

A Preview of Workshops

Full Day (6-Hour) Workshops

Planning for Student Learning – Effective Curriculum, Unit, and Lesson Design

ACTFL Staff, ACTFL

Learn guiding principles for designing standards-based curriculum, units, and lessons focused on developing learners' language performance. Consider how the National Standards, 21st Century Skills, and Common Core guide the development of a vertically aligned curriculum that builds students' communication skills and cultural understandings. Participants explore thematic unit design and daily lesson planning with strategies that maximize student learning in support of curricular goals, with indicators of performance expected at each level of instruction.

They Call 'Em Games

Lucas D Hoffman, Sylvania Southview High School, Sylvania, OH and Lori Winne, Toledo Public Schools, Retired, Erie, MI

Say "Let's learn" and students say "boring". Say "Let's play a game" and they are motivated to participate. Create and play games that encourage students to talk. Learn how to convert commercial games into pair, small group and whole-class activities. Make some of the presenters' own ideas and learn how to assess students' interpersonal, interpretive and presentational skills. Throw away the stickers, candy and extra points! All activities have been kid-tested!

Half Day (3-Hour) Workshops

An Inch Wide and a Mile Deep: Adding Depth to TPRS

Carrie M Toth, Carlyle High School, Carlyle, IL; Kristy Placido, Fowlerville High School, Fowlerville, MI

Have you struggled with moving beyond the stories of level 1? Are you looking for ways to deepen kids' experience in your class through culture and real-life language experience? Join us to find out how you can use novels, authentic resources, and technology to achieve the ACTFL 90% goal while keeping it comprehensible!

Cuisiner et apprendre le français

Jayne Abrate, American Association of French Teachers-Southern Illinois University Carbondale; Carbondale, IL

Learn to use food in the classroom to teach French and Francophone cultures and to go beyond tasting to examine history, economics, agriculture, nutrition, and other areas. Participants will leave with materials they can use immediately. During the workshop, the presenter will also prepare a 5-course Francophone meal, highlighting the cuisine of Quebec, which participants will be able to eat at the end. All participants will receive a flash drive with the session materials.

Content-Based Activities in the Elementary/Middle School Classroom

Lori Winne, Toledo Public Schools, Toledo, OH (Retired)

This workshop focuses on content-related strategies and activities in world languages that boost critical thinking skills and connect to other disciplines. Science experiments, math story problems, geography and health lessons, music and art projects can all be integrated into the elementary curricula! The presenter will share her dissertation research on the relationship between elementary foreign language programs and state test scores. Numerous demonstrations in German and Spanish will be given. Lots of audience participation is expected.

Creating Your Own Language Games using MS PowerPoint

Gaby Semaan, University of Toledo, Toledo, OH

Language educators find themselves struggling to find affordable interactive games in their target language that fit their class's target and proficiency level and keep their students' interest and attention. In this workshop, FL teachers will learn ways to create their own professional quality games and teaching materials Microsoft PowerPoint. Providing a sample template and step by step instruction the workshop will engage participants and help them create their own recyclable templates and games. Participants are encouraged to bring their laptops with them if they have MS PowerPoint on them.

Der deutsche Wald

Siggi Piwek, Milwaukee Immersion School, Milwaukee, WI; Charles James, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Madison, WI

Approximately 30 % of the total surface area of Germany consists of forests. As a consequence, nature and forests have played significant role in defining the German identity. The forest has often provided the setting for literature, opera, art and film in the German consciousness. The connection of language, pictures and music with politics, education and economic issues provide the opportunity to view the forest from various perspectives. Participants will take practical tips home with them that they will be able to utilize with their students.

Developing and Testing Communication Skills in German

Anka Fehling, ZfA (German Central Agency for Schools Abroad), Wheaton, IL

The workshop introduces the materials and exams provided by the German Central Agency for Schools Abroad (ZfA) in Cologne that aim at supporting the development of written and oral communication skills in German. Exam samples and support for teachers and learners are discussed.

Did they learn what I taught?: Assessment of Student Learning

Kathryn B Wolfkiel, Barrington High School, Barrington, IL

Consideration of the National Standards and 21st Century skills will inform this discussion of assessment and the three modes of communication—Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational. We will examine how assessments fit into the design of thematic units and learn how to design assessments to measure specific aspects of student achievement. Examples of grading rubrics will also be shared and discussed. Participants will leave with examples of assessments for their classrooms.

Drama Pedagogy for Beginners

Susanne Even, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN; Madhuvanti Karyekar, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

How can drama pedagogy in foreign language education be an effective learning medium for beginning students, whose language level might not be sufficient enough for linguistic improvisation and spontaneous language production? This workshop will present basic techniques from drama pedagogy that can be fruitfully employed in lower-level and beginner classes. Participants will be familiarized with procedures from drama pedagogy in a hands-on workshop and will be guided to develop their own dramatic teaching modules.

