Fall 2015 Orientation for New and Continuing Language Instructors Workshop

Workshop Report

Fall 2015 Orientation Workshop (4 days)
Presented by
The Center for Language Excellence (CLE)
in collaboration with
the Center for the Study of Global Change
and the Center for Language Technology
August 18-21, 2015
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Ballantine Hall (Several Rooms)
IU Campus, Bloomington

Beginning on Tuesday, August 18 and continuing through Friday, August 21, 2015, the Center for Language Excellence (CLE) in collaboration with the Center for the Study of Global Change and the Center for Language Technology hosted the Fall 2015 Orientation for New and Continuing Language Instructors Workshop. Additional workshop co-sponsors included:
1. African Studies Program
2. Center for the Languages of the Central Asian Region (CeLCAR)
3. Center for the Study of the Middle East (CSME)
4. Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center (IAUNRC)
5. Madhusudan and Kiran C. Dhar India Studies Program
7. Near Eastern Languages & Cultures (NELC)
8. Russian & East European Institute (REEI)
9. Slavic Department (SLAVIC)
10. Southeast Asian Studies (SEAS)

This workshop was the 13th of a series of workshops offered by CLE, but the first of the Academic Year 15-16.

This four-day workshop served as both pre- and in-service professional development opportunity for all interested language instructors. The workshop presented all attendees with some strategies for effective language teaching and, in addition, introduced new instructors to essential pedagogy, technology, and information that would get them ready for the first week of teaching.

Presentations were led by on-site guest speaker, Laura Terrill, and micro-teaching leaders, Troy Byler, Susanne Even, Debra Friedman, Piibi-Kai Kivik, Rebecca Manring, and Antonia Schleicher. Additionally, the following persons assisted with micro-teaching sessions: Brian Oches, Beatrice Ng’uono Okelo, Kashika Singh, Catherine val Halsema, and Juliane Wuensch.

The workshop had a total of 53 attendees (including 6 staff 11 leaders) with language instructors from 4 different language programs/departments (African Studies/Linguistics, CEUS, Germanic, Slavic), servicing 21 different languages ((Akin/Twi, Bamana, BCS (Bosnian, Croatia, Serbian), Bengali, Dutch, Finnish, German, Kazakh, Kurdish, Kyrgyz, Mongolian, Persian, Polish, Russian, Swahili, Tibetan, Turkish, Uzbek, Wolof, Yoruba, and Zulu)).
The post-workshop survey evaluation showed that overall the participants said the workshop was excellent with a 4.8/5 rating on the final day!

Below are what some of the participants had to say about the workshop:

- Most helpful on Day One: *Technology because I am very interested to integrate these into my teaching.*
- The workshop is organized very well.
- Most helpful on Day One: *The College policies session because it is essential to know what are our responsibilities and where we can find help and resources.*
- The sessions were great and the examples were very relevant to LCTL
- *The college policies were very helpful to know the rules & regulations and to know of the CAPS resources.*
- Most helpful Plenary: *Speaking about the things that really matter in everyday life can be incorporated in teaching and learning to have better language application.*
- Most helpful Plenary: *Illustration of modes and strategies*
- Most helpful Plenary: *The demonstration of a mini-lesson by the professor. And the activity which gave us a chance to walk into the room.*
- Most helpful Plenary: *Live demonstration readying us for micro-teaching.*
- Most helpful Plenary: *Micro-teaching demonstration because it effectively demonstrated the teaching methods discussed.*
- Most helpful part of micro-teaching: *Mini-teaching and feedback from teachers and supervisors*
- Most helpful part of micro-teaching: *To see how learn from the leader as well as the peers.*
- Most helpful part of micro-teaching: *Activities that were used by the teachers, because I will use in my teaching practice.*
- Thank you very much for this great workshop! I learnt a lot of things that will help me to develop my teaching skills!
- Troy (Byler) established a very good atmosphere for everyone to learn from each other.
- Both micro-teaching sessions were timed very well and made it flexible enough for everyone to get the feedback.
- I like the sessions and the micro-teaching presentations a lot because I can always learn good practices from other people’s work.
- The presentations were great! The best part was when the presenters did self-reflections and then the “students” gave their comments.
- In micro-teaching I learned to improve my teaching by seeing what other people were doing either well or learning by mistakes.
- It was very good to see them implement all the feedback from yesterday’s session.
- Getting peer-to-peer feedback and sharing ideas. These are useful for making our own teaching more efficient and relevant.
- Most helpful part of the entire orientation: *The presentations by the guest speaker; I learned something new that I can apply in my class. The micro-teaching sessions.*
- Most helpful part of the entire orientation: *Micro-teaching and feedback from our micro-teaching*
- Most helpful part of the entire orientation: *Micro-teaching. Practice helped put into perspective what we learned.*