



NEW FOREIGN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR ORIENTATION

Presenter Bios



Alwiya Omar is a Clinical Professor of Linguistics at Indiana University. She teaches Kiswahili and coordinates the teaching of other African languages in the African Studies Program. Her research interests include second language acquisition, cross-cultural pragmatics, web-based language instruction, and study abroad language programs.



Iman Alramadan is a specialist in teaching Arabic as a foreign language. Additionally, she is versed in Arabic grammar and morphology as well as Arabic literature. She has studied the language of Arabic science heritage and Arabic medical terminology.



Piibi-Kai Kivik is a Senior Lecturer in the Central Eurasian Studies Department. Her responsibilities include teaching Estonian language and culture and coordinating department language programs. Her research interests include usage-based and interactional linguistics, second language acquisition, pragmatics, ethnography of communication, conversation analysis, sociolinguistics (language contact and variation), Estonian and Finnic linguistics, and foreign language teaching and learning.



Jeff Holdeman is a Senior Lecturer, Director of Undergraduate Studies, instructor of Czech, Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures. His regular courses include first-year Czech, The Vampire in European and American Culture and Introduction to the Slavic Languages. Dr. Holdeman's research interests are in the area of Russian and Czech instruction, pedagogy training for Associate Instructors, and sociolinguistics.



Dr. Jane D. McLeod is provost professor and chair of Sociology, having returned to the department in fall 2016 after four years as associate dean for Social & Historical Sciences and Graduate Education in the College of Arts and Sciences. She came to IUB in 1998, following positions at the University of Minnesota and SUNY-Albany. Her research traverses the areas of social psychology, medical sociology, sociology of mental health, stratification, and the life course. She is currently working on projects concerned with the social psychology of inequality, the college experiences of youth on the autism spectrum, and mental health inequalities. Jane was recently honored with the James R. Greenley Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Mental Health (from the Society for the Study of Social Problems) and the Leonard I. Pearlin Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Sociological Study of Mental Health.



Xiaojing Kou is a Coordinator for the Center for Language Technology (CELT). She is educated in both instructional systems technology and linguistics and her research interests include open education resources and action research. Her expertise is in the integration of technology into language instruction.



Rebecca Ramsey is the Audio/Video Technician and Lead Trainer at the Center for Language Technology (CELT), as well as the center's copyright specialist. She holds a B.S. in audio engineering from the IU Jacobs School of Music and a CopyrightX certification from HarvardX. She is passionate about new/emerging technologies, world music, and foreign languages, and has a interest in copyright and fair use as they apply to multimedia and education.



Umida Khikmatillaeva is an Assistant Coordinator at the Center for Language Excellence (CLE) and a doctoral student in Instructional Systems Technology department at the School of Education. She had taught Uzbek and Turkish in Uzbekistan and the United States for many years. She has developed online instructional materials for the less-commonly taught languages and passionate about the role of culture in the classroom.