The Rassias Center for World Languages and Cultures

"The understanding of other cultural traditions begins with language. Dartmouth Professor John Rassias' high-powered language drills reveal the values of foreign cultures more tellingly than a dozen weighty treatises. It would be easier for all of us to continue insisting that the rest of the world learn English. But such complacency has already placed Americans at a serious disadvantage in the international marketplace... We isolate ourselves from a wide range of opportunities—diplomatic, economic, and cultural."

JAMES O. FREEDMAN
President Emeritus of Dartmouth College,
in “American Glasnost” (Dartmouth Alumni Magazine, November 1990)
We each instinctively learn our native tongues by listening, repeating, manipulating, and gradually building the base.

A Summary of the 
Rassias Method Philosophy

**Know Thyself** – explore one’s own inhibitions, prejudices, values.

**Connect** – recognize cultural differences and similarities to be aware and empathetic of others.

**Special Delivery** – use techniques to foster spontaneity through dynamic classroom pace and atmosphere.

**Stage Presence** – empower language learners to be at ease in the classroom, in the language, in the culture, in the country.

**Senses and Emotions** – participate in multileveled approaches that break down the obstacles of language acquisition.

The purpose of the Rassias Method is to eliminate barriers of inhibitions and fear that learners normally bring to the classroom. This is accomplished by a combination of unpredictable maneuvers and dramatic spontaneity to keep the student locked in the learning cycle.

We are committed to the premise that “language instruction at any level should be a humanistic pursuit intended to sensitize [individuals] to other cultures, to the relativity of values, to the appreciation of similarities among peoples and respect for the differences among them” (Perkins Commission Report to the President, 1979). Our philosophy within any of our programs is to assist educators and learners; indeed, our purpose is to share, to serve, to stimulate.

Thank you for your interest in our work and programs. We have had the privilege of working within the language and cultural acquisition field for over five decades both in the USA and abroad. Our worlds are profoundly touched and improved by those across the globe with whom we are lucky enough to work.

Developed for training Peace Corps volunteers in the early 1960s and adapted to college level instruction in 1967, the Rassias Method® is a combination of dramatic techniques, rhythmic drills, and energetic reinforcement strategies that make learning an engaging experience, while eliminating inhibitions. The Rassias Method is used in colleges and schools throughout the country and abroad. Please note, we have included a time-line in this document with a brief overview about the early years.

Thank you for your interest in our work and programs. We have had the privilege of working within the language and cultural acquisition field for over five decades both in the USA and abroad. Our worlds are profoundly touched and improved by those across the globe with whom we are lucky enough to work.

Developed for training Peace Corps volunteers in the early 1960s and adapted to college level instruction in 1967, the Rassias Method® is a combination of dramatic techniques, rhythmic drills, and energetic reinforcement strategies that make learning an engaging experience, while eliminating inhibitions. The Rassias Method is used in colleges and schools throughout the country and abroad. Please note, we have included a time-line in this document with a brief overview about the early years.

We look forward to working with you in Hanover, NH or anywhere our paths may cross.

The Rassias Center  •  Dartmouth College  •  6071 Blunt Suite 315  •  Hanover NH 03755 USA      Phone: (603) 646-2922      Fax: (603) 646-2240      rassias.center@dartmouth.edu      http://rassias.dartmouth.edu      www.facebook.com/rassiascenter