

Featured Presentation

Student Engagement in Writing: Real and Virtual

Saturday, November 4

9:00-9:45

Jefferson Room



Maggie Sokolik

Abstract: What engages multilingual students in writing courses? What are the barriers to engagement? Instructors are sometimes swift to blame loss of engagement on the distractions of smartphones, Facebook, and other gadgets. However, the challenge of engaging students in learning precedes electronic tools. This presentation will look at the barriers to engaging multilingual student writers fully in both face-to-face and online courses, and discuss practical solutions that participants can implement immediately in their own classrooms.

Biography: Maggie Sokolik holds a BA in Anthropology from Reed College, and an MA in Romance Linguistics and Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics from UCLA. She is the author of over twenty ESL and composition textbooks. She is Director of College Writing Programs at UC Berkeley. She has developed and taught several popular MOOC courses for ELLs through edX.org and in partnership with the US Department of State. She is a founding editor of TESL-EJ, a peer-reviewed journal for ESL/EFL professionals, one of the first online journals in any field, which has been active for over twenty years. Maggie travels frequently to speak about technology and writing, most recently to Scotland, Bosnia, Bulgaria, New Zealand, and China.

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