APPLICATION FOR

The Skills and Principles in Language Teacher Training Course
AT TEACHER TRAINING COSTA RICA AND
CENTRO ESPIRAL MANA
www.espiralmana.org

Scholarships granted by the U.S. Department of State, Western Hemisphere Affairs office via the U.S. Embassy in Managua

Please email this application to Leda Chavarria at ChavarriaLM@state.gov

Deadline to submit application: February 16, 2015.

Course Date: March 8-21, 2015

More Information: Cell phone 88069543.

The SIT Graduate Institute at World Learning has a forty year history of providing quality programs in teacher growth and development.

Teacher Training Costa Rica (TTCR), a licensed provider of courses from The SIT Graduate Institute (www.sit.edu) and housed in Centro Espiral Mana (www.espiralmana.org) in rural Costa Rica. The center was started in 2003 and is home to a teacher-training host site for the SIT Graduate Institute, a community English program and other training projects with a local university and high school teachers. There have been over 350 SIT TESOL course graduates from 15 countries in the past 8 years. The volunteer-run community English program has had over 20 volunteers provide language instruction to over 400 students in the surrounding area.

World Learning's SIT Graduate Institute Certificate in Skills and Principles of Language Teacher Trainingis designed for the professional development of English teacher-trainers. The course consists of approximately 80-hours of face-to-face workshops with additional time for the planning of workshops, written assignments, and reading.

Questions to be addressed

- What are English language learners expected to be able to do in a language

classroom?

- How can teachers support learners in achieving theirgoals?
- How can teacher-trainers support teachers in developing their practice?
- How can teacher-trainers collaborate to establish broadly consistent practices in observing teachers & in providing feedback on those observations to stakeholders?

Goals and Objectives

By the end of the two-week course participants will be able to demonstrate:

1) Knowledge and awareness of Self and others within the trainer community:
   a) Articulate their own professional roles and responsibilities, identify strengths and challenges and plan for their own professional growth.
   b) Rigorously reflect on their work with developing teachers.
   c) Collaborate effectively with colleagues to support everyone's learning.
2) Knowledge and application of the principles of adult learning and experiential learning:
   a) Describe key elements that help and hinder adult learning andmanifests itself in workshops and in teacher learning
   b) Describe the stages of the experiential learning cycle and how each stage manifests itself in workshops and in teacher learning
   c) Analyze and develop workshops based on the ELC and principles of adult learning
3) Design implement, reflect, and modify training sessions:
   a) Plan, adapt, improve, deliver, & reflect on teacher training & development workshops to support teachers working within theircontexts
   b) Evaluate textbook materials & adapt them as necessary to be coherent with their training needs and goals.
4) Observation and feedback skills:
   a) Observe peers& evaluate to what degree they are able to implement the principles introduced in their trainings
   b) Provide feedback to peers, both orally & in writing that connects to the principles and competencies of their training and to reflect on this feedback
   c) Provide formal written feedback to teachers and other stakeholders

APPLICATION FORM
Skills and Principles of Language Teacher Training

NAME:_____
Country:_____
email:_____
second email: _____
Best phone number to reach me: _____
2nd best phone number to reach me: _____
Skype or other way to reach me _____

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BEFORE FILLING OUT THE
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APPLICATION FORM:

Entry Requirements

In order to be accepted into the Certificate course, applicants must:

1) Demonstrate a clear interest in teaching ESOL and have taught for at least five years.
2) Demonstrate a clear interest in training teachers and have either given at least 3 workshops or courses to them over the past 2 years.
3) Have an ability to focus on student/teacher learning and reflect upon the impact of one's own teaching and training.
4) Have a positive attitude regarding experiential activities and working in groups. This means that you are not only willing to fully participate in such activities, but also recognize the value in doing so.
5) Demonstrate English language proficiency (CI level on the CEF or TOEFL 550 non-native speakers)
6) Complete the application form and a short essay.
7) Complete an informal phone interview will be conducted by and SIT Trainer.

