

❖ ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES OF THE LECTURERS OF SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Here is a list of the events that our lecturers participated so far during this academic year:

Name of the Lecturer	Academic Event	Date of the Event	Description of the Event	Type of Participation
Yasin ACAR	Cambridge Days Turkey 2021	04.02.2021-05.02.2021	Webinar	Listener
Yasin ACAR	Living in the End Times Programme: Utopian and Dystopian Representations of Pandemics in Fiction, Film and Culture	12.01.2021	Online Conference (Kapadokya University)	Listener
Didar Sevde ÜLKER	Cambridge Days Turkey 2021	04.02.2021-05.02.2021	Webinar	Listener
Sanaz Moazzezi Fardi MOGHADNAM	Cambridge Days Turkey 2021	04.02.2021-05.02.2021	Webinar	Listener
Elif Esra KIRDAL	Cambridge Days Turkey 2021	04.02.2021-05.02.2021	Webinar	Listener
Seda YILMAZTÜRK	Teacher Development Certificate Course by International Language Campuses, Education First	10.02.2021 – cont.	Training Program	Participant
Beyzanur EKŞİ	The HKCPD Hub (Hong Kong Continuing Professional Development Hub) Virtual International Conference 2021 for University English Teachers	08.01.2021-10.01.2021	Conference (Online)	Listener
Beyzanur EKŞİ	Qatar University 5th Annual International - Virtual - Conference On English Language Teaching	07.11.2020-08.11.2020	Conference (Online)	Listener

Here is another list of our lecturers who participated in online teaching programs, successfully completed the training and received certificates:

Names of the Lecturers	Name of the Certificate Program	Organizer of the Certificate Program
Amina BENKHELIFA Zeynep Eda GÜLLER	Language as A Medium for Teaching and Learning	The Open University
Aslıhan DEMİR Eda OCAK Enes DURAN Farnaz SABETİ Gizem UZUNHAN Hamdi A. S. JARADA Utku TÖNEL	Learning to Teach: Becoming A Reflective Practitioner	The Open University
Beyzanur EKŞİ	Evaluating School Classroom Discussion	The Open University
Didar Sevde ÜLKER	Learning to Teach: An Introduction to Classroom Research	The Open University
Ecem ARISOY	What is Language? An Applied Linguistic Perspective	The Open University
Helin GÖKTAŞ	To Teach or Not to Teach Pronunciation Online	International Training Institute
Mahri BABAGULYYEVA	Take Your Teaching Online	The Open University
Sanaz Moazzezi Fardi MOGHADNAM	Engaging With Educational Research	The Open University
Tirkish BAYMYRADOV	English Grammar in Context	The Open University
Yasin ACAR	Teaching Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers	Cambridge English
Yasin ACAR	Help your students improve their writing skills with Write & Improve	Cambridge English

❖ **Our lecturers pursue their academic careers diligently. Halilcan KOÇAK, the Coordinator of Material Development Unit of the School of Foreign Languages, started his PhD in English Language and Literature in Konya Selçuk University this year.**

❖ **IN-SERVICE TRAINING SESSION ON ONLINE TEACHING AND THE EFFECTIVE USE OF TEACHING RESOURCES**

The event titled “In-service training Session on Online Teaching and the Effective Use of Teaching Resources”, organized by the Professional Development Unit, was held with the participation of teaching staff at the School of Foreign Languages. The event took place online via Zoom on February 19, 2021 between 11:00-12:00.

UES
United Education Services

A CPD workshop

İSTANBUL
GELİŞİM
ÜNİVERSİTESİ

Teaching Together

Online Teaching &
Effective Use of Materials

Amir Hamidi
amir.hamidi@eltturkey.com

Richmond | macmillan education | CR1

In the training session, trainer Amir Hamidi shared some instructional strategies to make teaching materials more effective and engaging for learners. In his talk, he touched upon the followings;

- the types of learners that teachers might encounter in the class
- correction & wait time
- customized activities based on Multiple Intelligence (Howard Gardner)
- delayed feedback
- some interactive activities, such as the what-is-this moment, disappearing sentences, kim's game, dice will tell, crazy statements, that can't be true because, why-why-why chain.


