Series Rationale: A language other than English is native to many of the more than 8,500 international students that call Purdue home. The Spring 2013 Series II brings faculty members and teaching assistants the best practices, scholarship of teaching and learning, and resources to address the growing internationalization of Purdue, and help all our students address global needs and challenges across all disciplines.

Series Kickoff: Supporting International Students at Purdue

Dr. Tony Silva, English, Director, Graduate Program in Second Language Studies & Coordinator, ESL Writing Program

This presentation will include a description of (1) the demographics of the current population of international students at institutions of higher learning in the United States; (2) Purdue’s international student population—the second largest of all public universities in the country; (3) the support provided these students by the University, and (4) what more can be done to ensure that their experience at Purdue will be a successful and rewarding one.

Thursday, January 10, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m., STEW 314

Best Practices & Resources for Teaching ESL Written Communication

Dr. Linda Bergmann, English, Director, Purdue Writing Lab
Vicki Kennell, ESL Specialist, Purdue Writing Lab

Developing proficiency in the written discourse of academia in general and within a student’s specific discipline is foundational to a university undergraduate degree. How do instructors help students for whom English is not their native language meet this learning outcome? Is it just about “writing with an accent”? Two specialists from the Purdue Writing Lab will address these and other questions, and share information on resources available to instructors and students.

Thursday, February 14, 9:00 - 10:30 p.m., STEW 314

To register for the workshops: clink on the date OR go to http://cie2sp13.eventbrite.com/
Best Instructional & Assessment Practices in ESL Oral Communication

Dr. April Ginther, Director, Oral English Proficiency Program
Nancy Kauper, Testing Coordinator, Oral English Proficiency Program

Active learning classrooms require students to share their ideas and ask questions in class, groups, and teams, and with lab partners and instructors, and full participation in the educational opportunities that a Purdue education offers requires ongoing development of oral communication skills. This workshop focuses on how instructors can effectively incorporate group work, pair work, and self-and peer-assessment of presentations, in order to create strong learning communities and foster the development of students’ classroom communication skills.

Teaching & Learning: International TAs’ Perspectives

Dr. Luciana de Oliveira, Education
Panel: Alsu Gilmetdinova (Russia), Shu-Wen Lan (Taiwan), Sara Solorzano (Honduras), and Reiko Akiyama (Japan)

As English Language Learners (ELL) studying to be instructors, graduate students in Purdue’s College of Education will share their unique perspectives on the culture shock, adjustments, and support systems international students need to be successful in academia. The challenges of reading and studying in a non-native language (even one you have studied for years), cultural differences that may affect class participation, and other struggles in “doing” academia in the United States will be addressed. Panelists will discuss the roles of instructors and mentors as students move through a spiral process of meeting and achieving goals.

Teaching Opportunities in the Cross-Cultural Classroom

Dr. Joe Potts, Associate Dean, International Programs & Director, Purdue’s Office of International Students & Scholars
Nancy Montague, Program Coordinator, ISS
Beth Tucker, Program Coordinator, ISS
Chuck Calahan, Assistant Director, Global Learning Faculty Development, Center for Instructional Excellence

How do we unlock the tremendous learning potential that exists in the cross-cultural classroom and our communities? What resources are available to instructors to help students make connections inside and outside the classroom? This workshop focuses on arranging and using domestic/international student interaction to achieve learning objectives.