster Deep Learning Based on Research on How People Learn." Presenter: Dr. Barbara J. Millis.
2. March 26, 2009: "An Integrative Approach to Lecturing and Active Learning." Presenter: Dr. Harry Meeuwssen, CETaL.
3. August 22, 2008: "Discourse Communities and Writing," sponsored by Teachers for a New Era. Presenter: Dr. Anne Beaufort
4. August 21, 2008: CETaL Annual Faculty Retreat: "Teaching that Promotes Learning and Builds the Case for Teaching Excellence." Presenter: Dr. Maryellen Weimer
5. March 11, 2008: "From Elaboration to Collaboration: Understanding and Supporting Second-Language Writers." Presenter: Dr. Alfredo Urzua
6. March 7, 2008: "The Rewards and Risks of Studying Wicked Rhetorical Contexts." Presenter: Dr. Stuart Blythe
7. January 18, 2008: "Thinking Critically about Teaching Critical Thinking: How Can We Transcend Academe's False Priorities?" Presenter: Dr. Tine Reimers.
8. I participated in the workshop entitled "Modeling Good Writing for Students," on November 16, 2007, from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. It was sponsored by the Teachers for a New Era.
9. I attended the workshop titled, "Helping Students in Troubling Situations,"

cosponsored by the UTEP Police Department and the UTEP Student Counseling Center, on October 24, 2007, from 1:30 to 3:30 PM.

10. I attended the workshop "Writing in the Disciplines," given by the Teachers for a New Era, on August 23, 2007, from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM.
11. I was a student in the Spanish Three class for faculty and staff, January – May 2007.
12. I attended CETaL's faculty retreat on August 17, 2006: "A Self-Directed Guide to Designing Courses for Significant Learning." El Paso Country Club, 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM.
13. I attended the "Advisors' Debriefing" meeting on February 8, 2006.
14. I was a student in the Spanish Two class for faculty and staff, January – April 2006.
15. I attended the Supplemental Session on Banner and Goldmine in Practice. Presented by Dr. Richard V. Teschner. December 13, 2005.
16. I attended the meeting for New Undergraduate Advisors. Presented by Dr. Richard V. Teschner. November 3, 2005.
17. In September 2005, with the *Alliance Française d'El Paso*, I arranged for a guided tour of the Toulouse-Lautrec exhibition at the El Paso Museum of Art. Dr. Micheline Kissack, art specialist, was our guide. Students from UTEP, members of the Alliance Française, and members of the El Paso/Juárez community attended.
18. "Planning to Communicate," Workshop for foreign language instructors. Given by Susan M. Bacon, Ph.D., University of Cincinnati. September 2, 2005.
19. I also attended the Faculty Retreat sponsored by UTEP's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETaL) in August 2005. The workshop was titled, "So What's the Problem? Design Challenges for your Students as They Begin to Think in your Discipline." Engaging my students and keeping them focused in my courses are major concerns of mine. Therefore, I found the information on diversifying question format and the formulators themselves to be of great use for my teaching.
20. I was a member of UTEP's Faculty Mentoring Program for Women, fall 2005.
21. When CETaL sponsored a workshop called "Gaining Perspective on Tenure, Promotion and Your Academic Career" on April 29, 2005, I registered to attend. This was a way to meet other tenure-track faculty, tenured professors, and Dr. Richard Jarvis, Provost. I also learned what to include in my teaching portfolio.
22. The FIT Lab's "Banner/Goldmine Introductory Workshop" for advisors. Dr. Cyndi Castro. August 2, 2005.

