Is Technology a Modern Blessing or a 21st-Century Curse?

Learning How to Integrate Technology and Pedagogy to Support Teaching

The immense development of technology in recent years has spawned new tools and approaches to enhancing language learning and teaching. However, one of the perennial challenges facing teachers and language programs has been the chore of sifting through the newest gadgets, software, and Web-based applications to find the right tools to meet specific needs in the classroom. Consequently, many teachers question, "Does newer mean better?" In keeping with the conference theme, Re-imagining TESOL, Randall will lead a discussion on this topic, taking a renewed look at blending technology and sound pedagogy in the language classroom.

1. Have realistic expectations on how technology can help you.

2. Define your objectives and needs, and then buy technologies—not the other way around.

3. Don’t underestimate the complexity of technology.

4. Create tasks with technology that are specific and have measurable outcomes.

5. Provide sufficient training and financial resources.

References:


Personal Web Site: Randall’s ESL Cyber Listening Lab (www.esl-lab.com)