

OUR SPEAKERS



LIVE ●



Ilse Contois

Ilse has been working in the field of ESL for over 20 years. She has been living in Kingston now for over 17 years and has worked with a number of language programs in the city. Recently her focus is language assessment using a range of tests. She is currently working

at St. Lawrence College as an ESL assessor and provides online tutorial support for their ESL/EAP classes.

Ilse will share some less traditional ways for offering feedback to students. Specifically Ilse will discuss the use of audio feedback and some benefits of this alternative form. We will explore a tech tool or two that you can use to create this feedback both quickly and easily.



Katherine Heikkila

Katherine Heikkila is an ESL instructor at Limestone Community Education. She has taught ESL from Literacy to Level 8. She completed her Professional Master of Education from Queen's University in

Literacy in 2019. She currently teaches Level 3-5 and Level 6-8 online. At the core of her teaching philosophy whether in the classroom or online is a thorough needs assessment and a focus on the steps that are needed to achieve student outcomes.

She can offer tips and strategies for setting up online classes in Google Classroom, attendance and student engagement as well as tips for Zoom and how to make your classes feel energized.



Sheri Creighton

Sheri is a dedicated ESL teacher and tutor who has been helping business executives, university students and elementary and high school children improve their English for more than 12 years. This has been done both in a brick and mortar classroom

and online. Having extensive experience living in a foreign country, learning and accepting cultural differences and learning a foreign language has provided her with the ability to engage her students in a unique way.

Sheri will discuss the challenges of student engagement in an online setting.



Jennifer Burns

In addition to being a college EAP instructor in Toronto, for many years, Jennifer advised young Japanese adults on cultural adaptation living in Canada after returning from teaching in Japan and Korea in 2002.

At St. Lawrence College she switched to tutoring ESL online in March 2020. Currently she is an online ESL instructor at the college and facilitates its English Conversation Club open to all students and staff, some of whom are joining from their home country with studies based in Canada.

As instructors or tutors, how can we encourage students to bring their culture forward so that it adds value to their learning. Which aspects of encouraging a greater awareness of culture are a better fit with online tutorials while others could be used in the classroom? We will learn about how to support students in both settings in which their culture is valued and shared.