

Extreme Makeover: Teaching Foreign Languages with Thematic Units

Audience: Grades 4 – 12 Teachers of World Languages
Instructor: Rebecca Blouwolff
Dates & Times: Tuesday – Thursday, July 12-14, 2016 from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Location: EDCO, 36 Middlesex Turnpike, Bedford, MA
Cost: \$195 TEC/EDCO Members / \$245 Non-TEC Members
Co-Sponsored with EDCO
Earn: 12 PDPs
Grad. Credit: 1 credit from Worcester State University for an additional \$100,



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Course Description: Are you struggling with wanting to get away from textbook-driven teaching but wondering how to find time to undertake a new way of making the learning more engaging? Rebecca Blouwolff will share how her tired, old "sports and vacation" unit has become an exploration of French and American ideas about quality of life. Grounded in music videos, blog posts, and children's cartoons (aka interpretive tasks), the unit culminates in students diagnosing the healthiness of their lifestyles in a group discussion (interpersonal work) and writing a francophone travelogue (presentational writing task). As a result, her students are confident detectives when working with authentic resources and can fight their way through a spontaneous conversation about a real topic.

You will learn how to devise essential questions for a thematic unit; write Can-Do Statements appropriate for your proficiency target; select authentic materials for interpretive assessments; and create interpersonal and presentational performance assessments. Participants will bring an existing unit in need of an extreme makeover, and their textbook for reference. *The examples shared can be adapted to any language.* You will leave with the beginnings of your very own thematic unit and accompanying performance assessments in all 3 modes. Because your unit will be for your particular classroom, the PDPs for this workshop will count as content PDPs.

About the Instructor: **Rebecca Blouwolff** has been teaching French at Wellesley Middle School since 1998. She's a western Mass. native who's lived and worked in France, and is raising her children in non-native French. Her passion is introducing adolescents to relevant, real French while keeping the teacher's job manageable.

To register: Go online to http://www.tec-coop.org/PDL_RegForm.html or complete this form and send, **along with a check or PO**, to:
TEC Professional Development, 141 Mansion Drive, Suite 200, E. Walpole, MA 02032

Please register me for "Extreme Makeover: Teaching Foreign Language..." beginning on 7/12/16!

TEC/EDCO Member District: \$195

Please circle the TEC member district in which you work:

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