

Selected In-Service Course Content

Foreign Language Teacher Education

The Foreign Language Teacher Education program provides DLI teachers with ongoing developmental opportunities to improve their teaching skills, stay current in the field of second-language acquisition and teaching, and raise awareness of their own teaching styles and methods. The program comprises a wide variety of courses from two hours to two weeks in length, dealing with various aspects of foreign language teaching theory and practice.

- Principles of foreign language teaching and learning, and employing them effectively in the classroom
- Task-based instruction: designing meaningful tasks and modifying exercises in existing curricula into tasks
- Fundamentals of course development including learning theory and application of schemata to the management of materials

Educational Leadership

The Educational Leadership Program provides developmental opportunities for current and future leaders at DLI. The program addresses the unique leadership needs and goals of team leaders, department chairs, and deans, and prepares future leaders for the Institute.

- Applied second language acquisition (SLA) and teaching for chairs
- Effective leadership skills and strategies for communication and conflict resolution
- Facilitation skills for managing group processes
- The role of culture and cross-cultural awareness in the classroom and within teams
- Hands-on organizational skills such as time-management, delegating, organization, and record keeping
- Assisting supervisors in their class observation and teacher-development endeavors

Team Development

Team Teaching at DLI has the potential to produce synergistic results as long as teams function effectively. With the raised graduation requirements of the PEP program, team building workshops assist new PEP teams by providing practical tools for teams to conduct meetings, communicate effectively, and resolve conflicts. In addition, an understanding of the stages of team development helps teams effectively integrate new members and reduces the length of time spent in forming and storming.

- Team building for newly-formed teams, and teams beginning the PEP program

- Team integration for teams which have undergone changes in personnel
- Interventions for teams to enhance their problem-solving capabilities

Educational Technology

This ever-evolving program consists of courses that train teachers to both use current foreign language teaching technology, and to apply these skills to the development of methodologically sound task-based instruction.

- Adapting technological innovations to support learning both in and outside the classroom
- The appropriate use and integration of technology in the classroom
- Designing task- and project-based activities for the computer using available software
- Collecting and manipulating graphic images and audio to enhance language learning

Academic Development

Three semester-long courses, each with assigned projects, provide content in Foreign Language Education comparable to graduate-level university courses. The program provides teachers with an understanding of the principles of foreign language acquisition, fosters reflective teaching, and develops practical counseling skills.

- Understanding the teaching/learning process and applying concepts in the classroom
- Action research through the investigation of one's own teaching, data collection, analysis, and interpretation
- Academic counseling through observation, diagnosis, intervention, and evaluation

English for Specific Purposes

This program consists of courses varying in length from 2 – 48 hours. They are designed to prepare teachers to pursue graduate study outside DLI, and for tasks and job related-activities requiring English proficiency.

- TOEFL Preparation for undergraduate and graduate studies
- English for DLI purposes
- Development of academic writing skills
- Improving spoken English vocabulary and structural control
- Effective e-mail communication
- The language of grammar
- Monthly grammar forum