23. CETaL Workshop for Tenure Track Faculty: "Gaining Perspective on Tenure, Promotion and your Academic Career." April 29, 2005.
24. CETaL Workshop: "Using Film in the Liberal Arts Classroom." March 16, 2005.
25. I attended Intensive Spanish for Faculty and Staff: Spanish III, fall 2004.
26. I was a member of UTEP's Faculty Mentoring Program for Women: Fall 2004.
27. I participated in "WebCT for the Language Class," September 8, 2004, 1:30 – 3:00 PM, UGLC 320.
28. I participated in CETaL's Fall Faculty Retreat, "Teaching and Assessing for Deep Learning," August 19, 2004.
29. I attended Dr. Ida Kummer's presentation, "Immigration in Recent French Film from the Maghrib," April 27, 2004, after arranging for this cultural event with UTEP and the El Paso *Alliance Française*.
30. CETaL's "Publish and Flourish" Workshop, presented by Dr. Tara Gray, April 22 and 29, 2004.
31. I attended Dr. Thierry Lefèvre's talk on study abroad in Versailles, France, February 24, 2004.
32. I attended Dr. Kirsten Nigro's talk to the department of Languages and Linguistics, February 12, 2004.
33. I attended the Departmental workshop on foreign language testing, presented by Dr. Ellen Courtney, January 23, 2004.
34. I attended the Departmental workshop on foreign language teaching methodology, presented by Dr. Ellen Courtney, January 12, 2004.

**Professional Affiliations:**

*Alliance Française*/ French Alliance of El Paso, 1983-89; President, 1988-89, Member, 2001-02; 2005-present; Secretary, 2007-09.

UTEP Teachers for a New Era, fall 2007-09.

American Association of Teachers of French, El Paso Chapter: 1983-present; President, 1995-97; Vice-President, 1993-95.

Northeast Modern Language Association, Member, 2008-09.

Modern Language Association, Member, 2001- 08.

Women in French Studies, Member, 2002-present.

American Comparative Literature Association, Member, 2004-05.

*Centre d'Etudes sur la Littérature et les Arts d'Afrique du Nord*, 2002-05.

Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, Member, 2001-02.

Supervising Teacher for Block I-II interns, University of Texas at El Paso, 1995-2000.

Texas Foreign Language Association, 1985-93.

**Recent Professional Service:**

Member, Committee to Select a New Director for the Study Abroad Office: June 4-5, 2009. We interviewed two candidates for the job and then cast our vote.

Teaching Effectiveness Committee of the Faculty Senate: August 2008 - present. We meet monthly to discuss issues pertaining to university teaching, such as online student evaluations, and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate.

Assessment Committee: 2008- present. I worked with the Spanish professors on their assessment plan, exam for admission to the Spanish major, and related rubrics. I then did the assessment plan for French majors.

Departmental Advisory Committee: 2005-2006; 2007-2008; 2008- 2009.

University of Texas at El Paso Faculty Senator: August 2006- August 2008.

Master's Degree Thesis Committee Member: Spring 2007.

Texas Oral Proficiency Test Scorer in French, Oak Hill Technologies, Inc., Austin, Texas, February 16-18, 2007.

Reviewer for the Editorial Office of the *International Third World Studies Journal and Review*, Department of Philosophy and Religion, 6001 Dodge Street, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska 68182-0265, May 2006.

State Board for Educator Certification: Member of committee for review of draft test framework and draft test items for the Texas Examination of Educator Standards (TEXES), *Languages Other Than English-French* certification test, summer 2005 to spring 2006.

Search Committee Member, School of Education, University of Texas at El Paso, 2005-2006.

Search Committee Member, Department of Languages and Linguistics, University of Texas at El Paso, 2007-2008; 2006-2007; 2004-2005.

**Community Service:**

On March 7, 2009, I proctored Level 3 of the *Grand Concours* National French Examination sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. Before the test, I distributed brochures about programs of study at the Department of Languages and Linguistics at UTEP.

On May 17, 2008, as the guest speaker at the Awards Banquet for the local winners of the *Grand Concours*/ National French Exam sponsored by the AATF, I gave a mini-lesson in French to the audience comprised mostly of members of the El Paso/Juarez community in order to raise awareness of interest in that language.

*Le Grand Concours*/ National French Examination, sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French, March 15, 2008. I proctored the Level 1A exam and also distributed flyers about studying French at UTEP. *Le Grand Concours*/National French Examination, sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French, March 4, 2006. I proctored the Level 2 exam and distributed brochures about French at UTEP to interested students.

I was an invited speaker for winners of the *Grand Concours*/National French Examination as well as inductees into the French National Honor Society at Loretto Academy, September 12, 2007. I stressed the importance of following one's passion in life, be it for French or another subject.