REDESIGNING TEACHING: FROM F2F TO TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED INSTRUCTION

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Abstract: Following the principles of the Learning Ecologies to course design this session focuses on a study conducted at Colorado State University (CSU), supported by The Institute for Teaching and Learning at CSU, over a two-year period, on a first year Spanish course (LSPA 106), part of a major redesign of a basic language program that also includes French and German. This redesign project will move from a traditional instructional model to a blended/hybrid model focusing on extensive use of innovative technology. The session presents the initial results and conclusions of a study on student perceptions: Attitude Toward the Subject, Self-Confidence, Student Engagement, Student-Instructor Interaction, Academic Challenge, Critical Thinking, Technology and Resources. The session, following the same principles of the Learning Ecologies approach and moving from learning processes of individuals and focusing on course development, will also comment on the use of technology, and the challenges of redesigning first year Spanish.

Goals and Objectives:
1. To share with participants some reflections on the importance of using student perceptions in redesigning language courses, and comment on effective innovative technology in course redesign based on student perceptions and course performance.
2. To comment on the challenges of redesigning language courses and programs using techno.

Bio: Jose Luis Suarez-Garcia received his Ph.D. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1991. Full Professor of Spanish (Dept. of Lang., Lit. and Cultures) at Colorado State University since 2004. He regularly teaches Spanish Golden Age, and other courses on Peninsular Literature and Culture, and has taught Spanish language at all levels for the last 25 years. Particularly interested in the teaching and learning of culture, Professor Suárez-García has published several reviews, articles, and books on Spanish Golden Age literature and culture, medieval bibliography, poetic and dramatic theory, and contemporary theatre. He has also published as co-author two manuals for Intensive and High Beginner courses, and Intermediate Grammar Review courses (2nd ed. Nuevos Destinos) and was a contributing writer for the 4th ed. of the Pasajes series (Literature and Culture vols) published by McGraw-Hill Education. His latest publication is Experience Spanish (McGraw-Hill Education, 1st ed. 2011, 2nd ed. 2015) as co-author, a complete program with printed and digital components for teaching first year Spanish. Professor Suárez-García is currently Vice-President (USA, Canada and Oceania) of the the Asociación Internacional de Teatro Español y Novohispano (AITENSO). Some of his publications on literature and culture have appeared in Criticón, Journal of Spanish Studies, La Corónica, Journal of Hispanic Philology, Anales de Literatura Española, Editorial Castalia, Universidad de la Rioja, and Editorial Universidad de Granada.