

**April 18, 2025**

## **Ethical AI in Higher Education: Opportunities, Challenges**

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W2-20-21-22 Al Zahara Hall

**Abstract:** AI in higher education enhances learning but raises ethical concerns, including bias, data privacy, and academic integrity. Risks include algorithmic bias, over-reliance on technology, and AI-generated plagiarism. Institutions must establish ethical frameworks, clear policies, and training to ensure responsible AI use, fostering inclusive, equitable, and human-centered education.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Hussein El Mehdi**  
Dr. Elmehdi, Associate Professor of Biomedical Physics at the University of Sharjah, specializes in ultrasound, environmental acoustics, and digital learning. He has 100+ publications, two patents, and received the UNESCO-ICHEI Award

**Presenter:** **Prof. Ihsan Shehadi**  
Prof. Shehadi, Vice Dean of the College of Sciences at UOS, specializes in physical and computational chemistry. He has 55+ publications and held key leadership roles, including Chemistry Chair and Accreditation

**Presenter:** **Dr. Asmaa A. Ahmed**  
Director of the Language Institute at the University of Sharjah, UAE. Holds a PhD in Comparative English Literature, along with CELTA, TESL, CCTAFL and ToT certifications. An experienced educator, writer, translator,

**Presenter:** **Dr. Amira Traish**  
Dr. Amira is a TESOL specialist, holds a Doctorate from the British University and a Master's from Akron University. Her research focuses on ESL/TESOL methodologies, emphasizing first-language integration in second-language acquisition.

## **Teacherpreneurship and Innovation in Gulf Education**

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** The session explores teacherpreneurship in the Gulf, highlighting how educators can innovate and develop entrepreneurial initiatives. It examines successful case studies, regional challenges, and opportunities, offering strategies to foster innovation in ESL and general education. Participants will gain insights into building sustainable, future-ready teaching practices through entrepreneurship and innovation.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Racquel Warner**  
Dr. Racquel Warner has taught in private and public universities in the UAE since 2001. Her research interests include education policy and innovative educational practices.

## **Balancing AI and Human-Centered Teaching**

<b>Time:</b>	April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Room(s):</b>	W1,004
<b>Abstract:</b>	As AI reshapes education, maintaining meaningful teacher-student interaction is more important than ever. This session explores strategies for integrating AI-driven tools while preserving human-centered teaching. Attendees will engage in hands-on activities, discover practical techniques, and gain insights into leveraging AI to enhance personalized learning, feedback, and classroom engagement.
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Dr. Nicole Shammass</b> Dr. Nicole Shammass, did her doctorate in Intercultural Studies and teaches at the Higher Colleges of Technology, Dubai. Her research focuses on motivation, technology, and sustainability in education.
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Dr. Katrina Kinsella</b> Dr. Katrina Kinsella, an international educator with 20+ years of experience in social psychology and communication, teaches at Higher Colleges of Technology, Sharjah, focusing on public speaking, employability, and leadership.

## From EI to AI: Unlocking Speaking Skills

<b>Time:</b>	April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Room(s):</b>	W1-013-14 Hall
<b>Abstract:</b>	This session explores the integration of emotional intelligence (EI) and artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance speaking skills in ELT classrooms. Discover innovative AI-driven tools that foster confidence, fluency, and authentic communication while leveraging EI to create meaningful, personalized learning experiences that empower learners to speak with ease.
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Feruz Akbarov</b> Feruz Akbarov, an award-winning TESOL educator from Uzbekistan, holds an MA in English from the University of Pune. He is a global presenter and founder of ETA Uzbekistan, championing English education.

## Dental Students’ Strategies for Overcoming ESP Challenges

<b>Time:</b>	April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
<b>Room(s):</b>	W1,023
<b>Abstract:</b>	This study examines dental students’ strategies for overcoming challenges in English for Specific Purposes (ESP) at Oman Dental College. It explores coping mechanisms, the influence of linguistic abilities, and the role of cooperation and group interaction. Sixteen students from various levels participated to provide insights into their ESP learning experiences.
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Salvador, Jr. Tusi</b> A seasoned English Lecturer at Oman Dental College with MA in Education major in English and currently pursuing a PhD in Curriculum Design Development and Supervision.

## Video Games in Teaching Argumentative Essays

## Teaching Digital Humanities Using Culturally Relevant Pedagogy

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024

**Abstract:** The purpose of this talk is to share the experiences of two digital humanities educators using culturally relevant pedagogy to teach Emirati first-year undergraduate students. The talk provides examples of how other teachers can adopt CRP in their own teaching contexts.

**Presenter:** **Aimee Grange**  
Aimee Grange is an instructor with 12 years of experience teaching at Zayed University, Abu Dhabi. She currently teaches Digital Humanities to first-year students.

**Presenter:** **Jaime Buchanan**  
Jaime Buchanan, a senior instructor at Zayed University, teaches general education and technical communication. Her published works focus on feedback literacy, genre pedagogy, and IT communication.

## Maintaining Restraint: Refraining from AI

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** Every student in Uzbekistan knows how to use AI, but not well. Noting some advantages of this technology, AI tools have impacted our students' confidence in their English language abilities and success in the academic program. Our presentation details an assessment approach to academic writing in the era of AI.

**Presenter:** **Eleanor Barker**  
Previous Fulbright ETA and U.S.-Embassy grantee, Eleanor has been teaching in Uzbekistan for the past four years. She holds a BA in History and a certificate from TESOL International.

**Presenter:** **Xenia Mathys**  
A former Fulbright ETA grantee, Xenia has been teaching EFL for five years in Russia, US, Spain, and Uzbekistan. She holds an MA in Transatlantic Affairs and a CELTA certificate.

## Project 3+2: Critical Listening and Student engagement

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** This study explores the impact of critical listening skills on student engagement and motivation within the Project 3+2 framework for EFL learners. Enhancing active listening abilities leads to increased attentiveness, motivation, participation, and comprehension. Findings indicate that incorporating critical listening techniques significantly enhances student engagement and learning outcomes.

**Presenter:** **Nargiza Khodjakulova**

EFL teacher, I have been teaching English since 2007. I have MA in English language (linguistics) and another MSc in Research methods. I am doing PhD in teaching English.

## Utilizing GenAI to Improve Teachers’ Professional Growth

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** (GenAI) offers transformative solutions for teachers’ professional growth by addressing challenges like time constraints and lack of personalized feedback. It enables personalized professional development, automated lesson planning, and real-time coaching. Ethical implementation and collaboration are key to leveraging GenAI effectively, empowering educators to enhance teaching practices and improve student outcomes.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Ahmed Shaaban Abdelgawad**

Ahmed Abdelgawad is a TEFL Lecturer with more than 25 years of experience in teaching, teacher training and assessment. He is a PhD holder in Curriculum and TEFL Instruction

## Understanding Written Feedback Processing Using Eye Tracking

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** This study explores the effects of direct and indirect written corrective feedback (WCF) on students’ grammatical accuracy during revision. It also examines how learners process feedback using eye-tracking technology. The findings reveal significant improvements in accuracy and provide valuable insights into the cognitive processes involved in feedback processing.

**Presenter:** **Khaled Karim**

Khaled Karim, Associate Professor at AUD, holds an MA in TESOL and a PhD in Applied Linguistics. His research interests include L2 acquisition, writing strategies, corrective feedback, and ESL pedagogy.

## Teachers’ Readiness of Using AI

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** The present study aims to explore Omani teachers' perceptions, readiness, and current practices regarding the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). The findings indicate that Omani teachers have a positive outlook on incorporating AI in teaching; however, many express concerns about the potential negative effects that AI may have on education.

**Presenter:** **Omar Al Shibli**  
MA in Curriculums & Instructions

**Presenter:** **Walaa Al Isaai**  
MA in Curriculum and Instruction

## **From Film to Text: Multimodal Writing Assignments**

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** This study explores the impact of mini-documentaries in an Advanced Academic Writing course at a UAE-based American university. Findings reveal increased student engagement, improved argumentation skills, and enhanced collaboration. Multimodal assignments bridge creativity and academic rigor, fostering critical thinking and preparing students for complex writing tasks while developing transferrable skills.

**Presenter:** **Neslihan Bilikozen**  
Dr. Neslihan Bilikozen is an Assistant Professor at the Department of English in American University of Sharjah, UAE. She has received her doctorate degree from the University of Exeter, UK.

**Presenter:** **Hoda Hisham Nada**  
Hoda Nada is a high school ELA teacher and MA student with a passion for language education, curriculum development, and fostering student engagement in diverse learning environments.

## **Palestinian English Teachers Trauma-Informed Pedagogy**

**Time:** April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** The study investigated Palestinian English teachers' trauma-informed practices in the West Bank. Four pedagogical themes emerged: 1) traumatic events students experienced due to the occupation's military violence; 2) repercussions on students' academic performance, psychology, and behaviours; 3) teachers' practices in supporting those students; and 4) the support teachers received.

**Presenter:** **Sarah Abdelkareem**  
Sarah has an MA in Education with TEFL concentration. Currently She is an English teacher at a Private School in Ramallah.

**Presenter:** **Anwar Abdel Razeq**  
Currently Dr. Anwar is the Dean of the Faculty of Education at Birzeit University.

He published more than a dozen articles in reputable journals and three books on foreign language education

**Presenter:**

**Shelley Wong**

Shelley Wong, Ed.D. Applied Linguistics, Columbia Teachers College is Associate Professor Faculty of Education Emerita, George Mason University. A former TESOL International President, she authored Dialogic Approaches to TESOL.

**Presenter:**

**Anita Bright**

Anita Bright, PhD, is a full professor in the Curriculum and Instruction Department in the College of Education. A National Board Certified Teacher with over 20 years of experience.

## **The Role of Metacognition in EFL Teaching**

**Time:**

April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W3,004

**Abstract:**

This presentation explores the critical role of metacognition in EFL listening comprehension. It examines how metacognitive strategies enhance learners' ability to monitor, evaluate, and adjust their listening processes. Attendees will gain insights into fostering autonomous learning through research-driven approaches, equipping students with lifelong skills for more effective listening comprehension in

**Presenter:**

**Abdelfattah Dimassi**

Dr. Abdelfattah Dimassi, PhD in Applied Linguistics, has four decades of experience in EFL, ESL, and TESOL across universities in the UAE, Oman, and Tunisia. His interests include TEFL, TESL, and

## **Enhancing Learner's Speaking Skills Through Music**

**Time:**

April 18, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W3,005

**Abstract:**

The article offers the potential of using music as a tool to improve students' listening and speaking skills in language learning contexts. In addition, it explores the strategies, benefits, and applications of incorporating music-based activities to improve students' speaking proficiency.

**Presenter:**

**Nigora Sultonova**

I am Sultonova Nigora, an EFL teacher at Uzbekistan State World Languages University, and have 16 years of experience in teaching and have advanced my qualifications in language teaching courses.

## Enhancing ESL Learning with Customized AI Tools

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** This session explores how a customized GPT-based AI tool was used to help ESL students prepare for interviews in a Professional Spoken Communication course. The AI simulates interview sessions, provides real-time feedback, and enhances fluency. Findings highlight increased engagement, improved confidence, and pedagogical implications for AI-driven oral communication training in

**Presenter:** **Sonia Batra**  
an ELT professional for 20+ years, is a teacher, manager, and materials writer. She leads English programs at HCT, specializing in e-learning, AI in education, and digital platforms.

## Assessing Progress of Reading and Listening Skills

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** The presenter explains tools for assessment of progress in a receptive skills' class. However, the assessment includes writing and speaking based on the text that the learners listen to or read. A clear understanding of measuring the improvement in sub-skills for reading and listening through assessment will be discussed.

**Presenter:** **Nivedita Kumari**  
Nivedita Kumari is an ELT specialist with 11 years of teaching and research experience. She has a PhD in Linguistics, CELTA, DELTA (Module 1 and 3).

## Mastering Professional Communication: Enhancing Classroom Interactions

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** This follow-up workshop is designed for educators intending to promote professional communication skills in students. Participants will explore techniques and strategies to integrate written and spoken communication into their language classrooms. Focus will include resume, report, proposal writing and developing

persuasive, informative and extemporaneous speaking skills for networking, presentations, interviews.

**Presenter:**

**Syuzanna Torosyan**

Syuzanna Torosyan is a lecturer at the American University of Armenia. Her interests lie in the areas of applied linguistics, professional communication, research methods, teacher training and program evaluation.

## **Impact of Digital Technologies on ELT**

**Time:**

April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:**

Digital technologies have had a significant impact on how we teach and learn, especially when it comes to Language Learning. This session will discuss the impact of using digital technologies in the language classroom and the training that needs to occur to make that happen.

**Presenter:**

**Connie Mitchell**

Dr. Connie Mitchell, PFHEA, currently holds two positions at Prince Sultan University: Vice Dean of QAPD and Director of the Teaching and Learning Center.

## **AI Peer Avatars for Fostering Student Collaboration**

**Time:**

April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W1,023

**Abstract:**

Artificial intelligence AI avatar is one of the emerging tools that educators can make use of to foster undergraduate students' collaboration. In this presentation, audience will be introduced to a real experiment where 18 undergraduate students created their own avatars to enhance their own learning experience under their instructors' supervision.

**Presenter:**

**Dr. Safaa Eissa**

Safaa Eissa is an associate professor and a faculty in the Linguistics & Translation Department, College of Humanities in Prince Sultan University PSU- Riyadh - KSA.

## **Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Classroom Dynamics**

**Time:**

April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W1,024

**Abstract:**

Higher-education students' use of AI tools significantly affects classroom dynamics such as student engagement, motivation, collaboration, classroom behaviour and student-teacher interaction. This presentation reviews the perceptions of faculty members from various academic departments and centres on revisiting instructional strategies to accommodate the responsible use of artificial intelligence in education.

**Presenter:**

**Binuu Pathippallil Mathew**

Dr. Binu Pathippallil Mathew is a member of ESBB (English Scholars Beyond Borders) and a senior faculty in English at the University of Technology and Applied Sciences –Al Mussanah, Oman.

## Play-Based Learning for Language Development

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** Play is a powerful tool for language acquisition in early childhood education. This session explores research-backed strategies for integrating play into TESOL classrooms, enhancing vocabulary, communication, and social interaction. Participants will gain practical techniques to foster linguistic development, cultural awareness, and engagement through structured and free-play activities.

**Presenter:** **Dzenita Mujic**  
Dzenita Mujic, a doctoral candidate, educator, and researcher, specializes in cross-cultural communication and TESOL. She is dedicated to advancing inclusive education and empowering learners through research-driven, culturally responsive teaching strategies.

## Meet the Academic Writing & Publications SIG

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** In this engaging session, participants will meet and interact with the leadership of the Academic Writing & Publications Special Interest Group (SIG). The session fosters collaboration, shares insights, and explores trends and challenges in academic writing and publication. Attendees will learn about the SIG's initiatives, ongoing projects, and strategic goals.

**Presenter:** **Nilufar Nilufar**  
Nilufar Tillayeva, an Adjunct Professor at Webster University, has 20+ years of experience in ELT, specializing in teacher training, curriculum development, and innovative pedagogical approaches to enhance language learning.

## Enhancing Motivation Through Empowering Student's Voice

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** Motivation plays a pivotal role in second language learning, driving students' progress and long-term engagement. The presentation explores the importance of fostering motivation by creating an empowering environment where students' voices are heard and valued. Drawing on current research, the presenter will share some of the effective practical classroom strategies.

