Linguistics 480: The Language of Teaching and Teachers

This summer, English Language Programs will offer a trial version of a new course: Linguistics 480-The Language of Teaching and Teachers. This course is designed to prepare international graduate students to become effective teaching assistants in the American university classroom and provide an opportunity to fulfill The Graduate School's English language proficiency requirement through a live teaching demonstration.

Details about the course:

**Instructors:** The course will be co-taught by Dr. Erin Leddon from the Department of Linguistics and English Language Programs, and by Dr. Nancy Ruggeri, Director of Graduate and Postdoctoral Programs in the Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching.

**Instruction:** Course content will focus on improving teaching skills and the oral English language skills needed to effectively communicate to American undergraduates. The course is limited to 15 students.

**Assessment:** Students who pass the course will be eligible to be assessed through a live teaching demonstration. Students who pass the teaching demonstration will fulfill The Graduate School’s English language proficiency requirement and be eligible to serve as a Graduate Assistant (GA) or Teaching Assistant (TA) starting in the 2016-2017 academic year.

**Eligibility.** To participate, students must meet the following criteria:

- Students must be nominated by their home departments. Students may be nominated between May 2 and May 18 through an online form. A link to the form will be sent to Directors of Graduate Studies starting May 2.
- Only students who will be appointed as a GA/TA by their departments in 2016-2017 are eligible.
- Students must have enrolled in either Linguistics 380 or Linguistics 482 (Tutoring) in Fall 2015, Winter 2016 or Spring 2016.
- Students who have not yet passed The Graduate School’s English language proficiency requirement will be given preference for selection.
- Students who participate in multiple English Language Programs services over multiple quarters will be given highest preference.
- Students must be eligible to be enrolled in a course for the summer term (e.g. already enrolled in TGS 500, TGS 512, or in 3 to 4 regular course units).

Students who have been selected through the nomination process will be notified and given a permission number to enroll in Linguistics 480 for Summer Quarter 2016.

This course offers a great way to prepare for teaching at Northwestern and beyond, and a new way to fulfill The Graduate School’s English language proficiency requirement.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have about this course. Please direct questions to Dr. Erin Leddon at e-mcmahon@northwestern.edu.