Zoom Meeting

You are viewing Amir Hamid's screen

Ardeniz Özenc Beyzanur Ekşi Esra Alev

The *what-is-this* moment

- Create suspense
- Don't pull tooth
- Reveal, and make it dramatic
- Demonstrate clearly



Windows'u Etkinleştir

Windows'u etkinleştirmek için Ayarlar'a gidin

Leave

Unmute Stop Video Participants Chat Share Screen Record Reactions


Zoom Meeting

Aslihan Demir Amir Hamid Hamid A.S. J. SERCAN DOĞU NIGAR AEDU... Amir Attari

UES

Unlimited Educational Services®

Customized Activities based on MI



Visual-Spatial Linguistic-Verbal Interpersonal Intrapersonal

Logical-Mathematical Musical Bodily-Kinesthetic Naturalistic

Windows'u Etkinleştir

Windows'u etkinleştirmek için Ayarlar'a gidin

Zoom Meeting

You are viewing Amir Hamidi's screen

View Options

Aslihan Demir Amir Hamidi Hamidi A.S. J... SERCAN DO... NIGAR ABDU... Amir Attari

Disappearing Sentences

We of the own we to see cameras. most not

Windows'u Etkinleştir
Windows'u etkinleştirmek için Ayarlar'a gidin.

Unmute Stop Video Participants Chat Share Screen Record Reactions Leave

Zoom Meeting

Aslihan Demir Amir Hamidi Hamidi A.S. J... SERCAN DO... NIGAR ABDU... Amir Attari

THAT CAN'T BE TRUE BECAUSE...

- Do you use a computer?
- What kind of computer do you use (a PC, a laptop, a netbook)?
- What do you use it for?
- Does it have all the features in the picture in C?
- Are you happy with it, or would you like a new one? Why?

What if I told you,
you're wrong.

Windows'u Etkinleştir
Windows'u etkinleştirmek için Ayarlar'a gidin.

❖ **We encourage our lecturers to partake in academic events and improve themselves as competent academicians. Below, you can find a list of academic events in the coming months:**

Event Name	Details	Date
“EAP and Critical Thinking: Building readiness for academic rigor” by Christina Cavage	Pearson English Webinar	03/03/ 2021- 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm GMT
“How to 'Grammar' online” by Radmila Popovic	IATEFL Webinar	06/03/2021 - 15:00 UK time
“What comes after coaching?” by Timothy Phillips	SIG Webinar Business English	07/03/2021 - 15:00 UK time
“Teaching students with visual impairments” by Aysen Cem-Deger	SIG Webinar Inclusive Practices & SEN	19/03/2021 - 14:00 UK time
Online festival of ideas: New approaches for new realities	SIG Webinar Leadership & Management	20/03/2021 - 09:00 UK time
“Best practices in a digital age: Artificial Intelligence and language assessment” by Arum Perwitasari	SIG Webinar Testing, Evaluation & Assessment	25/03/2021 - 17:00 UK time
2021 The International Conference on Linguistics, Literature, Arts, Social Science & Humanities	ICLLASH Online/Virtual Conference	20/03/2021
Online Conference on Interdisciplinary Gender Studies: Issues, Facts and Approaches	Altinbas University Gender and Women's Studies Research and Application Center (TOKAMER)	11/03/2021 – 12/03/2021
ICHSS Melbourne, Australia - International Conference on Humanities & Social Sciences	ICHSS Conference	30/03/2021
Dublin Conference on LGBTQI+ Refugees and Asylum Seekers	Dublin City University	09/04/2021 – 10/04/2021
Somewhere in Between: Borders and Borderlands	London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research	24/04/2021 – 25/04/2021
35th İSTANBUL International Conference on “Literature, Languages, Humanities and Social Sciences” (İLLHSS-21)	HSSMR.ORG	26/04/2021 – 28/04/2021
40th International American Studies Conference: Movement and Mobility in America	The American Studies Association of Turkey - Journal of American Studies of Turkey	28/06/2021 – 29/06/2021

❖ We asked some questions to Seda YILMAZTÜRK, the coordinator of Assessment and Evaluation Unit of the School of Foreign Languages, about the process of testing and evaluation.