**Presenter:** **Amal Thabet**  
Dr. Amal is an English Language instructor, with 35 years of experience teaching EFL in the UAE. Throughout her career, she contributed to teacher training projects in addition to curriculum

## Production of English Stress by Arab Learners

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** Stress acquisition is a challenging suprasegmental aspect for the majority of English learners. Using a novel method, the presenter will compare the performance of three groups of Arab learners of English with that of English native speakers. Findings have great implications to the field of English teaching and learning.

**Presenter:** **Mohammed Nour Abu Guba**  
Dr. Mohammed Nour is a lecturer at the language Institute at Sharjah University. His main interests are second language pronunciation, phonological theory, and phonetics.

## **Emotional Awareness**

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** The presenter discusses the differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships. Red flags, warning signs and behaviors will be highlighted to raise emotional awareness. The presenter hopes that the information would help attendees learn how to set boundaries and develop a mental framework to identify and tackle toxic relationships.

**Presenter:** **Suhair Abu Hantash**  
My name is Suhair Abu Hantash, with an MA in teaching English as a foreign language. I have worked as a lecturer at the university of Sharjah since 2007 .

## **Incorporating EElectronic Dialogue Journal Writing in classroom**

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** The presenter describes the effectiveness of dialogue journal writing in Armenian classrooms. The current study investigates the potential and limitations of it and finds out the attitudes of key stakeholders towards it. The study addresses such facets as improving students' writing and creating an authentic platform for genuine written communication.

**Presenter:** **Mariam Anatolyan**  
I am an enthusiastic English teacher looking forward to valuable conferences and workshops to get equipped with new teaching and learning strategies.

## **Padlet Power-Up: AI-Enhanced Classroom Activities**

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** This session reimagines Padlet as a dynamic AI-integrated tool for ESL classrooms. Moving beyond traditional uses. The presenter will explore innovative applications—embedding AI-driven tools like Magic School AI and Diffit to create adaptive lessons. Participants will design Padlets that combine creative tasks and AI personalization for deeper engagement.

**Presenter:****Hind Elyas**

Hind works as an English Instructor at Niagara College, KSA. She holds senior roles in various associations such as TESOL Sudan, Africa TESOL, KSAALT TESOL, TESOL International and IATEFL.

**The Paradox of Changes with Artificial Intelligence**

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,004

**Abstract:** Your students turn-in their research assignments or academic papers, yet AI plagiarism detection makes you question the entire teaching-learning process. The presenters will explore the impacts of AI on teaching academic writing courses in higher education at a university in Armenia from the faculty members' perspectives.

**Presenter:****Sevan Adourian**

Dr. Sevan Adourian is the Advising and Student Success Manager and an Assistant Professor at AUE. She holds a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Saint Leo University, USA.

**Presenter:****Tamar Adourian**

Ms. Tamar Adourian is an EFL/ESL educator and the operations manager at the Rosary Language and Skills Center in Armenia. She holds a Master's degree in TEFL from AUA.

**Decolonizing Writing Pedagogy in the Global South**

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,005

**Abstract:** This presentation explores colonial challenges in the writing classroom within the Global South, highlighting native-speakerism and Western epistemic dominance. Presenters discuss decolonial pedagogical practices rooted in border thinking, offering practical strategies to encourage multilingual students to engage with local epistemologies, fostering global conversations on decoloniality in language education.

**Presenter:****Silvia Vaccino-Salvadore**

Silvia Vaccino-Salvadore is an assistant professor in the Department of English at the American University of Sharjah. Among her research interests are language teacher identity and decolonial pedagogy.

**Presenter:****Anoud Abusalim**

Dr Anoud Abusalim is a senior lecturer in the Department of English at AUS. Her research interests focus on decolonial ideologies, English for Research Publishing Purposes, and gender studies.

**Low Tech Methods for High Student Engagement**

**Time:** April 18, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,006

**Abstract:** Recent studies have many teachers wondering whether the advantages of classroom technology outweigh the disadvantages regarding student focus and engagement. This presentation will provide participants with low-tech methods that maximize student motivation and engagement while minimizing the potential distractions and disruptions caused by technology.

**Presenter:** **Philip Rice**  
Phil Rice is an assistant professor at the English Language Institute of the University of Delaware. He enjoys teaching English through drama, film, and training teachers at UD.

## Enhancing Language Teaching Through AI Integration

**Time:** April 18, 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** This presentation will focus on AI tools such as, Brisk, Invideo and Magic School to show how AI can be utilised to facilitate and streamline many tasks, such as creating formative and summative assessments, analysing learner assignments, planning lessons, and providing immediate tailored feedback.

**Presenter:** **Kariman Hassan**  
An experienced educator, holds an MA in Leadership in Education from Liverpool John Moores University, along with CELTA, TOT, and TYLEC certifications. She works in teaching and instructional design.

## Boosting Student Engagement with Communicative Tasks

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,004

**Abstract:** Want to boost engagement and make language learning more interactive? Struggling to get students to use language authentically? This session introduces a communicative task using the CANFIT framework. Discover how structured, interactive activities enhance fluency, balance accuracy, and build confidence—transforming your classroom into a space for real communication.

**Presenter:** **Anush Papyan**  
Anush Papyan, an EFL teacher, mentor and content developer, holding a TEFL certificate from American University of Armenia. She is currently facilitating Online Teacher Community groups at British Council Armenia.

## The Washback Effects of High-Stakes Exams

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** This meta-analysis investigates the washback effects of high-stakes exams on English language pedagogy. It examines how such exams influence instructional practices, assessment methods, and curriculum development, highlighting both

positive and negative repercussions. By synthesizing existing research, the study aims to provide insights for educators and policymakers to enhance language education

**Presenter:**

**Yasamiyan Alolaywi**

Dr. Yasamiyan Alolaywi is an Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics at Qassim University, Saudi Arabia. Her research focuses on applied linguistics and pedagogy.

## **TPACK+S: Generative AI for Socially Responsive Teaching**

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** The TPACK+S framework extends traditional technology-enhanced teaching by explicitly addressing cultural awareness, equity, and ethical considerations essential for integrating generative AI. The presenters will share practical strategies that educators can use to responsibly leverage AI, mitigate biases, and foster culturally responsive, inclusive practices in their classrooms and institutions.

**Presenter:**

**Asmaa Awad**

Dr. Asmaa Awad, Director of the Language Institute at the University of Sharjah, UAE. Holds a PhD in Comparative English Literature, along with CELTA, TESL, CCTAFL and ToT certifications.

**Presenter:**

**Emad Hendawy**

Emad Kotb Hendawy, Ph.D., is an experienced Instructional Design Specialist at the University of Sharjah, specializing in instructional design, multimedia, blended learning, and edX courses. He is an Apple Certified Trainer.

## **Phrasal Verb Acquisition among Emirati EFL Learners**

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** This study explored the Emirati EFL learners' knowledge of phrasal verbs. To this end, the study assessed the proficiency of 40 Emirati EFL learners in using phrasal verbs and examined the perspectives of 102 eighth-grade students on learning them.

**Presenter:**

**Dua Alhammadi**

Ph.D Candidate at The University of Sharjah. Major: Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics and Translation

## **The Sudden Particle ﺃ in Quranic Translation**

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** How is the sudden particle &#34;إِذَا&#34; translated across different Quranic renditions? The presenter examines verses containing &#34;إِذَا الفجائية&#34; and reveals how context and structure may affect translation choices. She highlights the equivalents found in three well-known translations. Participants will gain insights into the complexities of translating particles within Quranic discourse.

**Presenter:** **Oroob Rashid**  
Oroob Rashid is a PhD candidate in Linguistics and Translation at the University of Sharjah, UAE. Her research interests lie in critical discourse analysis, audiovisual translation, and Quran translation.

## The C.O.R.E. of Creativity

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** How do we measure creative thinking? In this workshop, participants will engage with the C.O.R.E. framework (Cognitive Flexibility-Originality-Resonance-Elaboration) to assess and enhance their mental agility. Through interactive exercises, they will develop, refine, and evaluate ideas—gaining practical insights into ideation, vocabulary development, and innovative problem-solving.

**Presenter:** **Peter Edwards**  
Originally from Washington DC, Peter has taught and consulted in Poland, South Korea, Japan, and Saudi Arabia. He holds an MA in literature and a PhD in applied linguistics.

**Presenter:** **Carl Dusthimer**  
Carl teaches at KFUPM in Saudi Arabia. He focuses on curriculum development and programming to enhance students' creative thinking and problem-solving skills.

## AI for Teachers: Practical Applications Made Easy

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** This beginner-friendly workshop introduces teachers to AI tools that enhance instruction, improve efficiency, and support assessment creation. Through hands-on activities, participants will explore generating AI prompts, lesson planning aids, and assessment tools. Attendees will leave with practical strategies for integrating AI into their teaching while maintaining their instructional expertise.

**Presenter:** **Ann Boddicker**  
Ann Boddicker is an Instructor in Cognitive Sciences at UAEU with 30 years of experience and two Masters. Areas of interest are assessment and utilizing AI in teaching.

**Presenter:** **David Bacherman**  
David has a PhD in educational technology and second language learning. He is an academic English instructor at UAE University. Previously, he worked in Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

## Test Blueprint or TOS (Table of Specification)?

## Teacherpreneurship and Innovation

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024

**Abstract:** The presenter investigates the link between teacherpreneurship and innovation, emphasizing how educators may use entrepreneurial abilities to improve teaching methods and create educational change. The seminar begins by defining teacherpreneurship and emphasizing its importance in promoting innovation, leadership, and problem-solving in educational contexts. The presenter then looks at innovative ways

**Presenter:** **Reshma Shaik**  
I am a researcher and professor specializing in English, teacher education, and MBA programs. Passionate about educational innovation, leadership, and curriculum development, I have experience in academic writing and research.

## Biggest Challenges for New University Students

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** Every year, students make the transition from high school to university. After a brief orientation program to facilitate this shift, they are generally left on their own, and many experience numerous obstacles to their adjustment. This research utilizes student essays to investigate their biggest challenges, in their own words.

**Presenter:** **David Knott**  
David Knott has been teaching English for over two decades. A senior-instructor at the American University of Sharjah, his research interests include cross-cultural teaching, new-faculty induction, and teacher cognition.

## Language Assessments Strategies Via SALT in ELT

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023

**Abstract:** This study explores diverse perspectives on language teaching and learning, emphasizing digital transformation and innovation through SALT in ELT. It examines AI, gamification, MALL, and data-driven strategies while addressing challenges like the digital divide and teacher training. Findings highlight SALT's role in enhancing engagement, personalization, and effectiveness in digital ELT.

**Presenter:** **Runitha Lourdes**  
Ms. Runitha Lourdes is an English Language lecturer at Mazoon College. She is passionate about teaching young learners and adopting new assessment methods to bring changes in the assessment patterns

## AI-Powered Branding for ELT Educators

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:** ELT teachers can boost their professional presence using AI tools. This workshop explores online teaching, content creation, and engagement strategies to enhance visibility and career opportunities. Participants will develop branding plans to thrive in a digital landscape.

**Presenter:** **Mohamed Molhim**  
Mohamed Molhim is a lecturer at University of Sharjah, UAE. He holds an MA in TESOL from London Metropolitan University and taught English for 15 years at different academic institutions.

## Transforming Media Design Education: AI vs. Traditional

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** This study compares AI applications with traditional tools in media design education, analyzing their impact on students' creativity, learning, and technical skills. Through comparative analysis and focus groups, it explores AI's benefits and challenges, offering insights to help educators make informed curriculum decisions.

**Presenter:** **Thouraya Snoussi**  
Dr. Snoussi, Chair of the Mass Communication Department at the University of Sharjah, has a strong research interest in the evolving uses of new media and its societal and cultural impact.

**Presenter:** **Mohamed Abdulzaher**  
Dr. Mohamed Abdelzaher, Assistant Professor of Communication and CEO of Artificial Intelligence Journalism for Research and Forecasting, specializes in artificial intelligence and Metaverse media.

**Presenter:** **Omer Jawad**  
Dr. Omer Jawad, Assistant Professor of Communication at the University of Sharjah, specializes in integrating new information and communication technologies into radio and television education.

## AI-Powered Lesson Material Development for Educators

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** Discover how AI-powered tools like ChatGPT enhance lesson material development. This hands-on session explores AI's role in creating engaging, personalized language lessons while addressing ethical considerations and pedagogical oversight. Gain practical strategies to integrate AI into teaching, ensuring efficiency, academic rigor, and linguistic authenticity in lesson planning.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Mohammad Amir Samimi**  
Dr. Mohammad Amir Samimi, TESOL Instructor at the University of Sharjah, holds a PhD from the University of Birmingham. His research focuses on AI in curriculum development, multilingualism, and multiliteracies.

## Research Competence in Pre-Service Teacher Education

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,006

**Abstract:** Research competence is crucial in pre-service teacher education since it cognitively equips potential educators and prepares them to be academically competent. The presenter will delineate her investigation of the research competence of pre-service teachers across five Uzbek universities and provide practical recommendations and strategies to enhance their research competence.

**Presenter:** **Aziza Musoeva**  
Dr. Musoeva Aziza is an Associate Professor specializing in ESL/ESP, with research on applied linguistics, technology integration, and interdisciplinary cooperation. She has presented at TESOL and received prestigious scholarships.

## Enhancing Academic Writing Through SIG Collaboration

**Time:** April 18, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,005

**Abstract:** This session introduces the Special Interest Group (SIG) on Academic Writing and Publication, a dedicated community for researchers, students, and professionals looking to improve their writing skills and successfully publish in reputable journals. Participants will learn how SIG fosters collaboration, offers expert-led workshops, and provides step-by-step guidance on academic publishing.

**Presenter:** **Nilufar Tillayeva**  
Nilufar Tillayeva is an Adjunct Professor at Webster University, with 20 years of teaching experience. She is an independent researcher, teacher trainer, curriculum developer, and material designer specializing in ELT.

**Presenter:** **Dilafuz Abdumajidova**  
Dilafuz Abdumajidova is an Adjunct Professor at Webster University in Tashkent, a material designer, teacher trainer, and assessor with expertise in curriculum development and academic writing for ESL learners.

**April 19, 2025**

## **Teach Smarter: AI Tools for ESL Educators**

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming ESL education by enhancing material creation and student assessment. Using a structured framework, this workshop trains educators to design AI-generated materials, create adaptive assessments, and develop precise AI prompts. Participants will gain practical AI tools to optimize instruction, engagement, and assessment in English language classrooms.

**Presenter:** **Abdullatif Alshatti**  
An English language instructor at Kuwait University with 12+ years of experience in teaching high school, learning difficulties, and university students.

## **Human-Centric Skills in TESOL Amid AI**

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** The presenter will discuss findings from her article "Redefinition of Human-Centric Skills in Language Education in the AI-Driven Era," offering insights into AI in TESOL. The focus will be on maintaining irreplaceable human skills like emotional intelligence and creativity while integrating AI into lesson planning for language teaching and translation.

**Presenter:** **Rania Qassrawi**  
Dr. Rania Qassrawi, assistant professor at Birzeit University, Palestine, specializes in English language teaching methodologies and technology integration. Her research focuses on psychological and emotional dimensions influencing language teaching and learning.

## **Alternative Venues of Publication for TESOL Researchers**

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:** In this interactive workshop, the workshop leader will discuss a range of alternative venues for the dissemination of knowledge for the applied linguistics and TESOL researchers, in particular novice and early-career researchers. These include conference proceedings, newsletter articles, specialized magazine articles, and practice-oriented or small-scale studies.

**Presenter:** **Ali Shehadeh**  
Ali Shehadeh is Professor of Applied Linguistics and TESOL at UAE University. He published in Language Learning, TESOL Quarterly, System, Journal of Applied Linguistics, and Journal of Second Language Writing.

