Project description

The purpose of this project was to develop teaching materials (PowerPoint presentations and recorded online tutoring sessions using Zoom) and find new effective strategies in online language teaching using video call software (Skype, Zoom, etc.).

This project focuses on using video call software as an academic tool in the IELTS Speaking, TOEFL Speaking, and Transition to Business online 50-minute tutoring sessions. Screen sharing in Skype or Zoom allows teachers to show their students presentations and give feedback.

Outcomes

I developed the following teaching materials for this project:

- 10 PowerPoint presentations for the IELTS Speaking preparation course
- 10 PowerPoint presentations for the TOEFL Speaking preparation course
- 10 PowerPoint presentations for the Transition to Business course
- Online ESL tutoring workshop (PowerPoint presentation with a detailed description of the courses, excerpts from my interview with an IELTS expert, and examples of recorded online tutoring sessions using Zoom)

These materials are available through my website: [http://pastushe.msu.domains/esl-online-tutoring/](http://pastushe.msu.domains/esl-online-tutoring/)

Impact

According to O'Dowd (2011), there is a need for “a greater focus on training teachers in the pedagogical applications of new technologies rather than on technical aspects” (p. 11). With this project, I hope to bring my expertise in teaching IELTS Speaking, TOEFL Speaking, Transition to business courses as well as online foreign language teaching and tutoring. I strongly believe that these courses would be relevant for international students and the methodology would be helpful for ESL/EFL teachers considering the trend toward online education.

Many international students do not want to take ESL classes. They are expensive and time-consuming. Furthermore, many students depend on their government support, which has been decreased lately by many countries. Many international students look for professional ESL tutors, specifically IELTS and TOEFL experts. I believe that ESL centers in the United States may provide this service. Furthermore, considering that business/management is one of the most popular majors among international students, it may be helpful to include more ESL business classes, which is also addressed in this project.

References