2015 Online Language Course Design 101

Workshop Report

Online Language Course Design 101
presented by Esther Ham, CLE Director of Online Language Education

Wednesday, September 2, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Ballantine Hall 117
IU Campus, Bloomington

On Wednesday, September 2, 2015, the Center for Language Excellence (CLE) presented its first workshop of the 2015-16 Academic Year entitled “Online Language Course Design 101”. The workshop had 12 attendees including two CLE/CeLT staff. There were language instructors from seven departments, servicing eight different languages (Bengali, Chinese, English, German, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Uzbek). The presentation was led by Esther Ham, Director of Online Language Education for the Center for Language Excellence.

This workshop was the fourteenth of a series of workshops being offered by CLE.

Workshop participants were introduced to building their own online language course and led to find out if the only option is to teach a language in a regular classroom setting. The discussion continued with the official codes for online courses, according to the coding in IU’s student information system (SIS), and in accordance with United States Department of Education (DE) Title IV regulations and Higher Learning Commission (HLC) definitions. Building any online course requires the knowledge of this coding. Then, by using backward course design, the first steps on how to build an online language course were outlined and discussed. Participants used basic tools in Canvas (pages and modules) to design their first online language template.

The post-workshop survey evaluation showed that overall the participants “Strongly Agreed” that they were satisfied with the workshop, and most learned new skills that will help in the classroom from their participation.

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

“Very helpful!”
“Great job!”
“The info about Question Banks was great and helpful.”
“It was perfect and very clear.”
Most helpful: “Information and experience that Esther shared with us. I feel more informed about online teaching.”
Most helpful: “This really helped me build fluency with Canvas. This is my first semester using it & this gave me lots of tools.”