## Ways to Increase Student Motivation, Focus, Engagement

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,023

**Abstract:** This presentation explores effective strategies for boosting student engagement, motivation, and focus in the classroom. By integrating active learning techniques, personalized instruction, and technology tools, educators can create a dynamic learning environment that encourages participation, sustains attention, and fosters intrinsic motivation, ultimately improving student outcomes and satisfaction.

**Presenter:** **Joanne Gossens**  
Joanne Gossens is a 20+ year EAL specialist educator. She has worked in over 10 different countries and was the Head of the EAL program at various schools worldwide.

## Leveraging AI to Enhance ESL Writing Skills

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** Do you consider teaching writing skills for ESL daunting? Well, Generative AI tools will transform your boring writing classes into motivating and engaging ones. The presenter will provide the audience with a myriad of AI tools that can be utilized to foster the learners' academic writing.

**Presenter:** **Rasha AbdulRaheem**  
Rasha AbdulRaheem is an educator with twenty years of experience, holding a master's degree in Educational Leadership and currently pursuing a doctoral degree in educational leadership and management.

## AI and Digital Media in MFL

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,024

**Abstract:** AI and digital media revolutionize language education through adaptive learning, chatbots, and virtual reality, fostering personalized, immersive experiences. Equitable access and critical pedagogy ensure ethical AI integration. By leveraging digital tools, educators enhance engagement, cultural understanding, and fluency, preparing students for a dynamic, AI-driven linguistic landscape.

**Presenter:** **Keba Joseph Xavier Jeyakodi**  
Keba Joseph Xavier, Head of MFL at Ambassador School, Sharjah, is an award-winning educator, trainer, and curriculum innovator specializing in multilingual education, AI-powered assessments, and global citizenship in language learning.

## GenAI Bots as Differently Knowledgeable Others

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** As generative artificial intelligence (AI) technologies proliferate, language educators should develop their critical AI literacy (CAIL). The presenter will discuss several pedagogical applications of CAIL, based on an autoethnographic study in a Canadian community college. The participants will learn practical strategies to integrate AI tools to enhance their CAIL skills.

**Presenter:** **Plamen Kushkiev**  
Dr. Plamen Kushkiev is a Canadian college professor, researcher, and SoTL Scholar Award recipient. He has published and presented internationally on ELT teacher identity, GenAI in education, and professional development.

## Eliminating Risk with AI in Written Assessments

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** The rise of AI use in third level institutions has become a controversial and challenging component of the modern learning environment in higher education. The presenters will discuss undergraduate students' current application of artificial intelligence tools, while also identifying the effective practices of AI tools that eliminate academic misconduct.

**Presenter:** **Sevan Adourian**  
Dr. Sevan Adourian is the Advising and Student Success Manager and an Assistant Professor at AUE. She holds a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Saint Leo University, USA.

**Presenter:** **Soulafa Al Khatib**  
Dr. Soulafa Al Khatib is vice president for enrollment management and student services and assistant professor at the American University in the Emirates. She holds a Ph.D. in Educational management and leadership.

**Presenter:** **Michael Boyle**  
Mr. Michael Doyle is an instructor in Literature, English language courses, and Academic writing at AUE. He holds a masters degree in Literature and specializes in interdisciplinary approaches.

## Understanding STEM Education in Early Years

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** STEM Education is vital for improving children's critical thinking, problem solving and creativity skills. In this session, we will understand what STEM Education is, what it is useful for, and how we can apply it in the early years classroom. Participants will be have engage to low cost STEM activities.

**Presenter:** **Ahmet Simsar**  
Dr. Ahmet Simsar has over 14 years' experience in education. His research interest focuses on STEM in Early Years, Early Childhood Development and Inclusive Education.

**Presenter:** **Ahmet Sami Konca**  
Dr. Ahmet Sami Konca has over 10 years in education. His research interest focuses on STEM education, Early Childhood Education and Technology in early years.

## Assessing the Transformative Potential of Algerian Textbooks: Teachers' Perspectives

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** This study explores Algerian secondary school teachers' perspectives on the transformative potential of textbooks. The findings indicate a general satisfaction with the textbooks' ability to promote critical thinking, intercultural awareness, and personal development. However, respondents were divided on the extent to which these textbooks challenge social norms and foster equitable change.

**Presenter:** **Loubna Kouira**  
KOUIRA Loubna holds a doctorate degree in applied linguistics from Constantine 1 university, Algeria. Currently, she teaches TEFL, language and culture and linguistics courses at M.S.Benyahia university in Jijel, Algeria. • Recently,

**Presenter:** **Mohammed Boukezzoula**  
Mohammed BOUKEZZOULA holds a doctorate degree in applied linguistics from Constantine 1 university, Algeria. Currently, he teaches research methods and applied linguistics courses at M.S.Benyahia university in Jijel, Algeria. His research

## Technology-based Reading Assessment for Young Learners

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** This presentation discusses the effectiveness of educational technology tools in enhancing preschool students' reading fluency. The presenters will share the findings of a mixed-methods study investigating the use of Khan Kids' application for reading assessment. Participants will get insights into the effective use of technology for improved reading skills.

**Presenter:** **Marwa Belal**  
Marwa Belal is an early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher College of Technology. She is passionate about teaching young learners and integrating technology in instruction and assessment.

**Presenter:** **Roudha Alreyaysa**  
Roudha Alrayaysa is an early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology. Her interest is in integrating technology to enhance reading skills for young learners.

## Enhancing Cross-Cultural Communication in TESOL Classrooms

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** Effective cross-cultural communication is essential in today's diverse TESOL classrooms. This session explores key challenges and strategies to foster cultural awareness and inclusivity in language learning. Participants will gain practical strategies to enhance communication skills, strengthen intercultural understanding, and create inclusive learning environments for linguistically and

culturally diverse students.

**Presenter:**

**Dzenita Mujic**

Dzenita Mujic, a doctoral candidate, educator, and researcher, specializes in cross-cultural communication and TESOL. She is dedicated to advancing inclusive education and empowering learners through research-driven, culturally responsive teaching strategies.

## **AI-UNESCO&SDGs Shaping a Sustainable Educational Future**

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** This session explores UNESCO frameworks for AI in education, empowering students and teachers. It highlights practical implementation strategies while aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Attendees will gain insights into using AI responsibly to foster equity, innovation, and sustainability in global education.

**Presenter:**

**Georgios Kormpas**

Georgios Kormpas is currently the Director of Teaching Development at AI Yamamah University in KSA. He is a faculty at the department of Humanities and the current President of IABL.

## **AI to Enhance Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity**

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W3,004

**Abstract:** In today's diverse classrooms, AI serves as a powerful tool for fostering inclusion and equity. This session explores AI-driven platforms that support differentiated instruction, accessibility, and culturally responsive teaching. Educators will gain practical strategies to leverage AI ethically, ensuring all students—regardless of background—receive personalized support and feel valued.

**Presenter:**

**Raja Rouissi**

I hold a PhD candidacy, TESOL, teaching licenses, and an ELM diploma. Currently, I am the head of the English department at ADIS, UAE.

## **Creating Motivation and Engaging Teenage Learners**

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W3,005

**Abstract:** Motivation is a crucial factor in achieving success in both academic and personal endeavours, but it can vary significantly between age groups. This workshop will explore strategies to boost motivation in teenagers and adult learners, using principles of andragogy to develop meaningful learning experiences.

**Presenter:**

**Fariha Abbas Bhutta**

is an English language teacher and educator who is a passionate researcher and focuses on student agency. She teaches IGCSE ESL at Beaconhouse and is pursuing her Doctorate in Education.

## Effective Cs: Commence, Continue, Conclude

**Time:** April 19, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W3,006

**Abstract:** Have you ever struggled to capture students' attention at the start of a lesson, keep them focused throughout, and ensure they leave with clear takeaways? If so, this workshop is for you. The speaker will introduce strategies to commence, continue, and conclude lessons effectively and to enhance overall classroom impact.

**Presenter:** **Anush Mkrtchyan**

Anush is a Lead Trainer at the British Council Armenia and Lead Corporate Trainer at Digitain, bringing over 12 years of expertise in training, facilitation, and educational development.

## Pragmatic Appropriateness in Teaching and Assessing Grammar

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** Have your students ever produced grammatically correct but socially awkward sentences? This presentation critiques two tasks from a well-structured grammar textbook, offering practical modifications and examples to ensure grammar teaching and assessment result in socially acceptable utterances, avoiding awkward or inappropriate language.

**Presenter:** **Hedi Najafi**

Dr. Hedi Najafi, a former Arizona State University faculty member, researches classroom practices, multilingualism, and language policy. She has published scholarly work, presented internationally, and now teaches at AUAF.

**Presenter:** **Betty Lanteigne**

Dr. Betty Lanteigne taught ESL/EFL in USA/Middle East/Eastern Europe for 24 years, researches/publishes about sociolinguistics and language assessment, teaches language assessment and research methods in MATESOL program, LCC International University.

## Student Leadership and Impact on Academic Achievement

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** This action research examines how student leadership roles impact academic performance and behaviour in early childhood settings. Using a mixed-methods approach (e.g., observations, reflective journals, video analysis, teacher-student interviews), the findings reveal that leadership responsibilities enhance student engagement, discipline, and achievement, providing practical insights for improving early childhood education.

**Presenter:** **Maha Aldosari**

Maha Aldosari, a passionate pre-service teacher at HCT, specializes in early childhood education. Committed to professional growth, she aims to enhance meaningful learning experiences for young children in the UAE.

## **ELT Career Success Through Personal/Professional Branding**

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:** English language teachers use personal/professional branding to differentiate themselves from others applying for the same jobs, help them establish credibility, increase their visibility, build relationships and networks, and achieve career goals. In this session, teachers can self-assess their 'brand.' Tips and tools to help teachers improve their brand are shared.

**Presenter:** **Christine Coombe**  
Christine Coombe is an Associate Professor at the Higher Colleges of Technology. She is Past President of the TESOL International Association and is the Conference Co-Chair of TESOL Conferences.

**Presenter:** **Georgios Kormpas**  
Georgios Kormpas is a Lecturer and the Director of the Teaching, Learning and Development Center at Al Yamamah University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

## **AI-Powered Reading: Insights from University Research**

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023

**Abstract:** AI reading tools can offer various benefits to language learners. The session will examine the use of MS Teams Reading Progress Tool to develop reading fluency among Kuwait University students. By highlighting the benefits and limitations of using the tool, educators will gain insights into its effectiveness and practical applications.

**Presenter:** **Ghada Al-Qenai**  
Ms. Ghada Al-Qenai has a 20+ years of experience in teaching, coordinating and supervising EAP and ESP courses at the faculty of Science at Kuwait University.

## **Transforming Educators to Educator-Developers**

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** More educators are becoming course-developers, particularly in fully self-paced learning models. This research explores the educator transformation through an autoethnographic lens, highlighting technological, pedagogical, content, cognitive, social, and emotional shifts. Drawing from firsthand experience in large-scale digital course creation, it highlights opportunities, challenges, and the future role of educator-developers.

**Presenter:** **Gillian Zammel**  
Gillian Zammel is a UK-trained TESOL & PGCE lecturer, pursuing a PhD. With 20

years' experience, her research explores social learning, sustainability, teaching methodologies, and student engagement.

**Presenter:**

**Dr. Katrina Kinsella**

Dr. Katrina Kinsella is an international educator, trainer, coach, and course developer specializing in communication, storytelling, social psychology, future skills, and employability.

## The Power of AI in Language Classrooms

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024

**Abstract:** This workshop aims to help EFL teachers implement AI resources to engage students through meaningful mini-tasks. The audience will be introduced to different ways of incorporating AI resources to enhance students' engagement and motivation by modifying textbook activities and class projects into tasks that are fun, engaging, and clear.

**Presenter:**

**Noureddine Cherif**

Noureddine Cherif is a Fulbright Scholar, Linguistics & Communications Expert, ESL Specialist, Curriculum developer, Language Program Coordinator with 15 years of experience in Language Teaching in the MENA and North America

## Surfing A Digital Classroom

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** In an increasingly digital world, resilience is no longer a luxury, it's a necessity. The workshop aims to introduce Edpuzzle as a video-based digital teaching tool that allows educators to create interactive video lessons. It will emphasize on how students can get motivated by Self-Paced Learning in the EFL classroom.

**Presenter:**

**Yvette Mathew**

Yvette Mathew is a seasoned educator, over two decades of invaluable teaching experience. A spearheading active researcher transforming learning environment that empowers students to become future leaders.

## Hands-On Activities for Early Math Skills

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** This presentation discusses the effectiveness of hands-on activities in enhancing subtraction skills among early childhood learners. The presenters will share the findings of a mixed-methods investigation, highlighting the benefits of interactive, play-based learning in fostering engagement, conceptual clarity, and problem-solving abilities and giving the participants insights into effective math strategies.

**Presenter:**

**Amal Alkindi Alkindi**

Amal Alkindi is an early childhood pre-service teacher at Higher Colleges of Technology. Her interest lies in integrating natural resources into hands-on

experiences to enhance children's mathematical understanding and problem-solving skills.

**Presenter:**

**Shaikhah Alkindi**

Shaikhah Alkindi, is an early childhood pre-service teacher at Higher Colleges of Technology. Her interest lies in developing hands-on, Minds-on, and hearts-on activities and enhancing students' learning experiences in mathematics.

**Presenter:**

**Ayesha Alyafei**

Ayesha Alyafei is an early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology. Her interest lies in fostering hands-on, minds-on, and hearts-on experiences to enhance children's mathematical understanding and engagement.

## AI-Powered Feedback and Lesson Planning

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** The presenters explore how AI enhances teacher efficiency in TESOL, focusing on feedback and lesson planning. Participants engage with AI tools like School AI, Curipod, ChatGPT, Eduaide, and Magic School to streamline grading and curriculum design. The session highlights ethical considerations, best practices, and hands-on AI applications for ESL/EFL educators.

**Presenter:**

**Jessica Fetsko**

Jessica Fetsko, Deputy Head of English at Al Ghad Charter School, is an experienced international educator specializing in ESL, curriculum development, and teacher mentoring across the U.S., China, and UAE.

**Presenter:**

**Nicola Nolan**

Nicola Nolan is Head of English and Associate Assistant Principal. With experience in Irish, British, and American curricula, she explores AI's role in making teaching and instruction more dynamic and engaging.

## AI Resources for English Language Lesson Planning

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** Artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative tool for English language teachers. This presentation explores AI-driven resources that streamline lesson planning and assessment while personalizing communicative English language teaching. Anecdotal data will be presented on the extent to which Jordanian teachers apply these applications and the barriers they face.

**Presenter:**

**Lottie Baker**

Lottie Baker, Ed.D. is a Regional English Language Officer, currently serving at the U.S. Embassy Amman where she oversees programs for English educators in Jordan and Lebanon.

**Presenter:**

**Abdelazim Sultan**

Abdelazim Sultan, PhD. is a Regional English Language Coordinator at U.S. Embassy Amman, and has experience teaching at University of Jordan. His expertise includes English literature and AI in education.

## Using Authentic Materials in English Classes

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** Using authentic materials in lessons can be a great way to engage students and make learning more relevant and meaningful. Here are some tips on how to effectively incorporate authentic materials into your lessons.

**Presenter:** **Kamola Aripova**  
I was born in 1981 in Tashkent

**Presenter:** **Dilshodakhon Muminova**  
Mrs. Dilshodakhon Muminova is a senior English teacher and PhD. She works in International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan.

