

Course description

This course is designed to introduce the participants to the theory and practice of foreign language assessment and testing. Participants will learn about the differences between assessment and testing, and how they can be used to make effective decisions to support teaching and learning. They will learn important concepts to consider when developing assessment and tests, such as validity, reliability, and practicality, as well as different kinds of assessments and tests (formative, summative, diagnostic, proficiency, achievement, product-oriented, process-oriented, alternate assessments).

Dates of the course: April 5 - June 20, 2011

For selection, we highlight the importance of the following requirements:

- (a) Level of English necessary for a typical university-level course at American universities
- (b) Regular and dependable access to the Internet
- (c) **Commitment to spend the necessary 10-15 hours/week throughout the 10-week course**

Recruitment: Candidates for this Scholarship should be teacher trainers or teachers who are working, or plan to work, with English language Assessment and testing, with their secondary, senior secondary, or tertiary level English language students. They should be highly motivated individuals who are dedicated both to their own professional development and to sharing the knowledge gained with colleagues through workshops or professional presentations. In addition, candidates should meet the following criteria:

English language skills:

- ability to do academic work at a U.S. university (an advanced level of reading and writing, roughly equivalent to a minimum TOEFL score of 550 or IELTS band 6);
- general understanding of technical terms in English relating to computers and the Internet;
- good command of the necessary vocabulary for the course

Computer fundamentals:

- regular access to e-mail and the Internet;
- ability to navigate in Windows and create a Word document;
- basic familiarity with the Internet and web browsers;
- ability to type in English well enough to perform on-line tasks in real-time and to submit written assignments in a timely manner.

Course materials will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- downloadable or posted syllabi, assignments, and course readings;
- asynchronous and some synchronous contact between instructor and participants, between other experts and participants, and among participants;
- lectures via real-time, text, or audio-enhanced text;
- use of a bulletin board to post notes, assignments, feedback, etc.;
- information on additional web-based resources.

All materials will emphasize a learner-centered approach and will be in English.

Course fees:

The scholarship which the Regional English Language Office, New Delhi, will award covers tuition fees and material costs.

Other important aspects:

- all courses will include an evaluation component;
- participants who successfully complete the course will receive two certificates.

If you would like to apply for a scholarship, please contact Shweta Khanna at KhannaS@state.gov. Deadline for applications is: **Friday, March 2, 2012**