KATIE WELCH, PH.D.

LINGUISTICS. LANGUAGE ACQUISITION. LEARNING.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Below are descriptions of some of the workshops and webinars I have recently presented to ESL professionals. Custom presentations based on specific needs are available upon request.

Creating a Cohesive and Consistent Online Classroom Experience for English Learners
Audience: Higher Ed

In this session, attendees will learn how to organize and design a university ESOL course that is consistent from week-to-week and cohesive from start to finish. Participants will be given a variety of practical, easy-to implement ideas of how to add consistency to course shell design, assessment, content instruction, and student communication--without sacrificing instructional creativity and/or continuity in the process!

Differentiating Instruction in an Online Mixed-Ability Classroom
Audience: Adult, Higher Ed, K-12

Attendees will learn strategies for teaching a classroom of mixed-ability learners using fundamentals of differentiated instruction. From choice boards to breakout Zoom groups, practical real-world examples will be given about how to create a student-centered classroom in an online environment.

Empowering Remote Learners through Self-Assessment
Audience: Adult Ed & Higher Ed

As many ESL classrooms move to a virtual format, instructors are asking themselves how they can equip remote students to take more ownership of their learning. To tackle this question, join experienced online instructor Dr. Katie Welch as she demonstrates proven, easy-to-implement strategies that empower learners through self-assessment. In this workshop, attendees will learn how to create rubrics, utilize student self-checks, and provide data tracking opportunities that enable students to routinely reflect on their course engagement and curriculum progress.

Fostering Social Emotional Learning through Literacy
Audience: K-12 Ed, Adult Ed, Higher Ed

This session will help literacy providers in adult and family literacy to help individuals and families understand the importance of social-emotional learning and how to include learning activities that foster SEL to promote resiliency. Includes specific connections to language learning and affective variables that can impact the acquisition process.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS, CONT.

Incorporating Technology in Adult Education
Audience: Adult Ed

Participants in this session will be introduced to the concept of formative assessment and will learn both a low-tech and a high-tech strategy for incorporating "checks for understanding" into adult ESL classrooms. Two apps will be described and demonstrated, Plickers and Kahoot!, with instructions on how to integrate these into adult education environments.

Kahoot!: Balancing Rigor and Engagement Through Gamification
Audience: Adult Ed, Higher Ed

Want to increase course engagement? Gamify! Even if video games are a foreign language to you, your class can benefit from gamification, the process of applying gaming principles to educational contexts, and can do so without sacrificing academic rigor in the process. In this webinar, we will identify gaming fundamentals that are proven to increase student engagement and that can easily be implemented in both online and traditional classrooms. We will then evaluate how the popular formative assessment tool Kahoot! utilizes these principles and offers an intuitive, low prep way to gamify your ESL classroom.

Teacher Education: Practicing What We Preach and Preaching What We Practice
Audience: Teacher Trainers of K-12, Adult, and Higher Ed ESL Teachers

Learn how to redesign your syllabi to ensure you are delivering teacher prep content via strong modeling of communicative, cooperative, and content-based pedagogies. This workshop will be delivered in an interactive "modeling + naming" format and will transform how you make theory-practice connections for your students.

Teaching with Technology: Awesome Apps for English Learners
Audience: Adult Education

In this session, attendees will receive an overview of five apps that have a proven track record of working well with adult English learners. For each of the five apps highlighted (FlipGrid, TalkingPoints, Plickers, Kahoot!, Google Apps), an overview of the app is given as well as an explanation how to implement the technology in an adult ESL classroom. The apps are also evaluated in terms of their effectiveness and ease of implementation.

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WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS, CONT.

Using Gamification to Balance Academic Rigor and Soft Skill Development
Audience: Adult Ed, Higher Ed

In this presentation, we will identify gaming fundamentals that are proven to increase student engagement and that can easily be implemented in both online and traditional classrooms. After reviewing the research, Dr. Welch will detail the specifics of how she reimagined extra credit in a university course through a gamified "bonus level" and will share lessons learned. To conclude the session, participants will be given a step-by-step & "quick-start" guide where they can brainstorm engagement challenges in their own classrooms and can sketch out a gamification plan.

Using Talking Points to Stay Connected with English Learners
Audience: Adult Ed

Throughout this workshop, participants will be guided step-by-step on how to create a TalkingPoints account customized specifically for a community-based ESL program. We will also discuss the benefits of using this type of translation software for English learners. The session also briefly reviews a few other free translation tools that can be useful for ESL classrooms.