Embedded Reading: Scaffolding for Success

Laurie A Clarcq, Marcus Whitman High School, Rushville, NY

Embedded Reading combines success and scaffolding in order to create strong readers! This approach allows teachers to make authentic materials highly comprehensible and strengthens students' literacy skills. Teachers can also use student writings to create motivating reading materials. Experience how and why Embedded Reading works! This workshop offers mini-lessons, using fiction and non-fiction, in several languages, in the Embedded Reading format. Participants will look for ways to immediately implement Embedded Reading into their own programs.

The EU in France, Germany and Spain

John H Stark, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL; Helene Zimmer-Lowe, AATG, Chicago, IL

The Eurozone has recently been in the middle of debates about financial markets, social stability, and European prosperity. Participants will engage in hands-on, small group activities that reinforce the teaching of French, German and Spanish, European geography, the Euro as a European currency, and the impact of the EU on the world. Connections with the content of the social studies, political science and economics will be featured. In English with examples in English and German and of special interest to middle and high school as well as post-secondary educators.

Foreign Languages for Everyone: Unlocking the Gateway for Students with Learning Disabilities

Irene Brouwer Konyndyk, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI

This workshop, for any language or class level, focuses on helping all students, especially those with learning disabilities, achieve optimal second language learning. The workshop will define learning disabilities, review research, and explain a pedagogical approach for at-risk students that includes: multisensory instruction, a structured environment, metacognition, direct and explicit teaching, and other best practices. Participants will analyze a struggling student from their own teaching experience and learn strategies to help that student.

Fostering Global Competence in the WL Classroom & Beyond

Presenter: *Jaclyn S Orozco-Domoe, Wauwatosa East High School, Wauwatosa, WI*

The presenter will discuss her review of literature on global competence including helpful definitions, and related frameworks and classroom practices. She will argue that advocating for global competence as a 21st century skill is key to advocating for the central placement of World Languages within the broader curriculum. This workshop is filled practical strategies for integrating culture and fostering global competence while addressing Common Core Standards.

Going Green – *Umweltfreundlich Ernährung* (environmentally friendly nutrition)

Bettina L Hoops, Saline High School, Saline, MI; Sue Marshall, Phillips High School, Phillips, WI

In the workshop: *Going Green- Umweltfreundliche Ernährung* (environmentally friendly nutrition) participants will get an understanding of their own nutritional preferences, their nutritional footprint and how to possibly improve these and furthermore get involved in educating their school community. The activities presented in this workshop will be applicable immediately in the classroom and will provide examples of differentiated instruction. Teachers of all school types and languages are invited to take part. Examples will be given in German.

Best of Illinois: Half a Million Years of Spanish Culture

Jenna D Finch, Urbana High School, Urbana, IL

Your knowledge and experience are essential ingredients for this workshop! Structured on the 'Five Cs' of foreign-language teaching, we begin with the ancient culture of Spain, and a consensus definition of what "culture" means. With examples we'll explore why each 'C' is critical to new-language mastery. Expect to participate actively as we extend our discussion to incorporate effective instructional strategies. P.S. This approach can be modified for any language and culture you know well.

Integrating the Six Themes in the AP Spanish Language and Culture Course

Andrew T Schwei, Jefferson High School, Jefferson, WI

As part of the revised AP Spanish Language and Culture Course, teachers must integrate language, content and culture by structuring the course around six themes. This workshop will present one method of addressing the six themes through the study of authentic literary texts, and participants will develop presentational writing and speaking tasks (modeled after the new exam) to address each of the themes. Participants are asked to bring a laptop.

Standards Based Grading in the WL Classroom: Why Standards Based Grading?

Kimberly D Lackey and Denise Pahl, Rockwood School District, Eureka High School, Eureka, MO; Julie Weitzel, Lafayette High School, Wildwood, MO

Make your class about learning and not just grades! What should/should not count in a grade? How do we deal with extra credit, late work, low-quality work, participation, and homework? What about retakes and re-dos? Discover strategies for dealing with potential pitfalls of Standards Based Grading. (To learn more about scoring guides for all three modes of communication, plus vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation, register for the afternoon workshop: Assessing Student Performance.)

Standards Based Grading in the WL Classroom: Assessing Student Performance

Kimberly D Lackey and Denise Pahl, Rockwood School District, Eureka High School, Eureka, MO; Julie Weitzel, Lafayette High School, Wildwood, MO

Do you need to score performance assessments in a way that gives high quality feedback to students and also can be used to put a numerical percentage/grade in your gradebook? Examine examples of teacher-created standards-based scoring guides for a thematic, culture-based unit. We will share assessments for Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational Communication, as well as vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. (This workshop puts into practice the theory from the morning workshop: Why Standards Based Grading?)