## Motivating Students Through Film and Drama Productions

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** A common challenge in English classes is motivating students to communicate in English and improve their proficiency. The presenter will demonstrate specific methods using film and drama that teachers in any context can utilize to engage and motivate students in their classrooms.

**Presenter:** **Philip Rice**  
Phil Rice is an assistant professor at the English Language Institute of the University of Delaware. He enjoys teaching English through drama, film, and training teachers at UD.

## AI-Powered Grammar Assessment and Learner Autonomy

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** The use of AI grammar assessment enhances language accuracy and promotes learner autonomy by providing immediate feedback. The presenter will explore the effectiveness of AI-powered grammar assessment in improving student performance, providing insights into integrating AI tools to create more effective and engaging grammar assessments in language learning.

**Presenter:** **Basant S. M. Moustafa**  
Basant S. M. Moustafa is an assistant professor at Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University, KSA. She obtained her PhD from Johannes Gutenberg University- Mainz, Germany.

## Integrating AI and ChatGPT into the Classroom

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,004

**Abstract:** While AI tools like ChatGPT offer benefits and challenges in education, they are undeniably part of our future. This presentation will explore the practical applications of AI for both teachers and students. Participants will be introduced to a variety of AI tools designed to enhance the teaching and learning experience.

**Presenter:** **Edith Flahive**  
Edith Flahive, PhD, FHEA, SFHEA is a faculty member at Abu Dhabi Men's College, HCT. Her research interests include teacher development, practitioner research, and cognitive and sociocultural perspectives on learning.

## Unlocking Authentic Online Texts with AI

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,005

**Abstract:** This presentation demonstrates how to give low-intermediate students access to authentic articles with the use of Chat-GPT. The presenter describes specific prompts used to generate comprehensive reading lessons which simplify complex language, tailoring texts to specific learner needs. Sample lesson plans and student feedback on these lessons will be provided.

**Presenter:** **Yasmeen Coaxum**  
Yasmeen Coaxum, Adjunct at Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY, holds an MA in Applied Linguistics and Language Acquisition from the University of Barcelona. She has taught English for 16 years.

## Enhancing CLIL with AI-Driven Strategies

**Time:** April 19, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,006

**Abstract:** Are you struggling to balance content and language instruction while adapting materials for students' proficiency levels? AI-powered tools can assist teachers in differentiating content, creating engaging activities, providing feedback, and automating lesson planning. The presenter will demonstrate five practical AI-driven strategies with real-world examples.

**Presenter:** **Dilafruz Abdumajidova**  
Associate professor at MA TESOL Program of Webster University in Tashkent with 23 years of teaching at tertiary education. Mainly teaches ELT methodology to MA Students.

## Phonological Awareness-Building Strong Early Readers

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024

**Abstract:** Many students struggle with reading due to gaps in foundational skills that are essential for literacy success. The presenter will explore the critical role of explicitly teaching phonological awareness skills. Participants will engage with effective teaching strategies, practical resources, and targeted interventions that will help students develop effective reading skills.

**Presenter:** **Misti-Dawn Curry**  
Misti-Dawn Curry is an academic trainer and consultant with 20 years of educational experience. She holds a BA in Elementary Education and a M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction.

## **Cultural Identity and Social Advocacy Rhetoric**

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** The cultural identity of advocates significantly shapes advocacy rhetoric in social movements. Adopting van Dijk's socio-cognitive approach and focusing on advocates for the Palestinian cause, the paper explores manifestations of cultural identity within selective linguistic and rhetorical features that extend beyond mere resonance with the target audience to encompass the

**Presenter:** **Rima Malkawi**  
Rima Malkawi is a PhD candidate and research assistant at the University of Sharjah. She published a book on news media translation and several papers in Scopus-indexed. Her ORCID is <https://orcid.org/0009-0009-0351-4764>

## **Building Collaborative Classrooms Through Play-based Learning**

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** Despite the growing awareness of the importance of play in teaching young learners, little is known about the benefits of play-based learning on developing collaborative skills. The presenter will share the findings of a mixed-method investigation evaluating the impact of play-based learning on collaboration in early childhood classrooms.

**Presenter:** **Maryam Almamari**  
Maryam Almamari is an enthusiastic early childhood pre-service teacher at Higher Colleges of Technology. Driven by a belief in experiential education, she prioritizes active exploration and discovery in her teaching approach.

## **Microsoft AI Learning Accelerator: Speaker Coach**

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** In this session you'll learn how to use the recently released Microsoft AI Learning Accelerator: Speaker Coach. It's a tool that gives real-time feedback to your students to help them to become confident and skilled presenters. The AI generated feedback will help to reduce teacher workload.

**Presenter:****Marie O Brien Al Sawaya**

With more than 20 years experience as a teacher and teacher leader in the education sector, Marie enjoys inspiring students and staff to always be curious.

**Language and AI: Teaching Precision and Clarity**

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** How can AI teach students the importance of precision and clarity in language? Drawing on pedagogical theories of active learning, this presentation explores AI integration in formal text, featuring AI-assisted exercises in the context of legal drafting skills. Join the presenter to learn how to enhance language skills in education.

**Presenter:****Christina Lienen**

Dr Christina Lienen is an Oxford educated Assistant Professor at the British University in Dubai. A former barrister, she holds a PhD in Law from University College London (UCL).

**No Coursebook? No Problem! Build with GSE**

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** The lack of a coursebook can lead to inconsistencies in lesson structure or place an additional burden on teachers to create comprehensive learning pathways. The Global Scale of English (GSE) provides a structured framework that supports syllabus design, ensuring clear objectives, aligned assessments, and standardized collaboration among teachers.

**Presenter:****Hebatallah Morsy**

With nearly 20 years in ELT, Hebatallah designs learning experiences and develops curricula. With an MA in TEFL and DipTESOL, she bridges pedagogy and technology to empower teachers and

## Enhancing Learning Through Technology-Enhanced Assessment

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** This presentation explores the integration of technology-enhanced assessments to support science literacy among English learners. By addressing challenges in scientific vocabulary comprehension, these assessments provide interactive, adaptive tools that enhance understanding and engagement, thereby improving academic performance in science education.

**Presenter:** **Swati Singal**  
As Head of the Science Department and with a decade of curriculum development experience, I implement data-driven instruction derived from technology-enhanced assessments to elevate student learning outcomes.

## How Calmness Enhances Language Learning

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,004

**Abstract:** As global education continues to evolve, integrating mindfulness practices into language learning has gained significant attention for its potential to improve student well-being, focus, and academic performance. The presenters will explore the importance of incorporating mindfulness activities in English classrooms and highlight effective strategies for implementing them into English classrooms.

**Presenter:** **Shakhlo Abdumutalova**  
I'm an International English teacher at British Management University. I teach general and academic English using different methods in my classes. I have a 4-year of teaching experience.

## Effective Strategies to Boost Student Engagement Daily

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,005

**Abstract:** This workshop explains that student engagement is important to student motivation in the classroom. By integrating active learning and technology, educators want the students to feel invested in the classroom. By emphasizing the types of student engagement and learner engagement strategies, educators better understand the best learning strategies for building

**Presenter:** **Ghazi Khudhair**  
Ghazi Ali Khudhair is an English language teacher since 2001 and he is a Certified Master Trainer and Certified Professional Trainer. Moreover, He is an IELTS train the trainer.

## AI's Impact on Student Performance at UAEU

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,006

**Abstract:** Artificial Intelligence tools are increasingly integrated into university students' academic lives assisting with writing and researching tasks, limiting their independent critical thinking skills and creativity. The research will explore the effectiveness of AI usage among students across various colleges, examining its impact on academic performance and overall learning experiences.

**Presenter:** **Asna Kozhikkattil**  
Asna Kozhikkattil is an Applied Sociology & Social Data Analytics student at UAEU. She is passionate about social policy analysis and academic research, driven by a desire for community development.

## **The AI Revolution: Rethinking Assessment and Plagiarism**

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** The rapid rise of AI is transforming language education, particularly in assessment and plagiarism control. This study explores AI-driven tools like automated grading and adaptive learning, highlighting their benefits and challenges. It provides insights on leveraging AI for fair assessment while addressing academic integrity through strategies, case studies, and policy.

**Presenter:** **Khaleda Al Mansoori**  
Dr. Al Mansoori, Assistant Professor and Coordinator, is an expert in education and linguistics. Since 1977, she has built a remarkable career as an educator, researcher, and leader.

## **Analysis of Jibbali Interference on English Vowel**

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** Mother tongue interference is a phenomenon in second language acquisition where speakers use phonetic patterns from their native language in second language speech. The presenter will describe how he has used acoustic analysis of Jibbali language interference on English vowel quality to develop pedagogical strategies and pronunciation training tools.

**Presenter:** **Yasir Alyafaei**  
Dr. Yasir Alyafaei holds a PhD in Education from the UK. He is the Deputy of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Postgraduate Studies, Scientific Research, and Innovation at UTAS/Salalah.

## **Maximizing Engagement with Minimal Preparation**

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:** Are preparation for lessons taking much time? The presenter suggests several solutions how to save your valuable time. Participants will learn how to make their lessons entertaining without effort through interactive activities.

**Presenter:** **Nafisa Mukhammedova**  
Position :EFL teacher of Uzbekistan state world languages university.  
Education : Webster ( MA TESOL)

## How University Students Are Embracing Technology

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023

**Abstract:** AI in academia: how university students are embracing technology  
This research looks into using AI tools among 200 university students for reading comprehension, summarization, and academic writing. The findings not only highlight the efficiency-enhancing aspects of tools like ChatGPT but also reveal their limitations in feedback and accuracy.

**Presenter:** **Gulnoza Kamilova**  
Gulnoza Kamilova is an educator with over 20 years of teaching experience across the UK, UAE, and Oman, currently serving as a Lecturer at Westminster International University in Tashkent. She has

## How to Train an AI Model?

**Time:** April 19, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** AI model-training uses classifications to visualize the concept of algorithmic bias, specifically how non-neutral outcomes are produced. In this session, educators will follow along a sample scenario to practice the steps and will collaborate to create similar scenarios for instruction/research. It is recommended to bring a laptop/tablet to this session.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Fariha Hayat Salman**  
Associate Professor and Senior Fellow with a PhD in Learning, Design, & Technology, has extensive and global HE sectoral experience of leading programs, designing curricula, and spearheading faculty leadership development.

## AI and Discourse Markers in English Media

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** This paper examines the ethical implications of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and discourse markers in English media. It explores AI's role in enhancing readability, improving content creation, and addressing biases while considering the moral responsibilities of media producers. The study combines discourse analysis and ethical reflections on AI in communication.

**Presenter:** **Ahmad Haj Ali**

Ahmad Haj Ali is a Syrian academic and consultant with expertise in English linguistics, language pedagogy, and curriculum development. He holds a Ph.D. candidacy, with extensive experience in academic management and

## AI Peer Avatars for Fostering Student Collaboration

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** Artificial intelligence AI avatar is one of the emerging tools that educators can make use of to foster undergraduate students' collaboration. In this presentation, audience will be introduced to a real experiment where 18 undergraduate students created their own avatars to enhance their own learning experience under their instructors' supervision.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Safaa Eissa**

Safaa Eissa is an associate professor and a faculty in the Linguistics & Translation Department, College of Humanities in Prince Sultan University PSU- Riyadh - KSA.

## Designing Effective Writing Assignments in the Age of AI

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:** The integration of AI technologies has opened doors of opportunities and challenges in writing instructions and assessment. The presenter describes approaches that writing instructors can effectively manage the integration of ChatGPT into their curriculum, ensuring balanced distribution of projects to alternately promote and discourage its use among students when appropriate.

**Presenter:** **Mariam Alamyar**

Mariam Alamyar is a SLW educator. Her research interests are English language writing, writing in digital space, sociolinguistics, language controversies, scientific writing, curriculum design, and administration in Education.

## Bridging the Gap: Translation for Crisis Management

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023

**Abstract:** This study examines translation inconsistencies in Arabic and English crisis statements during the 2024 UAE floods, revealing shifts in urgency and clarity. Findings highlight the need for integrated crisis translation frameworks to enhance public trust and counter misinformation in linguistically diverse societies.

**Presenter:** **Amna Salah**  
Amna Salah is a Senior News Editor with experience in bilingual content creation, translation, and editorial management, ensuring accuracy and clarity in news reporting.

**Presenter:** **Sanaa Benmessaoud**  
Sanaa Benmessaoud is Assistant Professor of Translation at the University of Sharjah. Her research interests include the sociology of translation, representation and (gendered) identity in translation, postcolonial literature and critical discourse

## Professional communication in the age of GenAI

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** This presentation will share findings from a case study involving an experienced professional from the venture capital and technology sector. It explores how the participant utilises GenAI tools when writing professional documents, his attitudes toward these technologies, and the key considerations that inform his choices.

**Presenter:** **Svetlana Chigaeva-Heddad**  
Svetlana is a passionate educator with 20+ years of experience in language teaching, academic leadership, and curriculum development. She currently specialises in AI literacy development, teacher empowerment, and cross-cultural collaboration.

## A Discussion About Self-care for Leaders

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024

**Abstract:** The panel discussion on self-care for educational leaders emphasizes the importance of well-being for effective leadership to avoid burnout, which has been especially prevalent after the pandemic. Participants will learn practical strategies like mindfulness, support networks and modeling healthy behaviors to foster positive school cultures and sustainable leadership.

**Presenter:** **Nicola Nolan**  
Nicola Nolan is Head of English and Associate Assistant Principal. With experience in Irish, British, and American curricula, she explores AI's role in making teaching and instruction more dynamic and engaging.

**Presenter:** **Jamie Cardwell**  
Dr. Jamie has 25 years of experience in ESL/EFL, curriculum methods, and teacher education. She holds degrees in Education, English/TESL, and Curriculum. Currently, she is Vice Principal in Abu Dhabi.

**Presenter:****Michelle Beukes**

Michelle Beukes is an assistant principal with over 10 years in education. She is passionate about student growth, and helping students build confidence, think critically, and express themselves effectively.

**Presenter:****Hossam Hammam**

Hossam Hammam, Head of Math and AP Coordinator, has been in education for 15 years. He has focused specifically on curriculum development and instructional leadership. He is an NPQSL candidate.

**Presenter:****Jessica Fetsko**

Jessica Fetsko, Deputy Head of English at Al Ghad Charter School, is an experienced international educator specializing in ESL, curriculum development, and teacher mentoring across the U.S., China, and UAE.

**Interlanguage Errors of Chinese learners of Arabic****Time:**

April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W1,024A

**Abstract:**

This study examines interlanguage errors in Arabic compositions by Chinese learners at the University of Sharjah. Errors occur at the microlinguistic level (word order, verb conjugation, tense) and macrolinguistic level (coherence, cohesion). Negative Mandarin transfer and Arabic agreement complexities are key challenges, informing curriculum design and teaching strategies.

**Presenter:****Prof. Shehdeh Fareh**

PhD in linguistics. Prof. of Linguistics, DFL, UoS. Main interests: contrastive discourse analysis, TEFL, teacher training, translation, and simultaneous interpretation. Published many articles, books and short stories.

**Presenter:****Dr. Asmaa Awad Ahmed**

Director of the Language Institute at the University of Sharjah, UAE. Holds a PhD in Comparative English Literature, along with CELTA, TESL, CCTAFL and ToT certifications. An experienced educator, writer, translator,

**Presenter:****Dana Muwafi**

PhD candidate in Linguistics and Translation, UoS. Her research interests: Discourse analysis, pragmatics, and the sociology of translation. Published in Critical Discourse Studies, International Journal of Arabic-English Studies.