What are the main duties of the Testing Unit?

Seda YILMAZTÜRK: The Assessment and Evaluation Unit (Testing Department) is responsible for the following:

- Preparing the test specifications in accordance with the outcomes of the curriculum
- Informing students and teachers about the exam format by preparing sample questions and the instructions on the school website
- Preparing quizzes, progress tests, and proficiency exams and answer keys
- Organizing the editing process of quizzes and progress tests, and making necessary adjustments to the questions when required
- Organizing the necessary preparations before quizzes and progress tests
- Conducting quizzes, progress tests and General Evaluation Tests
- Analysing the results of the quizzes and progress tests
- Reviewing students' quizzes, portfolios, progress tests and any other exams in case of a complaint
- Tracking learner achievement in order to give feedback to the teachers and to the Vice Principals
- Organizing Standardization Workshops for Speaking and Writing grading before Progress Tests since both lessons are evaluated by two raters.

Which steps are followed in the evaluation process?

Seda YILMAZTÜRK: The tests prepared for Listening, Reading, Main Course, and Integrated Skills subjects do not generally require subjective evaluation. There is an answer key and they are evaluated without any interpretation and subjective evaluation. However, Speaking and Writing tests are different and require subjective evaluation. To be able to make it more reliable, scales developed by Assessment and Evaluation Unit are used. Analytic Scoring is used for the assessment of Writing and Speaking. This allows separate reporting of performance in each criterion to provide statistical data on monitoring progress. Raters are assigned for 1st and 2nd checks. It is essential for the integrity of the scoring process that raters give their scores independently and by referring to scale criteria, without reference to scores given by other raters. Once the both checks are completed, first and second check scores are compared for discrepancy. Anything beyond the maximum discrepancy limit requires a 3rd check. In this case, both raters are asked to reach a consensus on a final score, by discussing the criteria one by one.

What are the biggest challenges in online assessment?

Seda YILMAZTÜRK: In my opinion, the biggest challenge is the adaptation to the new online assessment process for Assessment and Evaluation Unit, instructors, and learners as well. Nearly the whole examination process in preparatory school was conducted on-site before. Therefore, using web tools to carry out examination procedure was something new and challenging. Although carrying everything from on-site and face-to-face to a digital platform seemed demanding and complicated, practice made it perfect. We received trainings regarding using digital tools and got in touch with Distance Learning Unit whenever we had problems. Now, we can say that we are almost expert at using digital tools to prepare questions, working with excel lists, assigning tasks and activities on learning management system.

- ❖ A two-week long Winter School program was held for students who weren't able to complete their studies in the previous semesters. The Winter School allowed students to take the exams that they had missed and helped them to get motivated about the coming semester.



❖ Finally, we asked some of our students in the English Preparatory Program what they think about online education. Here are their answers:

The biggest advantage of an online course is that your classroom and instructor (theoretically) are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Your only excuse for missing class is not getting online! Otherwise, everything is available to you.

GÜLSÜM İŞLEK

You can get announcements, access notes, review assignments, take practice quizzes, discuss questions, chat with other students and study any time you want. Other than certain last dates, you make your own schedule for completing the requirements of the course. You can study any time you want. You can study with whoever you want. You can wear anything you want. Online courses give you the flexibility to spend time with work, family, friends or any other activity you like. For example, learning how to get information from the Internet opens up a world of possibilities for your personal and professional life. You can find jobs online, get college applications online, make travel plans online, get dealer costs for cars online, compare shops online, access great works of art and literature online, meet people from around the world online, follow sports and movies online, and so on. The possibilities are practically endless.

NEDİM EMEKTAŞ

Training online allows you to stay away from the epidemic and its frightening effects. I wonder if the virus has passed to me from the public transportation we use, if I take the metro, will I come side by side with someone who has corona? These questions can make people worry a lot, but when we spend time in isolation at home, people's worries disappear for a while. In my opinion we should stay at home until the end of pandemic.

SAMET DOĞAN

