

About the Teacher Training for Language Instruction and Acquisition

The training workshop is based on a fully developed systematic approach that will provide language instructor training in how to use a method called Accelerated Second Language Acquisition©™. This year's Giving the Gift of Language will guide language instructors through 5 language learning skill sets (adding an extra skill set over previous years). The ASLA method/approach is specifically designed for Native language instruction and acquisition. It is important to note that this is not a conference, but an intensive two-day language teacher training workshop to address the need to create new proficient speakers. Over the past 35 years, community efforts to restore, salvage or revitalize North American Indigenous languages have resulted with few and often times no new fluent speakers to replace the rate that Elder fluent speakers have been lost. This year's workshop will enable participants to view and discuss video footage of students who have successfully learned language to a level of competency and complexity through ASLA with the idea of providing an important aspect to the challenges that language instructors and second language help learners face. It is hoped that this will help participants gain important skills and knowledge regarding the transmission of their languages to second language learners in order to keep their languages vigorous and healthy.

Accelerated Second Language Acquisition©™ has a broad application as a tool for language instruction across diverse languages and age groups, which will be illustrated during the workshop through video footage of language instruction with university students, and children. The workshop will offer hands-on training for classroom language instruction as well as in depth analysis of ASLA's application in the classroom. To date ASLA©™ has been used with remarkable results by numerous Native language teachers in over 15 states in the US, 3 states in Australia, and all but 2 provinces in Canada. Dr. Greymorning developed this approach to specifically bring second language learners to a level of language competency while accommodating language instructors who are working with limited resources and time. As a method for language instruction in the classroom, in 12 years of classroom instructional use of ASLA©™, every student tested on all oral exams leading up to the final have tested at 100%.

Participants are strongly encouraged to bring a laptop computer as the workshop will provide a foundation on which will be written language learning materials/curriculum that should carry their instruction of students through a full academic year of language classes. Participants should also come with the understanding that the two-days of teacher training will be work intensive, but also rewarding. For additional information where you can watch video clips of students speaking and telling stories in a Native language, read teacher and student comments about their use and effectiveness of ASLA©™, and see an example of what students have tested on for a final oral exam, go to www.umt.edu/nsilc