

LATE's Winter TPD Course 2024

“Enhancing Teachers’ Professional Competence”

Date: 27th January 2024

Venue: Online Zoom platform

08.45 – 09.00	Coffee talks (Joining Zoom)
09.00 – 10.30 (90 min)	<p>Integrated Skills Activities for Secondary Learners by Betti Sewell (International House Riga-Satva)</p> <p>This session will focus on practical activities for secondary learners which develop integrated skills. The activities target receptive and productive language skills, as well as developing some of the core 21st century life competencies - communication, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking.</p>
10.30 – 10.40	Coffee break (10 min)
10.40 – 12.00 (80 min)	<p>Integrated Skills Activities for Primary Learners by Betti Sewell (International House Riga-Satva)</p> <p>This session will introduce a range of practical activities to engage your primary learners and enrich their learning. Activities to develop core life competencies, strengthen language skills and encourage your learners' autonomy and confidence.</p>

Date: 10th February 2024

Venue: Online Zoom platform

08.45 – 09.00	Coffee talks (Joining Zoom)
09.00 – 10.30 (90 min)	<p>Teaching Academic English for Advanced Students by Noora Mahmassani (U.S. Embassy Riga)</p> <p>This session will focus on strategies for supporting students as they strive to reach the upper-intermediate to advanced levels of proficiency. The session will review the differences between the structure and vocabulary of social English and academic English and explore their impact on instruction. Participants will gain helpful strategies for teaching academic vocabulary, academic writing, and academic speaking skills.</p>
10.30 – 10.40	Coffee break (10 min)
10.40 – 12.00 (80 min)	<p>Emotions and English: A Workshop on Social Emotional Learning for EFL Teachers by Noora Mahmassani (U.S. Embassy Riga)</p> <p>A much overlooked element of communication in any language is the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to manage one’s own emotions and build relationships. This workshop will focus on five competencies of socioemotional learning: self-awareness, self-management., social awareness, relationship skills, responsible decision-making. Participants will receive and practice instructional strategies to develop these competencies in any level of EFL classroom.</p>

Date: 17th February 2024

Venue: Online Zoom platform

08.45 – 09.00	Coffee talks (Joining Zoom)
09.00 – 10.20 (80 min)	<p>Free Programs and Resources from the Regional English Language Office by Jennifer Uhler (U.S. Embassy Riga/Regional English Language Office)</p> <p>This presentation provides an overview of free materials, online courses, professional development opportunities, and programs that support quality English language teaching and learning that are provided by the Regional English Language Office and the U.S. Embassy in Riga. Drawing upon a mix of teacher tools from the American English website as well as resources from reputable sources such as Voice of America and the Smithsonian, teachers will take part in a journey and gain practical resources that can be used for professional development, planning, or independent learning.</p>
10.30 – 10.40	Coffee break (10 min)
10.30 – 12.00 (90 min)	<p>Successful integration of long-term projects in ESL studies by Ivars Dominiks Zeps (Riga State Gymnasium Nr.1)</p> <p>Learning vocabulary/grammar in intertextual settings and self-directed learning assignments can significantly bolster the students' understanding and application of the acquired knowledge. Information on planning and implementing long-term projects, planning grammar learning through reading and practical suggestions for projects are offered in this presentation.</p>

Date: 24th February 2024

Venue: Online Zoom platform

08.45 – 09.00	Coffee talks (Joining Zoom)
09.00 – 12.00 (180 min)	<p>Using artificial intelligence (AI) tools to plan lessons and prepare materials by Ingūna Melne (Riga State Gymnasium Nr.1)</p> <p>This session will introduce teachers to the use of artificial intelligence tools in lesson planning and materials preparation to significantly reduce preparation time. The presentation will demonstrate the possibilities and limitations of using AI and will offer theoretical knowledge and suggestions for improving practical skills.</p>
	Coffee break (10 min)