**Humanizing Education: SEL in the AI Era****Time:**

April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W1,101

**Abstract:**

As AI reshapes education, Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is still crucial to ensure students develop resilience, empathy, and self-awareness alongside technical skills. Throughout the session, participants will examine the “What,” “Why,” and “How” of SEL, using CASEL as a general framework and focusing on practical strategies to humanize education.

**Presenter:****Rasha Halat**

An education consultant, trainer, and e-content writer with nearly 30 years of experience in the domain of ELT. Rasha is also an Assistant Professor at The Lebanese International University.

**Presenter:****Tina Jaber Rafidi**

Dr. Rafidi holds a Ph.D. in curriculum/EFL instruction from Ain Shams University, Egypt. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Languages and Translation at Birzeit University,

**Intergenerational Digital Storytelling and First Language Proficiency****Time:**

April 19, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W1,102

**Abstract:**

This presentation attempts to explore the application of AI-based Intergenerational Digital Storytelling to improve first language learning and cultural identity in young Emirati bilingual learners. A mixed methods approach is used to explore the ways in which AI tools enhance linguistic skills, intergenerational cultural transmission, and incorporating technology in ECE.

**Presenter:****Aysha Alshamsi**

Dr. Aysha Alshamsi has 24 years of experience in education, with roles from teacher to school leader and academic positions. Her research focuses on bilingual education, literacy, school leadership.

**Presenter:****Halima Hamid**

Halima Hamed specializes in Language and Education from a sociocultural perspective, with a strong focus on language and cultural maintenance. She believes language serves as the primary vehicle for preserving culture.

**Transforming B1 Economics Students' Speaking Through Rapport****Time:**

April 19, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W1,105

**Abstract:**

During this session rapport-building strategies will be explored to help B1-level economics students strengthen their speaking abilities. Participants will develop their communication skills through enjoyable exercises including role-playing and group discussions. Moreover, valuable guidance will be provided on how to apply these methods in educational settings to enhance students' speaking abilities.

**Presenter:****Ozodakhon Shukurillaeva**

Enthusiastic ESP and EFL Teacher dedicated to creating enjoyable, inviting and dynamic learning atmosphere. Implements traditional and innovative methods to motivate students to learn English language and understand world culture. Certified

**Presenter:****Dilnozakhon Boymirzayeva**

Educator with twenty-four years of experience in the classroom. Skilled at encouraging communication, cooperation, and academic accomplishment. More than eight years of preparation for the FLEX Program and EFL teacher training.

**Presenter:****Sharofat Isroilova**

Skilled ESL Instructor with TESOL degree from Webster in Tashkent, versed in using effective and efficient methods of teaching while focusing on individual

student needs.

## Literacy Narratives for Both Educators and Students

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** In this interactive workshop, participants will learn how to integrate literacy narratives into their curriculum. With opportunities to write, share, and discuss, attendees will gain practical strategies. While the workshop originates from a first-year college writing course, materials and strategies are adaptable for any educational setting. Handouts will be provided.

**Presenter:** **Hedi Najafi**  
Dr. Hedi Najafi, a former Arizona State University faculty member, researches classroom practices, multilingualism, and language policy. She has published scholarly work, presented internationally, and now teaches at AUAF.

## How Collaborative Hands-On Activities Impact Attention

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** This presentation discusses the impact of collaborative hands-on activities on enhancing attention of young learners. The presenters will share the findings of a mixed-method study that investigates how cooperative learning experiences can improve attention and motivation. Gained insights will support educators in addressing student engagement in early childhood settings.

**Presenter:** **Maha Abdulla**  
Maha Abdulla is a pre-service early childhood teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology. She is passionate about helping young learners acquire developmentally-appropriate knowledge and skills, notably language skills.

**Presenter:** **Aisha Alkhateri Alkhateri**  
Aisha Alkhateri, a dedicated pre-service teacher at HCT, specializing in early childhood education. She is committed to hard work, ongoing professional development, and very passionate about teaching young learners.

## Structured Reading Programme: Boosting Student Reading Competency

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** Structured Reading Programme in EFL context enabled students to read text in English fluently. The research was undertaken at a primary school in India and proceeds on to suggest that the Structured Reading Programme consists of modules for teaching reading and to provide quality education for all.

**Presenter:** **Leena George**  
Dr. Leena George has experience as an Assistant Professor in Child Development

and primary school teacher. She conceptualized Structured Reading Programme, a process driven approach that placed emphasis on experiences.

## Integration of Extensive Reading in Teacher Education

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,004

**Abstract:** Are there any problems in the classroom? What do teachers do to explore their classroom problems? Are there any research tools that help teachers to explore, to investigate their classroom problems in teaching? How does Exploratory Action Research work in classroom to investigate the problem?

**Presenter:** **Nilufar Mukhammedova**  
Nilufar Mukhammedova, teacher trainer, materials writer and TESOL Instructor at Webster University in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

## Mindful teaching in an AI world

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,005

**Abstract:** In today's classroom, stress and burnout can hinder teaching and learning. How can we create an environment that promotes focus, resilience, reflection, and engagement? This session introduces practical mindfulness, self-care, and AI-driven strategies. Participants will gain hands-on techniques to enhance student engagement, well-being, and academic performance.

**Presenter:** **Wesam Mohammad**  
Wesam Mohammad is a passionate educator and training consultant. She has over 20 years of experience in teaching and teacher training.

**Presenter:** **Dima Yousef**  
Dima Yousef is a senior learning designer at MBZUAI. She has over 20 years of experience in teaching, curriculum development, assessment design, and teacher training.

## Empowering Multilingual Learners with Tools and Strategies

**Time:** April 19, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,006

**Abstract:** This presentation highlights the critical importance of academic writing skills for multilingual learners, particularly those from Khaleeji backgrounds studying in English-dominant environments. We will explore the unique challenges high school students face as they prepare for exams such as IELTS, EmSat, and Advanced Placement Seminar and Research submissions.

**Presenter:** **Banani Roy Chowdhury**

Banani Roy Chowdhury is a seasoned TESOL educator with nearly 30 years of teaching experience, specializing in Neuroeducation. She has a strong background in conducting professional development sessions and presenting at the International Conferences

**Presenter:**

**Randa Alattar**

Passionate educator, curriculum innovator, and training specialist. I believe in empowering students with skills that last a lifetime—fresh strategies, test prep mastery, and next-level teacher development.

## Harnessing Vlogging to Transform ELT Classrooms

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** This session explores how vlogging can enhance engagement, develop language skills, and promote digital literacy in ELT classrooms. Participants will discover practical strategies, examine successful projects, and engage in hands-on activities. The workshop highlights the transformative potential of mobile vlogs through apps like YouTube, Voicethread and Flipgrid for authentic language.

**Presenter:**

**Feruz Akbarov**

Feruz Akbarov, an award-winning TESOL educator from Uzbekistan, holds an MA in English from the University of Pune. He is a global presenter and founder of ETA Uzbekistan, championing English education.

## Bringing Texts to Life: Interactive Reading Strategies

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** Experience three effective and easy-to-implement reading strategies that make texts come alive for students. In this hands-on session, you'll try each approach while understanding why it works and how you can apply it in your classroom tomorrow, leaving with practical tools to enhance reading comprehension and engagement.

**Presenter:**

**Raja Mallek Bahloul**

Raja Mallek Bahloul earned her Master's from Cornell University. She has over 30 years of experience teaching English. Her research interests include innovative teaching strategies, gamification, and student engagement.

**Presenter:**

**Sebah Al Ali**

Sebah Al-Ali is a language teacher, teacher trainer, and educational researcher. She teaches research literacy and academic writing while leading initiatives in educational technology integration. She is also an Associate Editor

## Play-Based Learning for Language Development

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:** Play is a powerful tool for language acquisition in early childhood education. This session explores research-backed strategies for integrating play into TESOL classrooms, enhancing vocabulary, communication, and social interaction. Participants will gain practical techniques to foster linguistic development, cultural awareness, and engagement through structured and free-play activities.

**Presenter:** **Dzenita Mujic**  
Dzenita Mujic, a doctoral candidate, educator, and researcher, specializes in cross-cultural communication and TESOL. She is dedicated to advancing inclusive education and empowering learners through research-driven, culturally responsive teaching strategies.

## Meet the Academic Writing & Publications SIG

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023

**Abstract:** In this engaging session, participants will meet and interact with the leadership of the Academic Writing & Publications Special Interest Group (SIG). The session fosters collaboration, shares insights, and explores trends and challenges in academic writing and publication. Attendees will learn about the SIG's initiatives, ongoing projects, and strategic goals.

**Presenter:** **Nilufar Nilufar**  
Nilufar Tillayeva, an Adjunct Professor at Webster University, has 20+ years of experience in ELT, specializing in teacher training, curriculum development, and innovative pedagogical approaches to enhance language learning.

## Compassionate Teaching: Balancing AI and Human Connection

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** As AI reshapes education, educators must integrate technology while preserving human connection. This session explores compassionate teaching in an AI-driven era, emphasizing empathy, adaptability, and ethical AI use. Through discussion and examples, participants will learn strategies to balance innovation with emotional intelligence, ensuring AI enhances rather than replaces meaningful learning.

**Presenter:** **Rana Muhammad Bilal Anwar**  
Dr. Bilal Anwar is a published author, lead teacher trainer, and speaker in ELT. He serves as a senior lecturer and ESOL/HE academic and well-being lead.

## Boosting Reading and Vocabulary with Seen/Done Technique

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024

**Abstract:** The "Seen and Done" technique enhances reading comprehension and vocabulary in English teaching by integrating guided and independent reading, aligning instruction with assessment, and fostering independent learning and motivation.

**Presenter:****Kyle Lachini**

Kyle Lachini is an experienced English educator and researcher with over 40 years in the Middle East and Canada, specializing in language education, assessment, and AI-assisted learning.

**Motivating ESL Students Through Previous Learner Narratives**

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** This qualitative study at a Bahraini women's university investigates how female alumni role models, via speaker sessions and mentorship, boost ESL students' motivation. Through interviews and observations, findings suggest that exposure to relatable success stories fosters greater confidence, engagement, and practical application of English skills.

**Presenter:****Menatalla Sharafeldin**

Menatalla Sharafeldin is a Lecturer at Royal University for Women, Bahrain, a CELTA holder, and Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (UK) with a PGCert in Academic Practice.

**Arabic Literacy: Challenges and Teachers' Perspectives**

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** Arabic literacy instruction presents challenges in teaching methods, student engagement, and curriculum structure. This qualitative study explores Arabic language teachers' perspectives on these difficulties and solutions. Using interviews, key themes emerge, including pedagogical barriers and engagement strategies. Attendees will gain insights into practical approaches. This presentation is in Arabic.

**Presenter:****Ibrahem Alamoush**

Ibrahem Alamoush is an Assistant Professor at Sharjah Education Academy, specializing in language education. His research focuses on cognitive neuroscience, literacy development, and innovative teaching methodologies in Arabic language instruction.

**Innovations in Teaching and Learning**

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming TESOL by enhancing personalized learning, assessment, and engagement. This session explores practical AI tools for language instruction, demonstrating their impact on learner outcomes. Participants will gain hands-on strategies for integrating AI into their classrooms to

foster adaptive, data-driven teaching and learning experiences.

**Presenter:** **Mirzakhuja Jabborov**  
Jabborov Mirzakhuja. Teacher of English as a Foreign Language at Renaissance University.

**Presenter:** **Tairova Feruza Fayzullaevna**  
Senior Teacher of English as a Foreign Language at Renaissance University of Education in Uzbekistan.

## **Engage, Inspire, Empower: Boosting Student Engagement Effectively**

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** Effective engagement and motivation can be the key to the empowerment of academic success, yet many educators struggle to maintain both in the classroom. The presenter explores how to create dynamic classrooms, foster motivation and enhance educational outcomes. The workshop provides practical strategies and hands-on experience for immediate classroom implementation

**Presenter:** **Saodat Tadjibaeva**  
Saodat Tadjibaeva is an Adjunct Professor at Webster University, MA TESOL program and CEO/Founder of “TESOL MASTERS” TTC. A certified trainer, she was named “Best Teacher Trainer” in 2024

## **The Power of Speech in EFL**

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** Public speaking is one of the most essential skills a person has to acquire. The presenter will introduce the types of public speech that successful English learners should master, discuss the main speech problems and suggest effective methods to improve students’ ability to speak in public.

**Presenter:** **Feruzakhon Mansurova**  
EFL teacher at state school № 5, Kokand city, Fergana ; PhD researcher at Andijan State University, Faculty of Linguistics

## **Leading Curriculum, Assessment Innovation In Multilingual schools**

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** In multilingual classrooms, effective leadership in curriculum and assessment is key to ensuring student success. This session explores strategies for aligning assessments with international standards, fostering teacher accountability, and using data to drive instruction. Participants will engage in discussions and case studies to develop actionable leadership strategies for their schools.

**Presenter:** **Hossam Hammam**  
Hossam Hammam, an educational leader with 15 years of experience, is Head of

Math and AP Coordinator at AGS, specializing in curriculum development, teacher training, and academic leadership.

## Teacher Education Programmes Through AI

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** This study explores in-service teachers' professional learning experiences in the UAE and Oman after completing a Postgraduate Professional Diploma in Teaching. Findings highlight the importance of informal learning, professional communities, and AI integration in teacher development. The study advocates for structured PD programs to enhance professional identity and teaching effectiveness.

**Presenter:** **Dima Farhat**  
Dima Farhat (MA, PhD ) is a UK qualified and trained scholar. She is currently working as an assistant professor of English Language Education at the Al Ain University, UAE.

## GenAI in Writing at Redefinition Stage

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,004

**Abstract:** This three-tiered research project highlights the effective use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in academic and creative writing classes to support the teaching and learning of writing and overcoming academic integrity issues by using Gen AI at the redefinition stage of the SAMR model.

**Presenter:** **Faiza Qureshi**  
Faiza is a Discipline Lead for Master of Education and Graduate Certificates in Education at Murdoch University Dubai. She is a lecturer and researcher specialising in PG Education and SoTL.

**Presenter:** **Andy Pacino**  
Andy is lecturer in ELT and PG Education. His research interests include ELT, EL teacher motivation, GenAI use in writing and academic integrity. He is the author of several books.

## How to Advocate as International TESOL Professionals

**Time:** April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,005

**Abstract:** The workshop employs Culturally Responsive and Contextually Relevant Pedagogical strategies and techniques to discuss controversial readings about the genocidal war in Gaza. Elementary, secondary and higher education resources and hands-on activities enable participants to become more critically aware and enhance and recalibrate their expertise for greater advocacy.

**Presenter:** **Anwar Abdel Razeq**  
Currently Dr. Anwar is the Dean of the Faculty of Education at Birzeit University.

He published more than a dozen articles in reputable journals and three books on foreign language education

**Presenter:**

**Shelley Wong**

Shelley Wong, Ed.D. Applied Linguistics, Columbia Teachers College is Associate Professor Faculty of Education Emerita, George Mason University. A former TESOL International President, she authored Dialogic Approaches to TESOL.

**Presenter:**

**Anita Bright**

Anita Bright, PhD, is a full professor in the Curriculum and Instruction Department in the College of Education. A National Board Certified Teacher with over 20 years of experience.

**Presenter:**

**Thuy Tu**

Thuy Tu is a lecturer of University of Languages and International Studies, Vietnam National University – Hanoi. Thuy earned a doctorate in Multilingual/multicultural education from George Mason University.

