



CENTRE FOR EAST EUROPEAN LANGUAGE BASED AREA STUDIES

UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies
Gower Street
London WC1E 6BT

Professional Development: Teaching Slavonic Languages in Universities

Madingley Hall, Cambridge, 22-23 March

CEELBAS invites applications by post-graduate students at a **CEELBAS network*** university for a two-day Residential Training weekend, which will be held at Madingley Hall, Cambridge, on 22-23 March 2013. The training weekend will focus on introducing post-graduate students to the challenges of teaching Slavonic Languages at HE level.

This workshop is aimed not at those who see themselves as future professional language teachers, but at *all post graduates in Slavonic Studies who will be seeking work in the HE sector*. Applicants for jobs in Departments of Slavonic Studies and equivalent, in the UK or abroad, are invariably expected to be able to teach language at undergraduate level. The interview process will often expect you to demonstrate experience of, or training in, language teaching; and your first few months in your new job may well demand that you teach intensive grammar, translation, etc. This workshop will enable you to think productively about how to meet that challenge.

The programme has been designed to combine a series of theoretical talks (delivered by a panel of international experts on language teaching at University level), addressing broad issues relating to language teaching and learning, together with hands-on workshops. The workshops will lead to the co-creation and co-presentation of language modules and/or classes at the end of the weekend. Each workshop will be introduced by an expert and informed guidance will be provided at all stages of the training weekend.

No prior knowledge of pedagogical research or teaching experience are required; the programme has been designed to introduce students to teaching methodology, and to help with the design of courses, and the management of the language-learning classroom. The atmosphere will be informal and supportive.

Costs for the two-day residential course (including accommodation and meals) will be covered by CEELBAS, and a subsidy for travel will be available.

Application guidelines:

Post-graduate students who wish to apply for a place on the workshop should e-mail the CEELBAS Administrator (ceelbas@ssees.ucl.ac.uk), attaching a brief cv detailing what they are doing at the moment, which Slavonic languages they know (and to what level of competence) and why they feel they would benefit from the workshop.

Application deadline: Monday 21st January 2013.

For all queries about the workshop, please e-mail ceelbas@ssees.ucl.ac.uk

* **CEELBAS network universities:** Bath, Birmingham, Cambridge, Kent, Manchester, Oxford, Sheffield, Warwick and SOAS and UCL

CEELBAS is an inter-university partnership of UCL, the universities of Bath, Birmingham, Cambridge, Kent, Manchester, Oxford, Sheffield and Warwick, and SOAS University of London.



WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Friday 22 March

9:15-9.40	<p>Welcome and brief introduction to the day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emma Widdis, Cambridge <p>Tea/coffee</p>
9:40-11:15	<p>Panel: Language teaching and learning in challenging and changing times</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jocelyn Wyburd, Cambridge (Chair): Setting the context of language teaching in the UK; • Patricia Chaput, Harvard: Language teaching as problem solving; • Rebecca Reich, Cambridge: Language teaching and learning: An early-career perspective.
11:15-11:30	Tea/coffee
11:30-13:00	<p>Theory into practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marta Jenkala, Cambridge /UCL: Managing the HE language classroom - practical issues; • Luděk Knittl, Sheffield: Digital technologies in language learning and teaching; • Workshop session.
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:45	<p>Aspects of effective language teaching and learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natasha Franklin, Cambridge: The rôle of translation in Slavonic language teaching and learning; • Vera Tsareva-Brauner, Cambridge: The use of audio-visual technology in language teaching and learning; • Workshop session.
15:45-16:00	Tea/coffee
16:00-17:15	<p>Teaching the grammar of Slavonic languages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elena Filimonova, Cambridge: Introduction; • Workshop session.
17:15-17:30	<p>Preparation of the lesson-planning task</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Pleshakova, Oxford/UCL: Introduction; • Participants divide into groups.
17:30-19:00	Groups work on the lesson-planning task independently.
19:00-20:30	Dinner at Madingley Hall.
20:30	Groups continue to work on the lesson-planning task independently.