2009 Teacher of the Year: Taking on the Tough Guys: Homework, Feedback, and Grading
Lisa Lilley, Springfield Public Schools, Springfield, MO

We know motivation is key to learning a language. But is the homework we assign motivating to our students? Do our grading policies encourage or discourage them? How can we give good feedback when we're burdened with a heavy teaching load? This session will delve into these tough issues and offer different research based perspectives on homework, grading, and multiple ways of providing feedback that work for students and the teacher.

Taking Target Language Use to the Next Level: Expeditionary Learning in World Language Classrooms

Brigid M. Burke, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH

By understanding Expeditionary Learning design (EL), world language instructors can create opportunities for students to use the target language, learn culture, and develop their literacy. During this workshop, participants will 1) learn about EL through active reading and discussion in small groups; 2) see multiple examples of EL in classrooms; and 3) develop a skeletal plan of learning experiences and in-depth investigations where students learn world language through mini-lessons, fieldwork, experts, and service learning.

Technology for the World Language Classroom

Sonia Josa-Castro and Wanda Ocasio, Flint Hill School, Oakton, VA

Technology can be an extraordinary tool to develop students' language skills as well as support teachers in class. But how can we fully utilize this technology in our World Language classroom? In this hands-on workshop you will experiment with a wide variety of programs and applications for computers and iPads that influence not only the way teachers teach and assess, but also how our students learn a World Language.

Exhibitor Session: Thirty Years and Counting: Best Practices of a Language Teacher Who Loves What She's Doing

Barbara A. Peterson, Breaking the Barrier, Inc., Groton, MA

A little philosophy, a few stories, and many examples of the presenter's best practices developed over 30 years of successful teaching. The workshop will explore a wide variety of topics, including expectations, climate, differentiation, practice, review, evaluation, grading, conversation, culture, testing, and best handouts.

Tips and Tricks for Teaching (mostly) in the Target Language

Phyllis Farrar, Kansas Dept. of Education, Topeka, KS

Our national standards set a goal that at least 90% of instruction be given in the target language. This can be done by establishing routines on Day 1, using prior knowledge, scaffolding activities, and carefully crafting comprehensible input. Borrow from a “mature” teacher’s bag of tricks to build your confidence. The presenter will help you justify this practice to doubting students, parents, or administrators.

ULTRA Language: Upper Level Techniques Reinforcing Active Language

Linda Havas, Greendale Schools, Greendale, WI; Cathy Stresing, Mequon-Thiensville School District, Mequon, WI

Today’s language classroom and AP tests rightly concentrate primarily on practical and relevant assessments, but teachers have extremely limited time in which to develop related assessments and activities to best serve their students. In this high-energy workshop, the presenters will share a variety of proven activities, projects and presentations that are designed to save teachers time, energize their classrooms, and most of all, provide their upper-level students with positive and engaging learning experiences.

Vive l’Histoire de Paris!

Judith M. Michaels, Private Consultant, Green Bay, WI; Julia Price, Central High School, District of Westosha, Salem, WI

A multi-media approach brings Paris to life, tying together monuments, architecture, and art, emphasizing changes in French institutions, belief systems, and culture, influenced by the 1789 revolution. Students' toolboxes will fill with *savoir-faire*: to navigate within a city, to identify architectural periods, to understand the role of monuments... Goals develop students' life-long learning skills, providing a fundamental knowledge base for lasting appreciation of history and culture.

2010 Teacher of the Year: What Are We Assessing?

Martha Pero, Hudson City Schools/OFLA, Hudson, OH

Are we assessing what we really want our students to know? Where are our grades coming from? What should we assess? Should LinguaFolio be a part of our planning process? How are we going to show growth in our students for the new teacher evaluations? These questions, and hopefully some concrete answers, will be discussed. A variety of assessment tools and ideas will also be shared.

What Is It to Learn a Word? Vocabulary Acquisition for 21 C Learners

Greta Lundgaard, Plano Independent School District, Plano, TX

What does learning vocabulary really mean, how does it happen, and what environments lead to it? No matter what our personal beliefs are, we all can agree that having a pool of useful, useable, and personally meaningful words is a critical factor in students growing as language users. This active learning workshop explores vocabulary acquisition research and applications to the classroom using video and group developed examples for Novice and Intermediate language learners.

World Languages Connections to Common Core ELA & Literacy

Phyllis Farrar, Kansas Department of Education, Topeka, KS

The WL "Connections" standards move front and center as states implement the Common Core Standards. Not only do strong connections exist between world languages and the ELA & Literacy standards, but with Math standards as well. This session highlights ways to strengthen those connections and help your district make a successful shift to new standards. Take-aways include how to `raise the bar` with a variety of activities.