## Exploring AI in Education: A Practical Guide

**Time:**

April 19, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W3,006

**Abstract:**

This session introduces AI in education, covering essential tools, prompt generation, and real-world case studies. It explores how AI enhances accessibility and scaffolding, supporting diverse learners. Educators will gain practical strategies, resources, and insights from classroom applications to effectively integrate AI, making learning more inclusive and adaptable.

**Presenter:**

**Nizar Ali**

Nizar Ali is a dedicated educator with nearly 30 years of experience in teaching English Language Arts (ELA), English as a Second Language (ESL), and English as a Foreign Language (EFL)

**April 20, 2025**

## **Enhancing Learning with Quizizz & Nearpod: Accommodations**

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** Ensuring equitable learning opportunities for all students is essential. This proposal explores how the innovative online platforms Quizizz and Nearpod can empower diverse learning needs in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) classrooms, transforming the educational landscape for everyone.

**Presenter:** **Rina Baluyot**  
Ms. Rina Baluyot is a Health Science Lecturer at the Higher Colleges of Technology in Sharjah, UAE, a licensed professional teacher, and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

**Presenter:** **Beidan Mussa**  
Beidan Mussa, MSc, BSc, FHEA, is a Lecturer at Higher Colleges of Technology, specializing in Health Sciences education, innovative assessments, and online learning tools like Quizizz to enhance student engagement.

## **Using Artificial Intelligence to Improve Writing Skills**

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** Second language English learners face a lot of challenges when writing essays. The presenter will highlight the positive outcomes of integrating artificial intelligence tools to improve students' writing skills and then suggest solutions to overcome the challenges that appear while applying these tools in a second language learning environment.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Rehab Albakri**  
I hold a PhD in Education - TESOL. I am an associate faculty at Hamdan bin Mohammed Smart University and Head of English Department at Masar Private School.

## **Attitudes and Use of AI Applications**

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:** Saudi EFL students have positive attitudes and frequently use AI apps in their English learning. ChatGPT, Gemini, Gamma AI, Canva AI, and Grammarly AI appeared to be the most used apps. Saudi EFL students expressed concerns about becoming overly reliant on them and feeling dissatisfaction with their capabilities.

**Presenter:** **Ali Alamir**  
Assistant professor of applied linguistics. Research interests include computer-assisted language learning (CALL) and second language acquisition (SLA)

## TILting Towards Transparent Assignments in AI Era

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,023

**Abstract:** The rise of Generative AI has posed challenges to academic integrity and called for assignment resilience. The TILT framework, a model for transparency in teaching, can reinforce learning expectations and foster engagement. This session will provide attendees with practical knowledge on how transparent assignment design can help mitigate academic dishonesty.

**Presenter:** **Kwan Lee**

Kwan Lee is an instructor at CMU-Africa, specializing in learning acquisition. Passionate about AI literacy, he focuses on leveraging AI to enhance the student learning experience, ultimately fostering academic success.

## Phonological Awareness-Building Strong Early Readers

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** Many students struggle with reading due to gaps in foundational skills that are essential for literacy success. The presenter will explore the critical role of explicitly teaching phonological awareness skills. Participants will engage with effective teaching strategies, practical resources, and targeted interventions that will help students develop effective reading skills.

**Presenter:** **Misti-Dawn Curry**

Misti-Dawn Curry is an academic trainer and consultant with 20 years of educational experience. She holds a BA in Elementary Education and a M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction.

## Arabic Grammar in Better English-Arabic Translation

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,024

**Abstract:** This study examines Arabic grammar's role in enhancing English-Arabic translation, focusing on its pedagogical integration to meet instructors' and professionals' needs. Using a descriptive, analytical, and comparative approach, it explores grammar's impact on translation quality, essential competencies, and text analysis, culminating in key findings and recommendations for improved translation practice.

**Presenter:** **Fekry El-Naggar**

Dr. Fekry El-Naggar, a linguist at the University of Sharjah, specializes in syntax and prosody. His research focuses on sentence structure, with notable works on nominal sentences and pauses in Arabic.

## Leading AI and the Future of Language

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** Educational leaders must navigate AI's transformative impact on language learning—integrating adaptive tools, ensuring ethical use, and redefining instruction. Panelists will share insights on best practices, institutional implementation, and AI's future, offering strategies and solutions. This session empowers leaders to harness AI responsibly, preserving creativity, cultural context, and human connection.

**Presenter:** **Fatima Bailey**  
Department Chair, Teacher Education at Sharjah Education Academy

## AI in Language Teaching and Learning

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping English language education by enhancing teaching methodologies, personalizing learning, and improving student engagement. The presenters will demonstrate how they have utilized AI-powered in their teaching, highlighting their impact on language development, autonomous learning, and lesson planning in undergraduate English Philology programs in Uzbekistan.

**Presenter:** **Jeren Jumaniyazova**  
I have over nine years of experience teaching English at the university level, specializing in training future English language educators and delivering courses in English for Specific Purposes (ESP).

**Presenter:** **Mashkhura Matyokubova**  
I have a four-year teaching experience as an EFL instructor. I teach future teachers of English and ESP courses. I am passionate about utilizing AI-powered tools in my teaching.

## Graphic Organisers as Instructional Tools

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** Using graphic organizers does not automatically lead to better learning—but when used right, they can transform language instruction. In this session, the presenter will explore key principles, demonstrate practical applications, and engage participants in hands-on activities. Attendees will leave with a curated list of organizers and strategies for immediate use.

**Presenter:** **Sherzod Rajabov**  
DSc in economics, Vice-rector on Pedagogical innovations of National Institute of Pedagogical Excellence

**Presenter:** **Nafisa Toxirova**  
An experienced English teacher with nine years in education, currently teaching

## Enhancing Language Teaching with AI-Powered Tools

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** Artificial Intelligence(AI) has become a transformative force in language education.This session offers a practical guide to AI tools that can help language teachers enhance their teaching and improve student outcomes.Focusing on accessible and actionable tips,the presentation will highlight AI tools that support personalized learning,automate routine tasks, and facilitate interactive learning.

**Presenter:** **Marine Yeghiazaryan**  
I'm Marina Yeghiazaryan from Armenia,graduated from Yerevan State University Faculty of Romance and Germanic Philology.At this moment I'm an English teacher at Basic school N.194.

## Cultural Diversity in UAE:Implications for English Teaching

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** The UAE's diverse student population presents both challenges and opportunities in English language teaching. This session explores how educators can implement culturally responsive strategies, differentiation techniques, and AI-driven tools to support multilingual learners. Participants will gain insights into fostering inclusive classrooms while addressing language proficiency gaps and social-emotional learning needs.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Salma Waly**  
Dr. Salma Waly, awarded as an outstanding Arab American 40 Under 40, is an innovative educator who is currently an Assistant Professor of Teacher Education at Sharjah Education Academy.

## Digital Immersion: Advanced Image Editing in Education

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** This proposal advocates using Photoshop to immerse students in unfamiliar environments, enhancing engagement and critical thinking. It combines creativity with technical skills, deepening subject understanding and preparing students for careers in digital media and design.

**Presenter:** **Nafisakhon Yunusova**  
Nafisakhon Yunusova is an English-teaching professional living in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, where she currently serves as full-time instructor of International English for British Management University (BMU). She focuses on creating engaging, practical

## **Beyond Clicking: Teaching Students to Think AI**

**Time:** April 20, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** How can you engage your students with different artificial intelligence (AI) tools critically and ethically? Whether looking at AI-generated pictures or chatting with Chatbots, students need to do it right. The presenter will share practical strategies and techniques that educators can adopt in preparing their students for the AI era.

**Presenter:** **Rasha Halat**  
Rasha Halat, is an Assistant Professor at Lebanese International University and Senior Consultant for regional and international organizations, with almost 30 years of experience in the domain of ELT.

## **Prompt Engineering in English Language Teaching**

**Time:** April 20, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** Widespread use of ChatGPT has greatly influenced teaching and learning in higher education. However, many L2 writers are unaware of the impact of GenAI overreliance on language acquisition. This session demonstrates prompt engineering instruction to raise awareness of the possibilities and risks of ChatGPT usage among language learners.

**Presenter:** **Kate Moore**  
Kate Moore is an English instructor at the American University of Ras Al Khaimah in the United Arab Emirates.

## **Case in Bi and Tritransitive Verbs**

**Time:** April 20, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** This study examines accusative case assignment in MSA, focusing on ditransitive verbs. Using Chomsky's Minimalist Program and Radford's principles, it explores VP shell structures, showing how the first object is assigned case by a little verb, while the second object's case is checked against the main verb.

**Presenter:** **Hamzah Ghammaz**  
Dr. Hamzah Ghammaz is a linguist and educator with a Ph.D. from Rhodes University. Specializing in English language and linguistics, he has extensive experience in teaching, research, and academic leadership.

## **AI-Assisted Literature Integration into Language Teaching**

**Time:** April 20, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:** How can Artificial Intelligence assist in creating engaging content that encourages meaningful participation? The presenters will demonstrate Artificial Intelligence-

driven techniques that can enhance the integration of literature into language teaching. Attendees will discover how these techniques can improve teaching efficiency while enriching students' literary and language learning. (47 words)

**Presenter:**

**Bushra Albadawi**

Bushra Sufian Albadawi is an English Language and Literature BA student at the University of Sharjah, concentrating on Translation and Linguistics, with deep appreciation for Literature.

**Presenter:**

**Dana Muwafi**

Dana Muwafi: a PhD candidate in Linguistics and Translation at the University of Sharjah, focusing on (critical) discourse analysis, pragmatics, and translation, with publications in various journals.

**Presenter:**

**Shehdeh Fareh**

Shehdeh Fareh, Professor of Linguistics at the University of Sharjah. Interests: discourse analysis, EFL, teacher training, translation, and interpretation. Author of "Better English Now"; series and stories for Arab learners.

## Translation of Punctuation Marks: A Corpus-Driven Study

**Time:**

April 20, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W1,023

**Abstract:**

Punctuation marks (PMs) are crucial to text interpretation. A common consensus among translation theorists is that translators often seek direct transfer of PMs. Will a corpus-driven study of translations by an award-winning expert translator reveal a different pattern? How does this contribute to translation pedagogy and TEFL education?

**Presenter:**

**Alaa Elidrissi**

Alaa L. Elidrissi: a PhD student of linguistics and translation at the University of Sharjah. Her research interests include interpretation, translation studies, and TEFL. She serves as an accredited interpreter.

**Presenter:**

**Sane Yagi**

Sane M. Yagi, Professor of Linguistics at Sharjah and Jordan Universities. His research interests include automatic punctuation, computational linguistics, corpus development, and Teaching English as a Foreign Language.

## Developing a Strategy for Implementing AI Technology

**Time:**

April 20, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):**

W1,023A

**Abstract:**

AI integration in education offers personalized learning, streamlined tasks, and data insights. Successful implementation requires clear objectives, robust infrastructure, teacher training, ethical considerations, and continuous evaluation. A structured, inclusive, and ethical approach ensures that AI enhances learning outcomes, making education more efficient, accessible, and equitable for all.

**Presenter:**

**Samar Mouakket**

Prof. Samar Mouakket is from the College of Computing & Informatics, University of Sharjah,

**Presenter:**

**Nahed Mowaket**

Nahed Mowaket, a seasoned ESL lecturer with over 25 years' experience, specializes in applied linguistics. She integrates IT and AI in higher education to enhance teaching and learning.

## Creating a Welcoming Atmosphere in Diverse Classrooms

**Time:** April 20, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** Creating an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere in diverse English classrooms is essential for student engagement and success. A positive environment fosters mutual respect, encourages participation, and helps students from different backgrounds feel valued. The following ideas offer practical ways to enhance classroom inclusivity and connection.

**Presenter:** **Xulkar Muxammedova**  
Khulkar Mukhammedova Eliboyevna is an associate professor at Uzbekistan State World languages University. She is EFL teacher and senior lecturer in BA teacher education program in Uzbekistan.

## Smart Classrooms: Integrating AI to Transform EFL

**Time:** April 20, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** This presentation examines Artificial Intelligence (AI) in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) teaching, focusing on AI-powered tools. These tools facilitate interactive, personalized learning, enhancing engagement and outcomes. The study highlights AI's effectiveness in fostering learner presence, motivation, and interest in language acquisition.

**Presenter:** **Muyassar Abduxamidova**  
Abduxamidova Muyassar, PhD researcher and educator at public institute, explores the impact of AI in learning development. They integrate research into classrooms and present at conference.

**Presenter:** **Sherzod Rajabov**

Rajabov Sherzod, Professor and Vice-Rector at a public institute, seeks to discuss AI's transformative role in education and acquire insights through conference engagement.

## **SAMR Model: Measuring Educational Technology's Impact**

**Time:** April 20, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** This session introduces language educators to the SAMR model (Puentedura, 2013), a framework for evaluating technology's impact on teaching and learning. Participants explore the model's four tiers—substitution, augmentation, modification, and redefinition—and practice applying the model to make informed decisions about classroom technology. Attendees gain practical strategies to integrate technology effectively,

**Presenter:** **William Lewis**  
William Lewis is an English Language Fellow at German Jordanian University in Madaba, Jordan. His research interests include curriculum development, language assessment, and instructional technology.

## **American English Resources for Teachers**

**Time:** April 20, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** During this interactive session, participants will learn about the vast amount of free resources and professional development activities available to them (for free!) from American English, the U.S. State department's English language website for teachers and learners of English. Win a free book!

**Presenter:** **Kim Chilmonik**  
Kim Chilmonik is the Director of the U.S. Embassy Regional English Language Office. She supports cultural and professional exchanges for English learners and teachers in the Gulf region.

## AI-Driven EI : Future of TESOL

**Time:** April 20, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** This session explores how AI-powered emotional intelligence tools can revolutionize TESOL by enhancing teacher effectiveness, student engagement, and language learning experiences. The presenters will demonstrate AI-driven strategies for personalized learning, technology-enhanced assessment, and inclusive classrooms, offering educators practical insights into integrating AI and EI to optimize language instruction.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Premankur Das**  
Dr. Premankur Das, an HR expert, educator, and keynote speaker, blends AI and human development, offering insights on workplace psychology, leadership, and learning to integrate technology with emotional intelligence.

## Improving 21st-Century Skills through AI-PBT

**Time:** April 20, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** AI is transforming education, offering new ways to enhance 21st-century skills in TESOL classrooms. This session explores AI-powered Performance-Based Tasks (PBT) that develop critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and collaboration. Attendees will gain hands-on experience and practical strategies to integrate AI tools into language instruction for engaging, student-centered learning experiences.

**Presenter:** **Rajaa Laghrissi**  
Rajaa LAGHRISSI, PhD candidate at Ibn Tofail University and English Language Teacher at Al Durrah International School, specializes in academic writing, innovative ELT approaches, multilingual education, and developing student leadership.

## Peer Oral Feedback and Students' Composition Revision

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,003

**Abstract:** Anchored on Vygotsky's social-interaction theory, peer oral feedback in second language classrooms has the capacity to revise the students' handwritten composition in grammar, organization, and content. The presenter will show the process through which peer oral feedback improves students' composition in four text types.

**Presenter:** **Neil Satoquia**  
Neil Satoquia, an assistant professor at the Higher Colleges of Technology, holds degrees in AB Linguistics, M.Ed. in ESL, and PhD Language Education, and has taught for 33 years.

## Breaking Communication Barriers Across Borders

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,004

**Abstract:** Cultural differences impact communication in business, education, and daily interactions. This session examines common barriers like language misunderstandings and varying communication norms. Attendees will engage in practical exercises, learning adaptive strategies and cultural awareness techniques to foster effective global connections, reduce miscommunication, and enhance collaboration in multicultural settings.