Saturday 23 March

8:00-9:00	Breakfast
9:00-10:00	Groups finish preparing their presentations independently.
10:00-11:30	Presentation of lesson plans First set of groups.
11:30-11:45	Coffee/tea
11:45-13:15	Presentation of lesson plans Second set of groups.
13:15-14:15	Lunch
14:15-15:30	Round table forum <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All plenary and session speakers: Observations on the outcomes of the workshops and the language-planning task presentations;• An open session inviting questions on expectations of new entrants to academic jobs, issues in language teaching in HE, issues of changing expectations of/by students in the new fee charging regime;• Simon Franklin: Concluding remarks, with focus on issues relating to the teaching and learning of Slavonic languages in UK universities, preparedness for applications and interviews for jobs in academia;• Questions and answers.
15:30	End of residential training workshop

Workshop speakers:

Professor Patricia Chaput, Professor of the Practice of Slavic Languages, Harvard University;

Dr Elena Filimonova, Affiliate Lecturer in Russian, University of Cambridge;

Mrs Natasha Franklin, Senior Language Teaching Officer, Slavonic Department, University of Cambridge;

Professor Simon Franklin, Department of Slavonic Studies, University of Cambridge;

Ms Marta Jenkala, Lecturer in Ukrainian, University of Cambridge / Senior Teaching Fellow in Ukrainian, UCL SSEES;

Mr Luděk Knittl, University Tutor in Czech, University of Sheffield;

Dr Anna Pleshakova, Director for Language Training, Russian and East European Studies, University of Oxford / Teaching Fellow in Russian, UCL SSEES;

Dr Rebecca Reich, Lecturer in Russian Literature and Culture, University of Cambridge;

Ms Vera Tsareva-Brauner, Affiliate Lecturer in Russian, University of Cambridge, Coordinator for Russian Language Programmes at Cambridge University Language Programmes;

Dr Emma Widdis, Reader in Russian Studies, Head of Slavonic Department, University of Cambridge;

Ms Jocelyn Wyburd, Director, Language Centre, University of Cambridge.

Groups of workshop participants present their lesson plans



Belarusian and Russian



Czech and Polish



Russian



Russian



Serbian/Croatian



Ukrainian

Feedback from workshop participants

- (I liked) the diversity of the workshop's programme, addressing both theoretical and practical challenges of teaching. The speakers were excellent, offering unique insights based on their personal experience. I also thought that group work was very well planned and allowed immediate activation of knowledge we gained in the earlier part of the workshop.
- It was incredibly useful to receive advice and tips from language teachers with lots of experience. For example, I never would've thought to spend time in class explaining how to use a dictionary, even though I struggled to get to grips with this myself when I first started learning Russian.
- I found the group work to be particularly useful. I also appreciated the informal nature of the workshop, which enabled easy access to experts in the field and I was able to gain useful advice from them.
- What I found particularly useful were the practical demonstrations of how particular methodologies can be utilised in a classroom context. They provided a set of "solutions" to the actual teaching dilemmas and constituted a great illustration of teaching praxis.
- Practical advice from Prof. Chaput was interesting and very thought-provoking, and conversations with other participants and lecturers during tea-breaks were very stimulating.
- I found this workshop both thought-provoking and enjoyable. I very much enjoyed meeting speakers of Slavonic languages other than Russian and all the workshop speakers were approachable and seemed more than willing to share their knowledge.
- Excellent initiative, also in terms of meeting up with people who work in similar fields, which provides a feeling of a community. It allows seeing a larger framework for one's project.
- It was a great opportunity to meet other PhD students. It has actually been quite helpful for my research!
- I was inspired by the presentations on technology and the use of AV; it would've been good to have some "hands on" practice and/or attempt to create some web-based materials ourselves.
- I am extremely grateful for the opportunity of participating in the workshop. It not only equipped me with teaching knowledge, but it also opened my eyes to the problematic areas on which I should particularly focus in my professional teaching development. It also gave me an opportunity to confront my ideas and discuss problems which, as it turns out, other Slavists share as well. It provided a great "base" of inspiration for developing teaching skills.
- The workshop was really useful. Thank you!