



British Council Seminars

ELT Research: What it is, why we need it, and how to do it! with Richard Smith

How to access research funds and write research bids with Philida Schellekens

Tuesday 27 November 2012 | 1800 – 2030

Mercure Holland House Hotel, Redcliffe Hill, Bristol, BS1 6SQ

The aims of Richard Smith's workshop are: (1) to demystify research in the eyes of English teachers (who are often sceptical of its value) by defining what it is in an accessible way and showing how it can be of practical relevance, and (2) to whet - or revive - participants' appetite both for reading others' research and for engaging in research of their own.

There will be practical guidance in where to access published research, and how to take the first steps in designing and carrying out a research study of one's own. Extensive reference will be made to freely available online resources and to networks which can help the novice and early-stage researcher in getting started and in sustaining commitment, respectively.

Dr Richard Smith, an associate professor at the University of Warwick, is the coordinator of IATEFL's Research Special Interest Group (<http://resig.iatefl.org>) and is the compiler-in-chief of the British Council's Directory of UK ELT Research (<http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/elt-research>). Having also engaged in extensive teacher-research of his own and supervised classroom-oriented research by many MA and PhD students over the years, he is well-placed to provide authoritative guidance in this area.

Find more information and register your place at:

<http://focusoneltresearch.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Programme

- 1800 – 1815** Welcome and refreshments
- 1815 – 1900** ELT Research with Richard Smith
- 1900 – 1915** Comfort break and refreshments
- 1915 – 2000** How to access research funds and write research bids with Philida Schellekens
- 2000 – 2030** Networking Reception

Please note that there is no charge for attending this seminar, but places are limited.



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The aims of Philida Schellekens' workshop are:

1. To use the British Council's ESOL Nexus project as a case study to demonstrate what types of research evidence can be used to underpin project planning and proposal writing. For example, we used statistics derived from ONS, Home Office and UKBA.
2. To explore how these sources might be used in other contexts, e.g. to produce a profile of local communities and to underpin your own research project or proposal for funding.
3. To showcase the new research & policy page on the ESOL Nexus website where you will be able to find national and international studies on e.g. provision, migration profiles, communities living in the UK, as well as policy.

Dr Philida Schellekens is an independent consultant, author, researcher, teacher and teacher trainer. Philida has a special interest in language learning & teaching, in classroom settings, on-line and in the vocational training and work context. Philida is a consultant to the British Council's ESOL Nexus project as well as projects abroad. Her publications include: The Oxford ESOL Handbook (2007 OUP); Cause and effect: The Impact of the Skills for Life Strategy on Language Assessment (2009) CUP; and Teaching and Testing the Language Skills of First and Second Language Speakers (2011).

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