**Presenter:** **Charos Abdullayeva**  
I am an associate professor at ISFT institute. I have been a teacher at university since 2012

## Rethinking Writing Courses in AI Era

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1-013-14 Hall

**Abstract:** AI has revolutionized second language education, offering unprecedented conveniences to both learners and teachers. In this presentation, I reflect on my journey of integrating AI into my academic writing course, addressing initial resistance to this technology then achieving a balance between AI-assisted and human-centric teaching through changes in course design.

**Presenter:** **Cherine Sinno**  
Cherine is an Academic Writing Instructor at AUS with 15-years' experience in educational leadership and SL teaching. She holds a B.A. from University of Waterloo and an MATESOL from AUS.

## Mastering Simple Present Through Dictogloss and Kahoot

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023

**Abstract:** This session demonstrates how the Dictogloss technique, combined with Kahoot, can enhance listening and grammar instruction, focusing on the simple present tense. The presenters will showcase how technology fosters collaborative learning, improves grammatical accuracy, and increases student engagement in language classrooms.

**Presenter:** **Nawal Alghamdi**  
An English language instructor and PhD candidate in Applied Linguistics. A CELTA-certified teacher trainer and CEA peer reviewer, my research focuses on language and technology, assessment, and professional.

**Presenter:** **Turky Alshaikhi**  
Dr. Alshaikhi is an Associate Professor of English Language and Translation in the Languages and Translation Department. He serves as the Head of the English Language Skills Department.

**AI, EI, O, and YOU**

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** AI, EI, O, and YOU is a research-driven framework that enhances English Language Learner (ELL) education by integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI), Emotional Intelligence (EI), Oral Language Development (O), and student-centered learning (YOU). This approach leverages cutting-edge technology, social-emotional strategies, and interactive learning to accelerate language acquisition and academic success.

**Presenter:** **Jeff Piontek**  
Jeff Piontek, an author and speaker, champions ELL education through technology, personalized learning, and cultural relevance. A former teacher and administrator, he drives global innovation in literacy and language acquisition.

## Integrating AI-Generated Visuals Into ESL Classroom

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** This workshop explores AI-powered visuals—from images to user-generated videos—to enhance ESL teaching. Participants will discover how to create personalized, self-explanatory content for pre-lesson, during-lesson, and post-lesson activities, making learning more engaging and effective.

**Presenter:** **Mahmoud Dahroug**  
Mahmoud Dahroug, English instructor at ADNOC Technical Academy, taught in Egypt, UAE, and USA. Bachelor's in English, teaching diploma and master's in education management. Passionate about language and student impact.

## Artificial Intelligence for Very Young English Learners

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** Instructional potential of artificial intelligence technologies should be examined in a range of contexts and with diverse audience. Drawing on the data from a mixed-method study, the presenters will discuss scenarios for effective and safe application of artificial intelligence tools for developing language skills of very young EFL learners.

**Presenter:** **Albina Kayumova**  
Associate Professor, Department of Romance and Germanic Philology, Kazan Federal University (Russia). Research interests include technology-assisted language teaching/learning, artificial intelligence in language education, and early multilingualism.

**Presenter:** **Gulnara Sadykova**  
PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Romance and Germanic Philology, Kazan Federal University (Russia). Research interests include technology-assisted language teaching/learning, artificial intelligence in language education, early childhood education, and language acquisition.

## **Empowering Autonomous Learning with AI**

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** This session explores how AI empowers student autonomy in language learning. Through personalized, self-paced tools, AI fosters independent learning and provides real-time feedback. Attendees will learn strategies to integrate AI into lessons, addressing challenges like data privacy and ensuring effective, student-centered learning environments.

**Presenter:** **Liliya Tsaturyan**  
I am an experienced English teacher at Russian-Armenian University's Usmunk School, passionate about interactive teaching methodologies. I strive to create engaging, student-centered lessons that foster communication and real-world language use.

## **The Risks of Spotlighting Humor**

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** Although humor is often what attracts learners and teachers to the language classroom, frameworks for exploring humor within that context are mostly lacking. This session considers the less funny side of exploring humor as cultural construct, pragmatic accomplishment, and intercultural competence. The interactive presentation will incorporate discussion and activities.

**Presenter:** **Estela Eaton**  
Estela Eaton resides in Uzbekistan, having served as an English Language Fellow (US Dept. of State), TESOL professor for Webster University, and now Director of English for British Management University.

## **AI Integration in Teaching: Empirical Studies**

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** The empirical study explores the integration of AI tools in English teaching and learning, focusing on case studies from Russian universities and high schools. We examine pedagogical methods, digital leadership methodology, and didactic tools. Findings highlight AI's role in enhancing learner engagement, personalized instruction, and competency development.

**Presenter:** **Boris Penkov**  
Dr. Boris Penkov is engaged in pedagogical and scientific activities, focusing on Digital Leadership and Discourse of UK and US high school, teaching linguistic disciplines, and developing innovative educational methodologies.

**Presenter:** **Lidia Agafonova**  
Dr. Lidia Agafonova, Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences, Associate Professor, Department of English for Professional Communication, Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia.

## **Transforming Language Learning through AI Innovation**

**Time:** April 20, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** The presenters will explore the integration of AI in TESOL, emphasizing personalized learning, technology-enhanced assessment, and inclusive education. This session highlights practical applications of AI-driven tools, fostering engagement, multilingual literacy, and professional development. Attendees will gain insights into AI's role in reshaping English language teaching methodologies for diverse learners.

**Presenter:** **Dr. Premankur Das**  
Dr. Premankur Das, an HR expert, educator, and keynote speaker, blends AI and human development, offering insights on workplace psychology, leadership, and learning to integrate technology with emotional intelligence.

## **Designing Language Tests: Principles of Item Writing**

<b>Time:</b>	April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
<b>Room(s):</b>	W1,003
<b>Abstract:</b>	This session explores effective item writing strategies for grammar assessments to ensure validity, reliability, and fairness. It covers designing test items for different proficiency levels based on international frameworks. Attendees will gain practical insights into evaluating linguistic competence and improving test design for accurate language assessment.
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Shukhratjon Turgunov</b> From Namangan, Uzbekistan 26 y.o Senior teacher at ISFT institute
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Abdurasulova Nilufar</b> Associate Professor at Uzbekistan State World Languages University. She holds a PhD and teaches various modules using dynamic, interactive methods that foster engagement, creativity, and critical thinking among students.

## AI: Grammar & Vocabulary Coach

<b>Time:</b>	April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
<b>Room(s):</b>	W1,004
<b>Abstract:</b>	Any English language learner aims to be fluent in Grammar and Vocabulary, but how can they achieve this? How can learners improve their grammar and what factors should be considered when expanding lexical resources? The presenter will expound on how AI could be the solution.
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Muzaffar Khasanov</b> Muzaffar Khasanov, an educator at Jizzakh Presidential School, holds a Webster University degree and Cambridge certifications. With four years in TESOL, he collaborates with international teachers to enhance student learning.
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Umida Ergasheva</b> Umida Ergasheva, a senior student at the Presidential School, has participated in multiple conferences and developed projects integrating AI technology into the classroom to enhance educational practices

## Integrating AI into MA TESOL Reading Classes

<b>Time:</b>	April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
<b>Room(s):</b>	W1-013-14 Hall
<b>Abstract:</b>	AI is transforming language education by enhancing EFL learners' reading comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking. During the session the participants in the Discussion Group session will be able to explore AI-powered tools for scaffolding comprehension and fostering independent learning through hands-on applications.
<b>Presenter:</b>	<b>Dilafroz Abdumajidova</b> Experienced EFL teacher, international trainer, and textbook author. Vice Rector at Oxus University, Associate Professor at Webster University, specializing in higher education reforms, CPD, and academic quality improvement.

## Motivating Students in the EFL Classroom

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023

**Abstract:** This paper theoretically explores EFL students' motivation in language acquisition. It defines motivation, highlights its significance, and examines methods to inspire it. It distinguishes instrumental vs. integrative and intrinsic vs. extrinsic motivation, analyzes influencing factors, and discusses the application of motivational teaching practices.

**Presenter:** **Mukhlisa Bukharova**

I earned my Bachelor's from Tashkent Pedagogical University, an MA TESOL from Webster University, and an MS Research from Westminster University. As the founder of Emerald LS, I am now an

## Oral Language: The Heart of Learning

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,023A

**Abstract:** Explore the pivotal role of oral language in early childhood education and its impact on academic success. This session will highlight the link between oral language acquisition and academic achievement in multilingual settings, providing practical strategies for language enrichment and intervention, drawing on rigorous research from the UK and beyond.

**Presenter:** **Samina Yasmin**

Samina Yasmin is an accomplished educator with over 17 years of experience, recognized for her dedication to promoting students' independence and learning

## Reducing Fear in English Language Learners

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024

**Abstract:** This interactive workshop equips teachers with practical strategies to help students speak and write English confidently. Through hands-on activities, teachers will experience language anxiety, identify student challenges, and create a plan to measure progress in reducing fear and increasing engagement in language learning.

**Presenter:** **Michelle Beukes**

Michelle Beukes is an assistant principal with over 10 years in education. She is passionate about student growth, and helping students build confidence, think critically, and express themselves effectively.

## Representation of MENA in ELT Textbooks

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,024A

**Abstract:** As no major studies have yet analyzed MENA in ELT textbooks, this discussion's main aim is to bring together teachers, administrators, and researchers to discuss the textbooks and classroom materials that they use in hopes of working toward improved representation of the MENA region and its people in ELT textbooks.

**Presenter:** **Sheila Ameri**  
Sheila is currently serving as a US Fulbright English Teaching Assistant at Bahrain Polytechnic. She is a current PhD student in Multilingual Language Education at The Ohio State University.

## **From Ideas to Impact: Teacherpreneurship in Practice**

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,101

**Abstract:** This workshop explores ways that ESL teachers can apply teacherpreneurship and innovation to perfect their teaching effectiveness, create learning materials, devise educational products and lead change in the classroom and community. The workshop attendees will gain theoretical and practical skills on designing and implementing innovative solutions for creating entrepreneurial products.

**Presenter:** **Lilit Gabrielyan**  
I am an English teacher at a French university in Armenia, dedicated to fostering interactive learning environments, employing innovative teaching methods, and exploring teacherpreneurship to empower students and educators.

## **Listening to Learn: Strategies for Multilingual Learners**

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,102

**Abstract:** As AI advances, strong listening skills become even more crucial for effective communication. This interactive session explores strategies for teaching listening to multilingual learners. We'll discuss best practices that empower students to enhance their listening skills across diverse contexts. Participants will leave with practical, adaptable strategies for any classroom setting.

**Presenter:** **Jill Bruellman**  
Jill Bruellman is Chair and Associate Professor of the English Language Instruction and TESOL programs at the College of Lake County.

## **Effective Use of AI in Academic Writing**

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,105

**Abstract:** This session examines how students and educators can better utilize large language models in postgraduate academic writing. By assessing the strengths and limitations of these tools, attendees will gain insights into guiding students toward effective, ethical AI use whilst also maintaining academic integrity and critical thinking skills.

**Presenter:****Gerard McLaren**

Gerard McLaren holds an MA in TESOL and Applied Linguistics. An EAP instructor at a postgraduate university in Saudi Arabia, he specializes in teaching postgraduate academic reading and writing.

**Translation of Prose Fiction: Points to Ponder**

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W1,106

**Abstract:** This presentation explores whether the inclusion of words that exist in the original language of a prose fiction text when unneeded for translation negatively impacts the language style of the translated version and the acquisition of the target language. In light of the findings, conclusions and recommendations will be highlighted.

**Presenter:****Suhair Al-Alami**

Suhair Al-Alami holds a PhD in English Applied Linguistics from Aston University, United Kingdom. Currently, Al-Alami works as an assistant professor in the Department of General Education at Skyline University College,

**Presenter:****Sara Suleymanova**

Sara Suleymanova holds an MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from Brighton University, United Kingdom. Suleymanova currently works as a lecturer at the University of Dubai.

**Main Aspects of Implementation Intercultural, Interreligious Communication**

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,002

**Abstract:** This presentation examines the main aspects of intercultural communication: such as education, culture, tolerance and interreligious dialogue. The presenter will describe the role of the UNESCO Chair in the Comparative Study of World Religions and Religious Studies. It will share the methodology of communication tools for organizing classes with others.

**Presenter:****Mokhira Abdullayeva**

I'm a docent at the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan. I'm teaching religious study disciplines in English. At the same time I'm a consultant at the Uzbekistan-Germany friendship society.

**Enhancing Language Mastery through Extensive Reading**

**Time:** April 20, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Room(s):** W3,003

**Abstract:** Extensive reading enhances literacy and language skills in EFL learners. This session examines its impact on B2-level students' fluency, vocabulary, and competence. The presenters will highlight extensive readings benefits, such as better comprehension and critical thinking. They will address challenges like

material selection and engagement in language learning.

**Presenter:**

**Sokhiba Begmatova**

I am Begmatova Sokhiba Mustafoyevna , EFL teacher at Uzbekistan State World Languages University. Currently I am working on my PhD thesis and almost at the final stage.

# Poster Sessions

## Day 1 Poster Session 1

**Time:** April 18 from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**Room(s):** Exhibition Foyer

### Enhancing Literacy Through Extensive Reading Practices

**Abstract:** This session explores the crucial role of extensive reading in developing literacy skills among ESL learners. The presenters will share effective strategies for integrating extensive reading into the curriculum, allowing participants to implement these approaches to enhance student engagement and reading proficiency in their classrooms.

**Presenter:** **Dilrabo Tokhirova**  
Dilrabo Muzaffar qizi Tokhirova is a 25-year-old English teaching practitioner and researcher from Uzbekistan, dedicated to enhancing literacy through extensive reading strategies in diverse educational settings.

**Presenter:** **Dilfuzakhon Boltaeva**  
Dilfuzakhon Boltaeva is an instructor at the Uzbekistan State World Language University, holding a TEFL certification. Her passion lies in equipping students with the skills and knowledge to teach English effectively.

### Empowering EFL with Project-Based Learning

**Abstract:** I will explore how project-based learning can transform EFL teaching by integrating cultural elements and digital tools. Attendees will gain actionable strategies for enhancing language skills and student collaboration, and will leave equipped to implement these approaches in their own classrooms.

**Presenter:** **Lilya Khachatryan**  
Lilya Khachatryan, a FLEX alumna with a master's degree in EFL, an experienced English teacher and eTwinning ambassador, integrating project-based learning, cultural exchange, and AI to enhance education.

### New Challenge Transforms Teachers: Teaching Global Competences

**Abstract:** The importance of teaching global competence is characterized by the challenges faced in multicultural classrooms of a new era. Presenters will share practical outcomes of virtual collaboration between universities, focusing on providing tips and suggestions on guiding preservice teachers in the process of organisation of virtual collaboration that enhances global

**Presenter:** **Mekhriniso Rakhmatova**  
Rakhmatova Mekhriniso Mukhsinovna PhD, Associate Professor at Bukhara State University, Uzbekistan.

