

E-Teacher Scholarship Program

Critical Thinking in the English as a Foreign Language Curriculum

OFFERED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, LINGUISTICS DEPT./AMERICAN ENGLISH INSTITUTE

The Office of English Language Programs of the U.S. State Department is offering an online teacher training course on “Critical Thinking in the EFL Curriculum” for eligible candidates. The course will introduce the most recent English language teaching methods and techniques, offer the opportunity to engage in an innovative distance-learning program that employs the latest in modern technology, and provide direct access to U.S. experts with whom participants might not normally have the opportunity to interact.

Course Description

The goal of this course is to deepen participants' understanding of the theory and applied use of Critical Thinking (CT) principles and practices in the English as a Foreign Language (EFL) classroom by engaging in the following activities:

- 1) Reading and discussing professional information and articles to develop an understanding of CT theory and practice and its relationship to current topics in language pedagogy,
- 2) Identifying, evaluating, and applying materials and techniques to enhance CT practices in the classroom,
- 3) Interacting with colleagues regionally and internationally who share an interest in stimulating CT in their EFL classes,
- 4) Creating teaching plans that demonstrate understanding of course topics, and
- 5) Adapting and enhancing existing materials and techniques so they are more appropriate and effective CT tools in each participant's specific teaching setting.

Requirements

Candidates should be highly motivated teachers, teacher trainers or ministry officials who are both dedicated to their own professional development and willing to share their knowledge with colleagues. They should be able to do academic work at a U.S. university (an advanced level of reading and writing, roughly equivalent to a TOEFL score of 525) and understand technical terms in English relating to computers and the Internet. Candidates should also have regular access to the Internet, be able to navigate in Windows and create a Word document, be familiar with the Internet and web browsers, and be able to type in English well enough to perform on-line tasks in real-time and to submit written assignments in a timely manner.

***Candidates will be nominated by American embassies and selected in a competitive process.
Interested candidates should contact the Regional English Language Officer or Cultural Affairs
Officer at the nearest American embassy.***
