

COLLOQUIUM BY JIAXIN XU

USING A “LENS ACTIVITY” TO HELP STUDENTS PRACTICE ANALYZING AND CRITIQUING SKILLS

TIME: 5:00-6:00 PM, MONDAY, 9 APRIL 2018

VENUE: ACADEMIC BUILDING 1079

Using a “Lens Activity” to Help Students Practice Analyzing and Critiquing Skills

Speaker: Jiaxin Xu, Instructor at Xi’an Jiaotong Liverpool University

* The event is also a faculty recruitment seminar for Language and Culture Center.

ABSTRACT:

Background: For a freshman EAP research project, students have to find a social problem and discover three actions taken to solve it. They also have to find sources to critique the effectiveness of the three chosen actions. Analyzing and critiquing skills are quite difficult to teach since they are cognitive skills, so the teacher provides a “lens activity” that helps them to analyze and critique more effectively. The teacher uses a demo topic to practice the “lens activity” in class, aiming to help students learn to complete it for their own research topic after class.

Presentation: The presentation will briefly explain the research project that the “lens activity” contributes to, explain the “lens activity” done in class, summarize students’ completion of it, and reflect on this activity.

BIO:

Jiaxin Xu (Samantha) has been an EAP instructor for five years. She is currently working in the Language Center at Xi’an Jiaotong Liverpool University, and she has taught EAP to freshman and

sophomore Business students, provided foundation support to repeaters and given language support to two one-semester major courses (a Business Introduction course and a Literature and Film course). She completed her master's degree in TESOL from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), where she was also a teaching assistant in the ESL Writing Center. She has been an English learner for more than twenty years, and is enthusiastic about English teaching and culture learning. Her interests include lesson planning, corrective feedback, intercultural communication and technology-enhanced learning.

This event is open to all. For any queries email yg73@duke.edu or call 3665 7149.

Hope to see you all.

Yijun