### AI in Education: Empowering Future Teachers

**Abstract:** AI is transforming the educational process through smarter ways of teaching, automating time-consuming tasks, and customizing learning. The session will cover AI-based tools supporting teachers, engaging learners, and enhancing classroom control. Practical recommendations should guide the teaching staff on how to incorporate AI wisely and at the same time remain

**Presenter:** **Vafo Hayitov**  
Lawyer.

**Presenter:** **Zarifa Yorieva**  
Lecturer at Bukhara State Pedagogical Institute

### **The Peer Factor in a Virtual Classroom**

**Abstract:** Peer review is common practice in English for Academic Purposes (EAP) classes. However, fostering student engagement through peer review is rare. This poster will explore how peer factor in a global, virtual university can enhance both student engagement and quality of the review process.

**Presenter:** **Bushra Parveen**  
Bushra Parveen is a researcher and educator working in the United Arab Emirates for seventeen years. She is also an adjunct online instructor, English at the University of the People.

### **Integrating AI into the Teaching of English**

**Abstract:** Integrating artificial intelligence(AI) into English literature, especially Afro American literature can significantly enhance students' engagement and comprehension. This innovative approach fosters critical thinking and inclusivity, while utilising digital tools for analysis, ultimately enriching the learning experience in Afro American literature. This paper explores the use of technology in teaching Alice

**Presenter:** **Doaa owais**  
Dr. Doaa Talaat Owais holds a PhD in English Literature from Ain Shams University (2007) and has over 28 years of teaching experience at university level in Egypt and UAE. She

### **AI's Impact on Lexicon: Language Instruction Insights**

**Abstract:** This study examines the use of Arabic neologisms in the Arab gaming audience. It analyzes Personal Computer (PC) and console games like Fortnite, Call of Duty, and Minecraft to shed light on the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in introducing, promoting, and establishing Arabized neologisms used in gaming terminology.

**Presenter:** **Dina Hammouri**  
Dr. Dina Mahmoud Hammouri holds a PhD in Linguistics and is an Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Translation. Dr. Hammouri has over nineteen years of experience in teaching.

### **Building Multilingual Literacies for Future TESOL Educators**

**Abstract:** This session emphasizes the changing needs of different learners while analyzing the vital role that multilingual literacies play in TESOL courses. Via a literacy-based approach, the speakers will explore practices which improve language acquisition and provide interactive strategies for teaching students in multilingual situations. Participants will get practical tools that

**Presenter:** **Munojat Ismatova**  
English teacher with 15+ years of experience in teaching for middle- and high-school students in both public and specialized schools in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

### **Engaging and Motivating Students in Language Classrooms**

**Abstract:** Engaging and motivating students are fundamental aspects of effective teaching and learning. In an increasingly diverse and digital educational environment, the traditional methods of instruction often fail to captivate students' attention

and inspire them to reach their full potential.

**Presenter:** **sheeba syed**  
I am working as an assistant professor at majmaah university ksa

### Your Office as a Third Learning Space

**Abstract:** Can your offices become interactive spaces for students that position learning not as a series of tests but experiments? This session explores the notion of third spaces that enhance “adjacent possibilities.” Passersby will discover strategies for curated reading, interactive displays, and AI-personalized curiosities that foster low-stakes exploration outside the classroom.

**Presenter:** **Peter Edwards**  
Peter taught in several countries before landing in the Middle East. He has an MA in literature from Berkeley and a PhD in applied linguistics from Nottingham.

## Day 2 Poster Session 1

**Time:** April 19 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

**Room(s):** Exhibition Foyer

### Enhancing Engagement and Inclusion Through Differentiated Instruction

**Abstract:** This presentation explores the effectiveness of differentiated hands-on, collaborative strategies enhance engagement and inclusion in diverse early childhood classrooms. Using anecdotal records, video analysis, and checklists, the session demonstrates how themed learning centers, action songs, and puzzle-building activities foster an inclusive and supportive environment where all young learners actively participate.

**Presenter:** **Hamda Al Shamsi**  
Hamda Al Shamsi, a dedicated pre-service teacher at Higher Colleges of Technology, deeply passionate about teaching and engaging with young learners, committed to creating dynamic and student-centered classrooms.

### Effective Behavior Management in Early Childhood Education

**Abstract:** Managing student behavior in early childhood settings can be challenging for teachers. This study evaluates developmentally-appropriate behavior management strategies that foster a supportive learning environment. Using a mixed-method approach, the research uncovers effective techniques for success, providing insights into practical strategies that enhance classroom management in early childhood settings.

**Presenter:** **Salma Alameri**  
Salma Alameri is a dedicated early childhood education pre-service teacher at Higher Colleges of Technology; passionate about inquiry-based, play-based, and hands-on learning; committed to continuous professional growth and students' success.

**Presenter:** **Shama Alhajeri**  
Shama Alhajeri, an early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology; passionate about classroom management, student engagement, differentiated instruction, and incorporating Montessori methods in teaching.

### Play-based Learning and Preschoolers's Social Development

**Abstract:** This presentation addresses the importance of play-based learning in early childhood education and the role of play in supporting the development

children's social skills. The presenter will share the findings of a mixed-method study gauging the success of play-based strategies in supporting the development of preschoolers' social skills.

**Presenter:**

**Shaikha Alsenaidi**

Shaikha Alsenaidi is a dedicated early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology; passionate about inquiry-based and hands-on learning; committed to continuous professional development and children's success.

### **Evaluating CROWD Reading Strategies to Enhance Comprehension**

**Abstract:**

This presentation demonstrates how the CROWD reading strategies influence comprehension in early childhood settings. Using a mixed-method approach of observations, assessments, summaries, and teacher interviews, the findings show that CROWD strategies enhance student engagement, text comprehension, and overall literacy development, providing practical insights for teachers in early childhood education.

**Presenter:**

**Ameena Alhosani**

Ameena Al Hosani is a pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology. She is passionate about reading and writing and implementing innovative approaches to support linguistic development in young learners.

**Presenter:**

**Nora Al Marri**

Nora Al Marri is a pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology. Passionate about reading and writing, Nora applies innovative approaches to support young learners' linguistic growth.

### **Traditional Storytelling and Young learners' Engagement**

**Abstract:**

This poster demonstrates how traditional storytelling enhances student engagement in early childhood education. Using observation checklists, reflective journals, and student interviews, findings reveal that movement activities, peer collaboration, and hands-on tasks significantly improve participation, comprehension, and focus, making storytelling an effective strategy for fostering active learning among young learners.

**Presenter:**

**Fatima Alahbabi**

Fatima Alahbabi is an early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology. She is passionate about storytelling for enhanced engagement of learners in early childhood settings.

### **Digital Storytelling for Enhanced Reading Skills**

**Abstract:**

This poster shares a research study that examines how digital storytelling impacts Grade 2 students' reading. Using pre- and post-tests, observations, checklists, and interviews the study finds that digital storytelling improves comprehension and expressive language skills. Participants will gain insights into how technology can engage young learners and boost literacy.

**Presenter:**

**Shaikha Alkaabi**

Shaikha Alkaabi is an early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology. She is interested in exploring how technology can enhance literacy skills in young learners.

### **Digital Storytelling and Reading Fluency**

**Abstract:**

This poster illustrates a study that investigates the impact of digital storytelling on Grade 4 students' reading fluency and comprehension. Using assessments, observations, and interviews, results show increased engagement and improved reading skills, especially among lower-level readers, demonstrating digital storytelling as an effective tool for fostering motivation and literacy development.

**Presenter:****Shamma Alkaabi**

Shamma is an enthusiastic pre-service teacher at Higher Colleges of Technology, passionate about integrating digital storytelling into literacy instruction to enhance student engagement, comprehension, and reading fluency in the early years.

**Examining Effective Classroom Strategies for Improved Engagement****Abstract:**

This poster session shares the findings of an action research study that investigated the impact of using movement-based activities, group collaboration, and interactive storytelling on young learners' engagement. Through observations, surveys, and teacher reflections, findings show that those strategies enhance participation, motivation, and academic success, offering practical recommendations for educators.

**Presenter:****Shahad Almansoori**

Shahad Almansoori is an enthusiastic early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology, passionate about deploying student-centered strategies that promote developmentally-appropriate environments for young learners.

**Optimizing Learning Environments in Early Childhood Education****Abstract:**

This poster session focuses on how classroom design, layout, and interactive activities influence student engagement, behavior, and holistic child development. The mixed-methods study explores the impact of early childhood classroom environments on enhancing student engagement, correct behavior, and development. Participants will get insights into effective strategies and evidence-based outcomes.

**Presenter:****Mahra Alhammadi**

Mahra Alhammadi is an enthusiastic early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology, passionate about creating developmentally-appropriate environments, and keen on sharing experience with educators in the field.

**Presenter:****Shahad Ahababi Al Ahababi**

Shahad Ahababi is a highly motivated early childhood pre-service teacher at the Higher Colleges of Technology, Keen on promoting developmentally-appropriate learning environments, and passionate about early childhood education.

**Day 2 Poster Session 2****Time:**

April 19 from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM

**Room(s):**

Exhibition Foyer

**AI Literacy and Authenticity in Student Writing****Abstract:**

The rise of generative AI tools has raised concerns about authenticity in student writing, particularly in high-stakes contexts like college admissions essays. This study examines an AI literacy intervention aimed at helping students critically engage with these tools to maintain their unique voice. Findings provide insights into ethical AI use.

**Presenter:****Neslihan Bilikozen**

Dr. Neslihan Bilikozen is an Assistant Professor at the American University of Sharjah, UAE. She has received her doctorate degree from the University of Exeter, UK.

**Presenter:****Thuraya Sulaiman**

I am a graduate student in the MA TESOL program at the American University of Sharjah, UAE. I am also a graduate research and teaching assistant.

### **Garden-Path Sentence Processing by L2 Speakers**

**Abstract:** This study investigates the processing of garden-path sentences by Arabic-speaking ESL speakers, comparing their performance to native English speakers. Using a self-paced reading paradigm, participants processed sentences of varying syntactic complexity and semantic plausibility. Results revealed that Arabic ESL speakers relied on semantic cues, at the expense of syntactic accuracy.

**Presenter:** **Mona Majdalawieh**  
Mona Majdalawieh is a graduate student from the American University of Sharjah. Her research interests include semantics, syntax, and psycholinguistics.

### **AI and Authenticity in High-Stakes Student Writing**

**Abstract:** This study examines AI use in college admissions essays, where authenticity is crucial. It evaluates a structured intervention that helps students engage critically with AI, using it for refinement rather than replacement. Results suggest that this approach supports responsible AI integration while preserving students' voice, authorship, and authenticity in writing.

**Presenter:** **Thuraya Sulaiman**  
Thuraya Sulaiman is an MA TESOL student at the American University of Sharjah and a graduate research and teaching assistant. She also holds an MA in Sociology from Sorbonne University.

### **Collaborative Strategic Reading for ESL Comprehension Improvement**

**Abstract:** Reading comprehension remains challenging for ESL learners in academic settings. This study explores the effectiveness of Collaborative Strategic Reading (CSR) in enhancing comprehension among university students. The presenters will discuss its implementation, impact on engagement, cultural considerations, and the role of collaborative learning in developing comprehension and critical thinking skills.

**Presenter:** **Shaymaa Abouelasaad**  
Shaymaa Abouelasaad is a graduate student and research assistant in the MA TESOL program at the American University of Sharjah. Her research interests include bilingual education, sociolinguistics, and vocabulary acquisition.

### **Effectiveness of Virtual Reality in Vocabulary Acquisition**

**Abstract:** This study examines the effectiveness of immersive virtual reality (VR) in foreign language vocabulary acquisition. Using the Mondly VR app, 12 participants learned Czech vocabulary. Results indicate that VR enhanced both immediate and long-term retention, demonstrating its potential to improve language comprehension through immersive, AI-guided lessons in a virtual environment.

**Presenter:** **Ghalia Alkhamees**  
Ghalia Alkhamees is an MA TESOL graduate student at the American University of Sharjah. Her research interests focus on the use of technology in language acquisition and teaching.

### **TBLT in L2 Vocabulary in SCMC and F2F**

**Abstract:** This study investigated the impact of Task-Based Language Teaching (TBLT) on L2 vocabulary development among 80 L1 Arabic-speaking high school students in the UAE, comparing the effects of TBLT in synchronous computer-mediated communication (SCMC) and face-to-face (FTF) environments. It aimed to explore how these different modalities influenced L2 vocabulary acquisition.

**Presenter:** **Mustafa Abu-Nar**  
Mustafa Abu-Nar is an MA TESOL student and a GRA at AUS. His research interests include second language acquisition (SLA), vocabulary development, task-based language teaching (TBLT), and bilingual education.

### **Influence of L1 on English Collocational Production**

**Abstract:** This study investigated the influence of first language (L1) on Arab university students' English collocational production. It compared students from English as a Foreign Language (EFL) and English as a Lingua Franca (ELF) contexts. Findings revealed that ELF learners outperformed EFL learners, particularly with non-congruent collocations, indicating reduced L1 interference.

**Presenter:** **Hawraa Al-Saleh**  
Hawraa Alsaleh is pursuing an MA in TESOL at AUS and is an English Department Head with 12 years of teaching experience.

### **Impact of Written Praise on L2 Writing**

**Abstract:** This study investigates the effects of performance-focused praise on second language (L2) writing performance, L2 writing motivation and grit. The study provides implications for the use of praise as a pedagogical tool when providing feedback on L2 writing and the ways in which praise may impact student performance.

**Presenter:** **Vighnesh Prasad**  
Vighnesh Prasad is an MA TESOL candidate at AUS and a graduate research and teaching assistant. Research interests include SLA, individual differences in language learning and teaching, and instructional development.

## **Day 3 Poster Session 1**

**Time:** April 20 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

**Room(s):** Exhibition Foyer

### **Evaluation of Administrator and Teacher Perspectives on Intercultural Competence**

**Abstract:** This thesis evaluates intercultural competence in UAE schools, exploring educators' perceptions and the efficacy of training programs in Sharjah and Ajman. The aim is to enhance educational practices by identifying and addressing training gaps.

**Presenter:** **Aisha Alowais**  
This thesis evaluates UAE teachers' and administrators' perspectives on intercultural competence, aiming to enhance training programs across schools in Sharjah and Ajman.

### **Reviving Values Pedagogy in Language Education**

**Abstract:** With ongoing conflicts worldwide, from the Russia-Ukraine war to the Israel-Palestine crisis, the number of war refugees is rapidly increasing. These displaced individuals—families, children, and educators—seek safety and a sense of belonging in new communities. Among the many challenges they face, language barriers hinder their ability to integrate, access education,

**Presenter:** **Sakineh Tashakori**  
Sakineh Tashakori is a PhD candidate at the University of Newcastle, Australia, researching philosophy of education, ELT, and holistic learning. Her work explores qualitative research and policy analysis in education.

## Study of Similes in Naguib Mahfouz Corpus

**Abstract:** The presenter will introduce a methodology of comparing similes in English and Arabic using specific tools in Sketch Engine. The contrast is based on framework of Briden's perspective of predicative and symmetrical comparisons using Naguib Mahfouz Corpus. The presenter compiled this one million words corpus using Naguib Mahfouz's work.

**Presenter:** **Haifa Alzaabi**  
Haifa Obaid Alzabi, English language teacher, and PhD student at University of Sharjah.

## Integrating AI into the Teaching of English

**Abstract:** Integrating artificial intelligence(AI) into English literature, especially Afro American literature can significantly enhance students' engagement and comprehension. This innovative approach fosters critical thinking and inclusivity, while utilizing digital tools for analysis, ultimately enriching the learning experience in Afro American literature. This paper explores the use of technology in teaching Alice

**Presenter:** **Doaa owais**  
Dr. Doaa Talaat Owais holds a PhD in English Literature from Ain Shams University (2007) and has over 28 years of teaching experience at university level in Egypt and UAE. She