



IUP Spring Methodology Conference on Foreign Language Teaching

Hadley Union Building

IUP Campus

April 25, 2025

8:00 - 8:30: Registration and coffee

8:45 - 9:00: Welcome/Remarks

9:00 - 10:00 KEYNOTE PLENARY

Ohio Room

Student Agency: Empowering Our Diverse Learners



Leslie Grahn

*Leslie Grahn has twenty-seven years of language teaching experience at the middle and high school levels and twelve years of experience at the central office level, most recently as Coordinator of World Languages for the Howard County Public School System in Maryland. Leslie has led both curriculum and assessment development teams and is a frequent presenter at state, regional, and national conferences, specializing in best practices. She curates and creates resources to support language teaching and learning and shares them through her website (www.grahnforlang.com) and on Pinterest ([grahnforlang](https://www.pinterest.com/grahnforlang)). Leslie is the co-author of *The Keys to Strategies for Language Instruction* and has served on the boards of NECTFL, NADSFL and ACTFL.*

Engaging language learners in a post-COVID world has been very challenging for many educators. This keynote features the role student agency plays in educators' current practice and encourages them to set goals for increasing the level of student voice, choice, and ownership in the classroom. Focus will be placed on learner-centered approaches where students actively participate in the shaping of classroom learning experiences by contributing ideas for relevant, interest-based, and meaningful ways they can demonstrate their learning.

10:00 - 10:30 Coffee/Networking Break

10:30 - 11:30 Keynote Workshop

Susquehanna Room

Engaging Diverse Learners Through Choice

Leslie Grahn

Building upon the keynote presentation, this session will zoom in on how choice provides agency to learners. Participants will analyze classroom examples of choice tasks and will be given time to design their own tasks focused on authentic resources and language skills with the goal of enhancing engagement of diverse students in their classrooms through student choice.

Monongahela Room

"I can do it!" Using student personal goal-setting with IPAs

Kathleen Foster

Bethel Park School District

IPAs are known as an assessment tool for learning in a proficiency-based classroom. This session will showcase how student goal-setting works with IPAs in a WL classroom and will explore how to implement IPA strategies in a WL classroom. Templates will be provided for you to transfer this to your own classroom for easy implementation.

Allegheny Room

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy in Foreign Language Instruction

Sherri Korpella

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Numerous studies engage culturally responsive pedagogy (CRP) in various disciplines, but few in the context of foreign language education. This session opens discussion of how CRP might be operationalized in racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse foreign language classrooms, and hopes to further conversation for growth in local and global citizenry.

Ohio Room

11:45 - 12:45 Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 Session 2
Susquehanna Room

Standards Based Grading Ideology and Application in the World Language Classroom

Brynn Wingard

Larry A. Ryle High School

As districts transition to Standards-Based Grading, language teachers must evaluate students using a system that doesn't seamlessly combine with ACTFL standards. Through study of guiding SBG principles, attendees will evaluate equitable practices, and apply helpful takeaways from the ideology behind SBG, whether or not it is used in their district

Monongahela Room

Animation, Comics, and Podcasts for World Language Classroom

Junko Yamamoto

Slippery Rock University

Technology is ever present in the World Language Classroom and there are always new technologies being developed. Attendees will learn how students can create podcasts, comic strips, and animation using various technology tools and discuss how digital production tools can be used in their classrooms and explore options for Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced Speakers.

Allegheny Room

Enhancing Cultural and Emotional Intelligence in Language Classrooms

T.R Richardson

Richardson International

Language teachers can better identify students' emotions, motivations, and cultural biases by cultivating emotional and cultural intelligence. Learn strategies to create culturally inclusive classrooms, enhance interpersonal communication, and develop students' communicative competence to honor cultural diversity and improve teacher-student rapport.

2:15 - 3:15 Session 3
Susquehanna Room

Gaming your way into community engagement and impact

Silvina Orsatti

University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

Educators around the globe are working to bring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to their classrooms. This session showcases a course in which students familiarize themselves with the SDGs, interact with others in the Hispanic world and take action in the local community by organizing their own events to support the goals.

Monongahela Room

Integrating Technology in Language Learning: Enhancing Engagement and Achievement in the 21st Century Classroom

Ragaa Shenouda

DLIFLC

The internet in the 21st century has revolutionized communication across the globe. Attendees will learn how to integrate technology in language learning, starting with an overview of key digital tools and resources, including padlet, bookwidgets, Google Earth, etc. Participants will leave with practical strategies for incorporating these tools into lesson plans through hands on activities.

Allegheny Room

The Do's & Don'ts of Authentic Resources

Michael Bogdan

Pennsylvania State Education Association, (PSEA)

You found a great authentic resource! Now what? And is it the right one? Discover best practices for selecting and integrating these materials as well as pitfalls to avoid. Enhance student engagement, language acquisition, and cultural awareness through comprehension and analytical tasks based on target language oral and visual texts.