Key factors for interview:

- Educational background, dedication to teaching English and teaching teachers
- Appropriateness of the course for the applicant's needs/goals
- Attitude regarding reflection, experiential and collaborative learning, and group work
- Language proficiency

Attendance Policy

- Participants are expected to attend all course sessions. Those who know in advance that they are unable to attend the whole course cannot be accepted.

Participants should understand that the course is a full time endeavor. In order to complete the demands of the course successfully, participants should not expect to be able to work or attend to other commitments during the course.

- In the event of a serious illness or emergency, participants should notify a trainer as soon as possible. The participant must make up all missed work and practice teaching.

- The first daysof the course cannot be missed. If this should occur, the participant must withdraw.

- If the participant must take a prolonged absence (more than one day) s/he must withdraw from the course.

- Attendance only is not a guarantee that the certificate will be issued. Participants must fulfill the requirements of the course in order to receive the certificate.

Personal Data

Name (as you wish it to appear on your certificate) _____
_____

Current mailing address/phone number (**make sure to include zip codes and country names, and country codes for phone numbers**) _____

_____

_____

Permanent address/ phone number _____

_____

Cell Phone:

Best time to reach me by phone_____

E-mail: _____Fax: _____

Occupation _____Citizenship _____ Gender **M/F**

Native language _____ Date of Birth _____

Educational Background Feel free to submit your resume instead of filling out this section.

Schools Attended **Dates** **Degree/Diploma**

_____

_____

_____

Language Learning Experience

Do you have experience learning other languages? Yes _____ No _____
If yes, which languages and for how long?

_____

_____

Work Experience (non teaching)

Feel free to submit your resume instead of filling out this section.

Position/place **Dates**

_____

_____

_____

Teaching Experience

Describe your teaching experience. Where have you taught? What levels, texts, contexts? (Make sure to include the name of the institution as well as your position(s) there.) Feel free to submit your resume instead of filling out this section.

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Teacher Training Experience

Describe your teacher training experience. Where have you worked with developing teachers? What workshops, course and contexts? (Make sure to include the name of the institution where you gave the training) Feel free to submit your resume instead of filling out this section.

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Self introduction: Please write a brief **paragraph (between 3 and 8 sentences)** about yourself to be included in the program binder. *(Everyone will receive a list of everyone's name, address, and brief biography)*

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Please answer the following questions:

1. Why do you want to take the SIT Training of Trainers course?
2. Why do you want to work with developing teachers?
3. Why do you want to take the course in Costa Rica?
4. What are your biggest strengths and challenges as a teacher of ESOL?
5. What are your strengths and challenges as a teacher trainer?
6. What do you plan to do with your new learnings when you go back to your home country and school?
7. The course is offered in a small town in rural Costa Rica. We are far from cities and many activities. Are you ready and willing to commit to two weeks of intensively thinking about and working on teaching teachers who teach English in this rural setting?

Along with the application, all prospective participants are required to submit a 400-500 word statement:

Choose two of the following quotes and discuss how they reflect something that you think is important when working with developing teachers.

The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn - *Alvin Toffler*

Nothing is more terrible than activity without insight. - *Thomas Calyle*

"The job of an educator is to teach students to see the vitality in themselves." - Joseph Campbell

"There are no difficult students - just students who don't want to do it your way" - Jane Revell & Susan Norman

Teachers are those who use themselves as bridges, over which they invite their students to cross; then having facilitated their crossing, joyfully collapse, encouraging them to create bridges of their own. Nikos Kazantzakis

Life offers its wisdom generously. Everything teaches. Not everyone learns. Life asks of us the same thing we have been asked in every class: "Stay awake." "Pay attention." But paying attention is no simple matter. It requires us not to be distracted by expectations, past experiences, labels and masks. It asks that we not jump to early conclusions and that we remain open to surprise. Wisdom comes most easily to those who have the courage to embrace life without judgment and are willing to not know, sometimes for a long time. It requires us to be more fully and simply alive than we have been taught to be. It may require us to suffer. But ultimately we will be more than we were when we began. There is the seed of a greater wholeness in everyone.
Rachel Naomi Remen in "My Grandfather's Blessings"

Please sign _____
Date_____

Note: If you were selected for this program, you will need a valid passport to travel to Costa Rica.